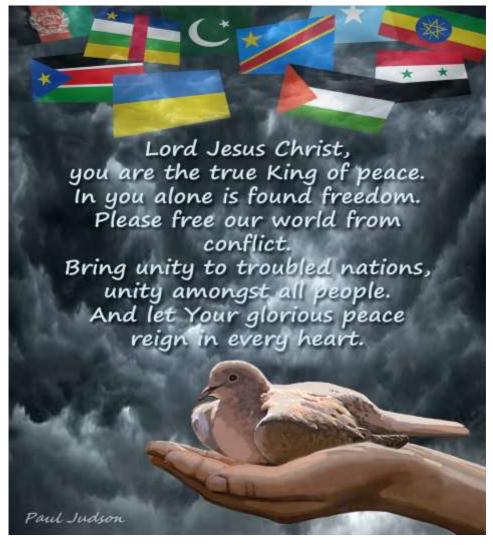
Winterbourne Churches' Newsletter

www.fromesidechurches.org.uk

www.salemchurch.org.uk



November 2025

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Church Lane, Winterbourne, BS36 1SE

Rector: Rev Malcolm Strange, 70 High Street, Winterbourne

Phone: 07792 275237

Email: m.strange@fromesidechurches.org.uk

Associate Priest Rev Joanne Hodge Phone: 07758 648264

Email: j.hodge@fromesidechurches.org.uk

Associate Priest **Rev Julia Chard** Phone: 07811 524533

Churchwardens Chris Greef 01454 774479

Derek Andow 01454 775024

BENEFICE AND PARISH OFFICE

95 High Street, Winterbourne, BRISTOL, BS36 1RD

Administrator Nessa Jarman Phone: 01454 776518

Email: office@fromesidechurches.org.uk

Opening hours Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-1pm

WEDDINGS/BAPTISMS/CONFIRMATION/FUNERALS

Enquires should be made to the Benefice Office - 01454 776518

PASTORAL VISITING

If you need a pastoral visit or know someone who does, please contact Jo on

07792 275237 or Pearl on 01454 314184

St Michael's Community Centre Bookings Contact the Benefice Office

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

Factory Road, Winterbourne, BS36 1QL

Minister Rev Leigh Maydew

Phone: 07388 083488

Email: leigh.maydew@methodist.org.uk

To whom enquiries for Weddings, Baptisms, or Funerals should be made.

Senior Steward Margaret Johnston Phone: 01454 773626

Email: 123margaretjohnston@gmail.com

Hall Bookings Jayne Glass Phone: 07935 377790

Email: jaglass103@gmail.com

A message from Revd David Jones

Blessed are the peacemakers.



I write this on the day that Donald Trump arrives in Israel as hostages are released. A day when the world waits in hope of a lasting peace in the Middle East.

I write not knowing what conversation took place but knowing that it cannot have been easy. Also knowing that, no matter what our view of Donald Trump, he has been instrumental in bringing this peace. Many world leaders seek to prove their power and thankfully, this time, it was by resisting military force.

But how can we be instrumental in bringing about peace when our influence is so small?

Peace is both smaller than large scale war and also so much more.

Peace maybe within our relationships, in our homes and families, with neighbours, work colleagues or in many other encounters. We can seek to approach difference or disagreement peacefully, or we can seek to be confrontational. We can choose diplomacy or we can use force, we can act in love or we can react with hate.

A lack of peace is not only a national or international problem. We can all suffer as a result of a lack of peace.

We can all be peacemakers through our own choices.

Then there is the sense of inner peace. A peace that is unlikely to be achieved if we constantly put ourselves in competition with others. A peace that is possible when we seek to build up others and put others ahead of ourselves.



May you come to know the peace that passes all understanding.

Blessings Dave



REMEMBERING SERVICE

Sunday 2nd November at 6pm

St Saviour's Church

Coalpit Heath

An opportunity to remember loved ones who are no longer with us

Please add the names of those to be remembered to the lists in churches



Expressions of Prayer Day

A spiritual gathering at St Peter's Church, Frampton Cotterell Saturday 1st November

Experience a day of prayer and reflection with activities to inspire & connect 10am-2pm (9.45 for tea & coffee)

BYO lunch

office@fromesidechurches.org.uk

SUNDAY WORSHIP IN OUR CHURCHES

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

1st Sunday 4pm St Michael's Community Centre

ST MICHAEL'S PRAISE

2nd Sunday 10.30 St Michael's Church

PARISH COMMUNION

3rd Sunday 10.30 St Michael's Community Centre

CELTIC WORSHIP

4th Sunday 10.30 St Michael's Church

PARISH COMMUNION





Also in St Michael's Church 2nd Sunday at 4pm - Pause for Thought or Healing Service 1st & 3rd Sunday at 8am - Holy Communion

See page 17 for details of special events www.fromesidechurches.org.uk

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10.30

2nd Nov Rev Martin Slocombe 9th Nov Remembrance Sunday

16th Nov Mr David King 23rd Nov Pulpit Swap

30th Nov Miss Naomi Sharp

Further details on the website www.salemchurch.org.uk



Artificial Intelligence - Good or Bad?

The news is full of stories about Artificial Intelligence (AI). No wonder, it is a relatively new field of technology that is growing at an ever-increasing rate. But, is it good or is it bad?



On the one hand we hear about its potential to take the boredom out of



repetitive tasks: medical AI can detect diseases from patient data that even experienced doctors might miss; new drugs can be designed using AI; it can be used to personalise education and training to suit the individual student; it may soon be driving our cars for us.....the list grows every day. On the other hand, people are worried about being put out of work by computers and creative artists are worried about the copyright issues of AI using their data. Also the same AI that designs a new drug can

also design a more lethal biological weapon and AI can control autonomous weapons. Relying more and more on AI and the 'advice' it gives us risks losing our individuality — who is making the decision? — and we might even lose the ability to function at all without it. There are other ethical issues too — if the car driven by AI is involved in an accident who is at fault? Is it the computer programmer, the car manufacturer, the driver, the computer, or who?

There is no doubt that AI will continue to grow at an enormous rate and the number of difficult ethical issues will also grow. We need to be finding ways of addressing these issues so AI can become a benefactor for humanity and not a curse.

There is another aspect of AI that should give cause for concern. AI needs vast amounts of data which it uses to find patterns, enabling it to make predictions about similar situations. AI computers are trained by being fed all this data over weeks and months. This requires vast numbers of



computers in large factories: there is one in China that occupies 250 acres. The power consumption of all these computers is vast too, measured in gigawatts, enough to power thousands of households. And that power generates a lot of heat, which has to be removed using huge quantities of water in a world where there are increasing concerns about the amount of water available to supply our needs and the needs of the agriculture that feeds us. All this generates extra challenges as the world attempts to respond to the difficulties of climate change.



So next time you are tempted to ask ChatGPT or your favourite bot to do something for you, think about the impact on the climate and worry that you risk losing the ability to think for yourself and even judging whether the answer AI feeds you with is sensible.

Chris Greef



St Michael's Church Church Lane, Winterbourne, BS36 1SE



SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

Sunday 9th November



10.30



followed by Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial, Whiteshill Common at 12 noon





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Words and Actions









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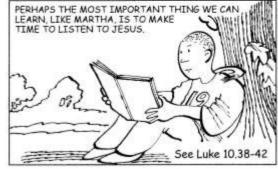
TOO AND WANTED TO











BENEFICE EUCHARIST

Sunday 30th November at 10am

in St Michael's Church







ADVENT CAROLS



Sunday 30th November - 6pm St Saviour's, Coalpit Heath

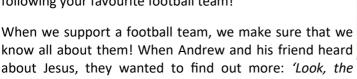


Together 4 Fromeside



St Andrew and football

'Some people think football is a matter of life and death. I don't like that attitude. I can assure them it is much more serious than that' (Bill Shankley). When you replace the word 'football' with 'mission', this quote still has something to say! The apostle Andrew (we remember him on 30th November) demonstrates what the mission of the Church is all about (cf John 1:35-42). It's not unlike following your favourite football team!





Lamb of God.' (John the Baptist, v35). The first stage of mission is finding out more about Jesus, the One who enables us to be friends of God through His death and resurrection.



Secondly, when supporting a football team, we will spend time watching their games. Andrew asked, 'where are you staying?' and Jesus replied, 'Come and you will see' (v39). Andrew spent the rest of the day talking and listening to Jesus. As a result of this time, he had something to share. How much time do we spend with Jesus, reading His word and praying?

When our team wins, we want to share the good news! After meeting Jesus, Andrew's first action was to tell his brother Peter: 'We have found the Messiah' (that is, the Christ)' (v41). Are we willing to tell others about Him

too? Sharing with family and close friends can sometimes be harder than talking with strangers. However, we don't need to follow a football team to engage in mission. It's all about being excited to share Jesus with those we meet day by day.

'Mission is seeing what God is doing and joining in' (Rowan Williams).



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Where: Fromeside Gymnastics Club,

Watleys End Road, Winterbourne, BS36 1PW

Telephone: 01454 776873 Email: office@fromesidegym.co.uk

Winterbourne Mothers Union.

We have returned from our summer break to our opening service and a lively discussion to prepare next year's programme.

Sue R was able to attend Mary Summers Day (our founder) gathering in August and Joan W has been busy with our bank contacts, both gave an update during the meeting. A group of us took part in The Wave of Prayer at St Michaels



Church on 9th September. This is an International event celebrated by Mother's Union at 11 am around the whole world. Sue continues to support prison teas for visitors to Ashfield Prison and Rhoda continues with her role at Bristol Children's Hospital. Other members support by supplying teabags or biscuits. We have a number of new members and we always welcome more. These people will become members fully in January.

In October we heard all about the work of Paul's Place

The remaining meetings of the year are varied:

November 17th John and Poppy Spens return to update us

on The Brickworks in South Sudan.

December 15th- Our Christmas service and celebration .

This year we will have a wonderful Ukelele group to perform

and hopefully lead us in a few sing-alongs for Christmas.

All meetings are at St Michael's Community Centre at 2pm apart from Christmas at 2.30pm and all are very welcome to come and join us at any time.

Sue Reynolds.





A thought for November

He who passively accepts evil is as much involved in it as he who helps to perpetrate it

Martin Luther King



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at Winterbourne Community Centre

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We meet on the first Wednesday and the third Thursday of each month Come and join us, we'd love to see you.

Further information from Edna Snaith 07789 662694

CROSSWORD

Across

1 'A little later someone else saw Peter and said, "You — are one of them"' (Luke 22:58) (4)

3 Giving (1 Peter 2:5) (8)

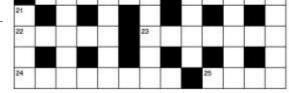
9 They came to Jerusalem seeking an infant king (Matthew 2:7) (3,4) 10 'An athlete... does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the — ' (2 Timothy 2:5) (5)

11 Pacifist, temperance advocate, openair preacher, leading 20th- century

Methodist, Donald — (5)

12 'Come quickly to --, O Lord my Saviour' (Psalm 38:22) (4,2)

14 'The God of Abraham, ---, the



God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus' (Acts 3:13) (5,3,5)

17 Sear by intense heat (Revelation 16:8) (6)

19 'It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust --' (Psalm 118:8) (2,3)

22 Goods (Nehemiah 13:15) (5)

23 i.e. train (anag.) (7)

24 Surrounding area (Luke 24:50) (8)

25 'Righteousness will be his — and faithfulness the sash round his waist' (Isaiah 11:5) (4)

Down Answers on page 27

- 1 Elegant and creative (Exodus 31:4) (8)
- 2 'Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all -, but we will all be changed' (1 Corinthians 15:51) (5)
- 4 'l... delight to see how orderly you are and how firm your — is' (Colossians 2:5) (5,2,6)
- 5 Enlist (2 Samuel 24:2) (5)
- 6 Of the Muslim faith (7)
- 7 Sharp intake of breath (Job 11:20) (4)
- 8 Woven cloth (Ezekiel 16:13) (6)
- 13 Plentiful (Romans 5:17) (8)
- 15 CIA char (anag.) (7)
- 16 Paul and Silas stopped him committing suicide after an earthquake in Philippi (Acts 16:27–28) (6)
- 18 One of the ingredients in the making of incense for the Lord (Exodus 30:34) (5)
- 20 Episcopal headwear (5)
- 21 Inhabitant of, say, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia or Bulgaria (4)

Salem Diary

We were very pleased with the response we had to our Heritage Open Day. It was a joy to welcome members of the local community into the church. We are now making plans to have a year long celebration in 2 years time for our 240th anniversary.



November is the month for "Remembering". November 1st is All Saints Day; November 2nd is All Souls Day and November 9th is Remembrance Sunday. Whilst we at Salem do not have special services on November 1st or 2nd, but Remembrance Sunday is always marked. The service at 10.30 a.m will be led by the stewards and we remember, by name, those in Winterbourne and Watley's End who lost their lives in the 2 World Wars.

Many churches in the local area have been involved in "Toilet Twinning". At Salem we have been fund raising to twin our toilets and we now have sufficient funds to do this. It seems inconceivable that in so many parts of the world people do not have access to toilets or clean water.

Our regular activities continue

Wednesday November 5th is MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING at 10 a .m. (Unfortunately this coffee morning last month had to be postponed)



Tuesday November 11th is Film afternoon at 2 p.m.

Saturday November 15th is Bacon Butty coffee morning at 10 a.m.



Tuesday November 24th is Women's Fellowship at 2.30p.m.

ALL ARE VERY WELCOME to join in these activities



Special events in & around St Michael's

Saturday 1st November from 10-2 PRAYER DAY

at St Peter's Frampton Cotterell see page 4





Saturday 1st November from 3.30-5.15 MESSY CHURCH in St Saviour's Church Hall

Sunday 2nd November at 6pm REMEMBERING SERVICE in St Saviour's Church, Coalpit Heath see page 4





Sunday 9th November at 10.30 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE in St Michael's Church followed by Act of Remembrance at Whiteshill Common at Noon see page 7

Sunday 16th November at 10am

MALCOLM'S RETIREMENT SERVICE
St Peter's Church, Frampton Cotterell
followed by refreshments
at Elm Park School





Sunday 30th November at 10am BENEFICE COMMUNION

at St Michael's Church

Sunday 30th November at 6pm ADVENT CAROLS

at St Saviour's Church, Coalpit Heath



EXERCISE in ST MICHAEL'S COMMUNITY CENTRE Holli would love you to join her at one of her classes



The Nicene Creed: The Person of the Holy Spirit

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

This month we are considering what the Nicene Creed says about the Holy Spirit.

'We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life': The original version of the Nicene Creed ended simply 'We believe in the Holy Spirit.' However, the phrase 'the Lord, the giver of life' was added to counter the teachings of Macedonius (Bishop of Constantinople), who viewed the Holy Spirit as a creation of the Son. The Holy Spirit is part of the



Trinity who shapes us, according to Christ's image, through His fruit and gifts: 'the Spirit gives life...we are being transformed into His image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.' (2 Corinthians 3:6,18).



'who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshipped and glorified': In the late 6th century the Latin churches added the phrase 'and the Son' (the Filioque Clause), which was rejected by the Orthodox Churches. Augustine described the Spirit as 'love proceeding' from the Father and the Son, so we can know God: 'When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, He will testify about me.' (John 15:26).

The Creed is clear that the Holy Spirit is due equal status and worship with the Father and the Son, as a distinct divine person: 'May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.' (2 Corinthians 13:14).

'He has spoken through the Prophets': Why does the Creed include this activity of the Spirit? It is not just referring to the OT prophets, but the whole of Scripture. He has inspired Scripture, so that we have God's word communicated by human writers: 'All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness' (2 Timothy 3:16). When we read the Bible, the Spirit enables us to hear what God is saying to us.



In what areas of life have you felt the Holy Spirit at work in you?



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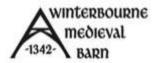
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November & December at Winterbourne Medieval Barn

Saturday 8th November at 7pm

Wine Tasting Evening: Spain & Portugal.

We welcome Ian Redfearn back to guide us through the aromas and flavours of a diverse range of 8 wines from Spain and Portugal. This will include some festive whites and reds as well as a warming ruby port. An informative and also fun event. With 25 years experience in the wine trade, Ian makes the ideal host for the evening. He will give some background information on each wine's individual appearance, aroma and flavour, and he will welcome questions and comments. Guaranteed to be a merry evening!

Sunday 30th November at 4.30pm

Midwinter Revels: Songs, Tales & Carols from Yuletide Past

Following on from A Christmas Carol: In Concert and A Brief History of Christmas, GreenMatthews present their new festive show. Spanning several centuries, Midwinter Revels is a celebration of Yuletide Past guaranteed to warm the cockles of the most Scrooge-like heart. Featuring Christmas carols, winter folk songs, toetapping tunes and a plethora of weird and wonderful instruments, the show is brought to life with GreenMatthews' trademark wit and humour.

Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th December at 3pm Carols in the Barn

Come along to Carols in The Barn to experience the old Christmas story told through a light-hearted drama suitable for all ages. Our beautiful main barn makes a very atmospheric setting for a quirky re-telling of the story by members of St Michael's Church, where the drama is interspersed with lots of well-known traditional carols for everyone to sing along. A lovely community event and a great start to the festive season.

Free parking at the Barn for all events. The Medieval Barn is fully accessible for wheelchairs. More information and booking details on the Barn website

Winterbourne Medieval Barn, Church Lane, Winterbourne BS36 1SE
For further details about Winterbourne Medieval Barn Trust see
www.WinterbourneBarn.org.uk & facebook.com/winterbournemedievalbarn

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Dates for your diary...

Christmas will soon be upon us!

Carols in the Barn





3pm (Gates open at 2.15)

Winterbourne Medieval Barn

Church Lane, Winterbourne, B536 15E



Tickets £5 (£1 for children)
to include mulled wine, fruit juice & mince pies
see www.WinterbourneBarn.org.uk

Wrap up warm!



WINTERBOURNE MOTHERS' UNION

on Monday 15th December at 2.30 in St Michael's Community Centre



PAGE PARK UKULELE GROUP

hope you will want sing along with their entertainment





Reflecting Faith: Glory to God

For the last few months we've been looking at the way that church services are put together. After the beginning of the service, the next thing we do is think of all the many times we have not been as loving and forgiving to others - and indeed to ourselves - as we could have been. The story of the Prodigal son mirrors our situation and we know that, as we confess our sins, God holds us close and forgives us.

At this point, recognising how gracious and forgiving God is, we are asked to rise from our knees and stand together to give 'Glory to God', known in Latin as 'The Gloria'.

You will recognise those words from those spoken by the angels announcing the birth of Christ to the shepherds on the hills over Bethlehem: "Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to people of good will" (Luke 2:15)



Traditionally this 'angelic hymn' has been sung and begins with praise to God the Father. It then asks for the mercy from God the Son, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.



The final lines soar into the blinding mystery of the Trinity: 'Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father'. Because it is so full of joy it is not included in worship during Advent and Lent.

This hymn dates back to the third century of the Church. Tradition holds that it was first composed as a prayer in the East, and then translated to Latin by Saint Hilary of Poitiers around the year 360.

Because this hymn is so special, over the years there have been limitations on who was allowed to sing or recite it. At first it was only bishops and then in the 11th century priests were allowed to do so.

Now we all sing or say it together. That means we take our place in our Christian heritage alongside those angels singing or saying it each week. What a privilege!

This month

Next time you go to a Sunday church service think about those angels as you stand to say or sing 'The Gloria'. Can you feel their wings alongside you?



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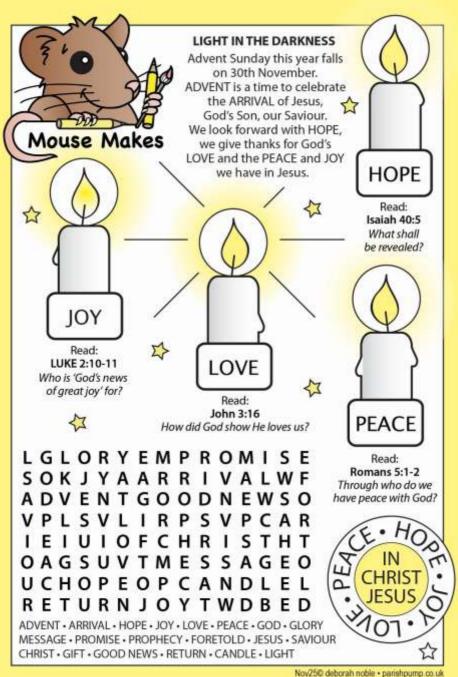
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On Friday 3rd October, all year groups from Years 1 to 6 gathered excitedly to walk to St Michael's Church. With enthusiasm bubbling in the air, our 150-strong snake of children meandered through the village, joyfully parading down Church Lane. Surprisingly, the rain held off, allowing us to enjoy our walk and arrive dry for our harvest celebrations.

Upon arriving at the church. atmosphere buzzed with anticipation as Year 3 and Year 4 prepared to take the lead in our wonderful harvest service. Each child spoke clearly performing their wellrehearsed lines. They enjoyed showcasing their beautiful artwork taking this up and down the aisles so all could see their efforts. A small group performed an entertaining mini drama that delighted the audience as they re-told the parable of the 'Sower and the Seed'.



As always, the singing in the church was wonderful. The children's voices filled the church with warmth and joy, with a firm favourite being 'Michaelmas Daisies'. The spirited rendition, whilst slightly out of sync with the backing track, resonated throughout the church and brought smiles to the faces of all present, the children clearly enjoying their performance.

As part of our harvest festival, we were fortunate to deliver our generous harvest donations to Resound Church on Blackhorse Road, Mangotsfield. This local church works diligently to collect vital supplies for the North Bristol and South Gloucestershire Foodbank, supported by the Trussell Trust network. Knowing our

contributions would support those in need added a sense of purpose to our celebration.

The service served as a poignant reminder of gratitude, inviting each of us to reflect on what we have to be thankful for and to consider those less fortunate in our community. Together, we celebrated not only the season's bounty but also the spirit of charity and community, reinforcing the values that bind us together as a school family.



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CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1, Also. 3, Offering. 9, The Magi. 10, Rules. 11, Soper. 12, Help me. 14, Isaac and Jacob. 17, Scorch. 19, In man. 22, Loads. 23, Inertia. 24, Vicinity. 25, Belt.

DOWN: 1, Artistic. 2, Sleep. 4, Faith in Christ. 5, Enrol. 6, Islamic. 7, Gasp. 8, Fabric. 13, Abundant. 15, Archaic. 16, Jailer. 18, Resin. 20, Mitre. 21, Slav.



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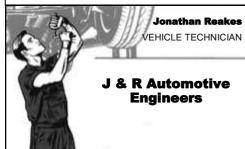
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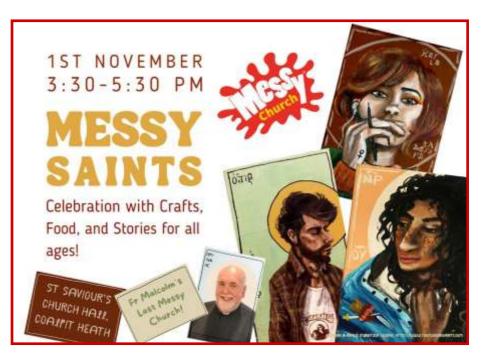
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Please send contributions for the December Newsletter by email to Gill Greef (gill@gillgreef.com) or deliver them to the Church Office St Michael's Community Centre, 95 High Street by Saturday 15th November.