



The Benefice of St Mary's Bocking & Panfield Church



Sunday 13th November 2022
Remembrance Sunday
Staying in Contact

The Very Revd Rod Reid - Incumbent (*usual rest day Monday*)

Email: bockingchurch@gmail.com Call: (01376) 324887 www.stmarys-bocking.com
or on Facebook, search for 'St Mary's Church, Bocking', or 'Panfield Church'

Forthcoming Services

Hymns

St Mary's, Bocking

Sunday 13th November

8am Said Mass
10am Sung Mass
10.50am A Service of Remembrance

*See special
hymn sheet*

Wednesday 16th November

9.30am Said Mass

Sunday 20th November

8am Said Mass
10am Sung Mass

Gospel Acclamation

*I am the Resurrection and the life,
says the Lord, whoever believes in
me will have eternal life.*

Panfield Church

Sunday 13th November

10.55am Remembrance Service

Tuesday 15th November

5pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 20th November

6pm BCP Evensong

NOTICES

Donations - Christmas Tree Festival - Now is the time to get your 'Pound Presents' in to Ann Lanham. We are also looking for items for the 'Tombola'. Instead of a prize draw there will be a couple of wonderful hampers, details on what is needed for those are at the back of the church. The team on refreshments will also be in need of your support, a list of items needed will be available soon.

Rock Choir concert - On Friday November 25th at 7.30pm, St Mary's Bocking will be hosting a concert for our friends at Panfield as they continue to raise funds for repairs to the church spire. Tickets are £12 for adults, £10 for concessions, and £2 for children. Available today.

Fellowship - The next meeting will be THIS THURSDAY, 12.30pm in the Church Hall. The speaker will be David Ainge, talking about the Flich Trials, his talk entitled 'How do I get the Bacon?'

Bocking Calendars - We have a few of the brand new for 2023, Bocking Calendars with photos taken by local photographers. If you would like a copy please speak to Fr Rod. The cost of is just £10.

Bring and Buy event - On Sun Nov 20th after the service at St Mary's there will be a Bring & Buy sale raising funds for the Flower Festival, and a Christmas Stall raising money for the church. Please speak to Ann Lanham or Caron Francis for more info. Make sure not to miss it!

O.C.C. Shoebox Appeal - Thank you so much for the many items that were donated. They have been handed over to be boxed and will be going to Central Asia. In all 289 knitted items and 2 full shopping

bags of small toys, stationery, toiletries, books and hair accessories. A great effort, thank you.

Going Green! - In partnership with A Rocha, an environmental charity, we are hoping to work towards the various awards associated with being an Eco-Church. There will be opportunities for all to get involved as we progress, including our younger ones as Eco-Church will be theme for the next Junior Church, Sunday Nov 20th. A reminder to those attending that to bring wellies or appropriate footwear.

Bible Study group - We are looking to re-start Bible Study sessions and would love to hear from you. To help us plan these please speak to Fr Rod about days/times that work for you.

Christmas Tree Festival - The Festival weekend will be Dec 10th/11th with performances, raffle, tombola, pound presents, refreshments and lots of in-house stall on SATURDAY 10TH DECEMBER, Father Christmas may even put an appearance in for that. There are lots of ways for you to support this fundraising event, details to follow on the items needed for the hampers plus much more,

Prayers - We keep in our prayers Jean Goodwin, Sue, Jackie, Roger Hurford, Frances, Margaret, Peter, Jenifer, Jo, Bernard, and Margaret Everitt. We also remember our care homes Millard House, Fern Lodge, Aspen Grange, Larchwood, The New Deanery & St Mary's Court. In our Years Mind, we pray for the families of Daniel Smith, Ron Salmon, Bernard Holdaway, Margaret Beynon, Iris Alen, Peter White, Joan Lanham, Thomas Morton, Brian Wilmer and Edward Bearman.

The Collect for Remembrance Sunday

Ever-living God,
we remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of war
into the peace of your presence;
may that same peace calm our fears,
bring justice to all peoples
and establish harmony among the nations,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading - 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labour we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Gospel Reading - Luke 21:5-19

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, 'As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.' They asked him, 'Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?' And he said, 'Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and, "The time is near!" Do not go after them. 'When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. 'But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be

brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defence in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

Address

From WH Auden's beautiful poem, 'O what sound is that?' To 'Drunk with fatigue; deaf even to the hoots, of gas-shells dropping softly behind' an excerpt from Owen's 'Dulce et decorum est', the recalling of war, the sounds of war are a prevalent theme in our war poetry. Giving us, many of whom have never heard such sounds for ourselves, an inkling of the violence, and desperation of war. These and many other words that begin to capture something of the pain, anguish of war, of the lack of respect for life, for blood and bone itself.

Thankfully the sounds of war, are far from us here in the UK today. However, that doesn't mean they have fallen silent entirely. Indeed, we are all too aware of the war in Ukraine, where once again we have astonishing levels of loss of life. Civil wars continue in Myanmar and Afghanistan and continuing unrest in Iran, Ethiopia, Iraq, Mali, Burkina Faso, Colombia and Nigeria to name a few.

The hard-fought peace we enjoy then is not universal. And of course, we live in uncertain times, maybe more so than in recent decades, so tens of thousands of UK military personnel continue to be ready, in the main supporting charity and aid workers, but ready to face and be part of the sounds of war again.

Today the sound of war, is our silence. A mark of respect for those who didn't come home, those who gave the ultimate sacrifice and indeed their families and loved ones. It is also a chance to remind ourselves not just of the cost of war, but what was won for us. Freedoms, sanctity of life, that we can take for granted. To win them many would give so much, and a generation would continue to hear the sounds of war echoing in their heads long after peace had been won.

Armistice Day and our Remembrance weekend, bring right into this moment, the sounds of past wars, the sounds of present conflicts. Reminding us that we still need to fight for these freedoms. We do so through our faith, praying for peace, praying for an end to conflict, praying that God will intervene. In our restlessness for action, we give thanks that God is in each moment, and present with all who suffer. I know for some this is a day they are mindful of a distant God, who allows these things to happen. Instead, for me he weeps, as we weep at the unnecessary loss of life often driven by just a few unstable, and power-driven individuals.

We can feel helpless too, is prayer enough? Often it is through those small things that change can come. That if enough of us are doing something then it will make a difference. Look at the welcome so many have given to friends from Ukraine, the response of even more in sending food, clothing and other items. To week in and week out praying earnestly for peace. Small things can be so incredibly powerful.

During WWII, Norway was occupied by the Germans who dismantled their government and attempted to strip away Norway's culture and replace it with Nazi ideals, difficult to avoid with 400,000 troops on the ground. It was in Autumn 1940 that students at Oslo University started wearing paperclips on their lapels as a non-violent symbol of resistance, unity, and national pride. They wanted a clever way of displaying their rejection of the Nazi ideology. In addition to wearing a single paperclip, paperclip bracelets and other types of jewellery were fashioned as well, symbolically binding Norwegians together in the face of such adversity. A seemingly small act but a defiant one and one that brought people together.

So today we acknowledge that the sounds of war in this land are gone, but those who fought and those who heard them will never be forgotten. We are mindful of our world where war ravages today, and in our silence pray for them. A nation's mark of respect, a nation falling silent at I Iam. Marked by just one individual, it would seem a small insignificant thing but together, millions marking the two-minute silence, we can make our voice heard. A voice that gives thanks, a voice that will never forget, and voice that will not stop until we all live in peace. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

God of peace,
whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom
and restored the broken to wholeness of life:
look with compassion on the anguish of the world,
and by your healing power
make whole both people and nations;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.