

St Nicholas, Marston and St Thomas of Canterbury, Elsfeld
MARSTON & ELSFIELD MESSENGER
November 2021 ~ a church newsletter

Dear Friends

Last month we celebrated the first anniversary of our Marston Eco Hub.

It all started with me wanting to share our vicarage, our space with others, so five items from SESI have turned into twelve, a Giving Garage, Swap shop for books and jams, and it's growing each month.



It was wonderful to see this space full for our Autumn fun morning with pumpkin carving, toffee apples, fire pits and story telling. To see the space being used by the community and providing a healthy space for the earth and all creation - including each of us! Because each of us is a little bit of the universe - the space we hold is precious and when we share the space together it is magical.



I have been reflecting on space and asking the question: how do we make a healthy space for ourselves? How do we meet the need to care for our outer space, the space around us, the place we retreat into - the shed, garden, church building or even our favourite armchair? Have we given ourselves time to dwell in this space today, or this week? Often these spaces bring healing and restoration. Do you have a good escape hobby? Hobbies like knitting, gardening, reading books of trivia, painting or bird watching help us to dig deep, let go and lose ourselves in the detail; these hobbies help us to feel connected with the world and are often therapeutic in nature. Who shares your outer space? A partner, Spiritual Director, church family, friend? The people who give us support, wisdom and encouragement to look after ourselves.



As we think of the outer space we share with others we must review our inner space. Do give enough time for stillness? Do we let our souls catch up with our bodies and minds? Life can be like a wedding car with tins and cans tied behind it and a constant noise created by the decisions, stress, to-do-lists and emails we pull around. Stillness is critical for our well-being in moments of deep change and with COVID still around, life is still unpredictable and stressful. Most importantly do we give time for Inner space to encounter God? I don't just mean handing stuff over, asking for things or even saying thank you, although all of these are good. I mean, do we make space for stillness, for listening to God and leaving time for an encounter and transformation? A healthy space - inner and outer is important. We are important, and November is a good time of year to reflect on whether we give ourselves time to have a healthy sense of inner and outer space.



Skye x

Rev Skye Denno

202988 or joskso@yahoo.co.uk

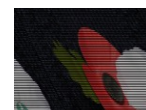
Remembrance Sunday 14th November



10am - Inside
Short service with Communion.

10:50am - Outside
Gather round the War memorial
for the ACT of Remembrance.

All are Welcome



Note that Skye's day off is a Tuesday but you can contact our Pastoral Officer Eileen on 725423.

November



We offer a mixture of online and in-person services.

All the details can be found on our website - stnicholasmarston.org.uk
Or call Alison at the parish office on 01865 580354.

Wednesday 9:30am Holy Communion in-person services at St Nicholas Church
Wednesday 9pm Compline LIVE on St Nicholas Church Facebook page

Sunday 7th

9am Short Communion Service at St Nicholas Church. The service is **LIVE streamed straight onto YouTube**. - (St Nicholas Church, Marston Oxford).

10:30am **Green Church** - Litter Picking, led by Andy. Start with prayer at the Memorial Garden and end with tea and coffee in Marston Eco Hub (Vicarage)

6pm Congregational Evensong at St Nicholas Church (come at 5:30pm for choir practice)

Sunday 14th - REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

8am BCP Communion Service at St Nicholas Church

10am Holy Communion Service at St Nicholas Church. The service is **LIVE streamed straight onto YouTube**

11am Act of Remembrance by the War memorial (Gather 10:50am)

Sunday 21st - Christ the King

8am BCP Communion Service at St Nicholas Church.
The service is **LIVE streamed straight onto YouTube**.

4pm Refresh. Cafe style in the hall with cakes and coffee

Sunday 28th - ADVENT HOPE SUNDAY: An Invitational Service

8am BCP Communion Service at St Nicholas Church.

10am Celtic Holy Communion - **Advent HOPE** at St Nicholas Church with the Jr and adult choir. The service is **LIVE streamed straight onto YouTube**.

10am Communion Service at St Thomas Church - (LIVE on Facebook).

SUNDAY 28th NOVEMBER @ 10am

You are invited to

Advent

A Celtic Style Communion Service celebrating

Hope

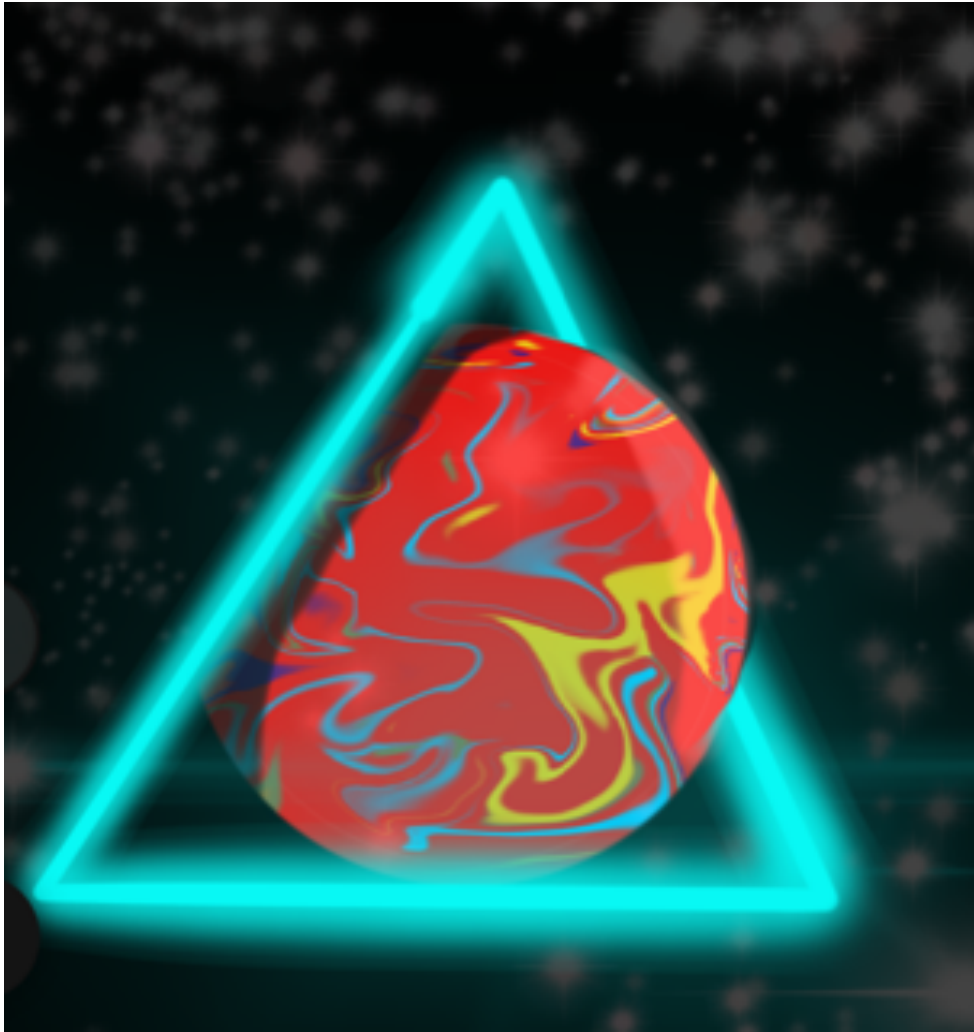


- *An accessible service for all ages*
- *Lighting of first Advent candle*
- *Junior & Youth choirs taking part*
- *Under 5s activity table*
- *Refreshments afterwards*

stnicholasmarston.org.uk

PULSE YOUTH GROUP

For 11+ All Welcome



Every 2nd and 4th Saturday 7-9pm
at St Nicks Hall - OX3 0PR

food - drinks - games - table tennis -
pool room - table football - Bible chat

Elsfield Christmas Fair 2021

Saturday 27th November

10:30-12noon

At St Thomas, Elsfield

Gifts - Crafts - Raffle - Drinks

Blessing Boxes



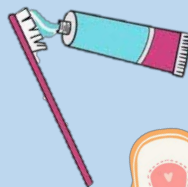
**St. Nicholas
Marston**

In partnership with St
Nicholas' Primary School



We need shoe boxes and gift bags which we will fill with toiletry items such as:

- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Deodorants
- Shampoos
- Shower gel
- Bubble bath
- Pull up nappies
- Sanitary towels
- Washing detergent



These boxes and bags will then be distributed to local families

Please drop off donations at the font in St Nicholas church (OX3 0PR)

This is The Day

We are restarting our Ecumenical Dementia Friendly Services on Wed 10 Nov from 2.30 – 4pm at Marston United Reformed Church, 352 Marston Road OX3 OJB. This short service will be particularly suitable for those living with dementia, memory problems or special needs, their families, friends or carers. The service will be followed by a time for refreshments, fellowship and activities. Come and join us! For further information or offers of help please contact Val via valstolton@aol.com or 246157 or 07712 495406.

Coffee Pot

The next Coffee Pot is on Mon 15 Nov from 10.30 to 12.00 noon in the Parish Hall. For further details please contact Eileen via 725423 or eileen.palayywa@yahoo.com

And finally...

What to make for Bonfire Night?

Parkin

175g black treacle or golden syrup
150g butter/vegetable fat/lard
100g brown sugar
175g plain flour
2 tsp ground ginger
1 tsp cinnamon
275g porridge oats
1 egg
150ml milk
1 tsp bicarbonate of soda.

Method

Pre heat oven to 180C/ Fan 170C/Gas 4.
Grease and line an 18cm/7" square cake tin.
Put treacle, butter and sugar into a pan and heat gently until sugar has dissolved. Stir to prevent burning. Allow to cool slightly. Put flour, oats and spices into a large bowl and stir. In a separate container thoroughly mix egg and milk together and add bicarb of soda. Quickly add all the wet ingredients to the dry and stir well.
Pour into prepared tin and bake for 50 to 60 mins. If using a larger tin it will bake more quickly so check after 30 - 40 mins.

What to see in November?

November is a good time for spotting fungi. Look out for fairy ring mushrooms growing in a circle on grass. Redwings (pictured) arrive from the North and East to enjoy our autumn berries. Later on, they will move to open areas in search of worms. On clear



nights, take time to enjoy the phases of the moon – the first

full one in November is known as a woodcock moon. If you're tidying your garden, don't forget to leave room for nature: a small log pile, fallen leaves raked into corners will provide a habitat for insects, frogs and toads and even foraging hedgehogs.

What to quote?

Autumn idleness by Dante Gabriel Rossetti

This sunlight shames November where he grieves

In dead red leaves, and will not let him shun
The day, though bough with bough be over-run.

But with a blessing every glade receives
High salutation; while from hillock-eaves
The deer gaze calling, dappled white and dun,

As if, being foresters of old, the sun
Had marked them with the shade of forest-leaves.

Here dawn to-day unveiled her magic glass;
Here noon now gives the thirst and takes the dew;

Till eve bring rest when other good things pass.

And here the lost hours the lost hours renew

While I still lead my shadow o'er the grass,
Nor know, for longing, that which I should do.



MULLED WINE | ROAST CHESTNUTS | GIFTS | CAKES | CRAFTS | TEA



Christmas Market

TOMBOLA | CAROLS | REFILL STATION | GINGERBREAD | COFFEE | MUSIC

SATURDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2021
3-5PM

At the Marston Eco Hub, Marston Vicarage, Elsfeld Road, Marston
In aid of Divya Shanthi, Bangalore, India

