

# **The Benefice of Bradford on Avon Holy Trinity, Westwood and Wingfield**



## **November 2025**

*All occasions invite God's mercies,  
and all times are his seasons.  
John Donne*



### **A Season of Remembrance**

*No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the  
continent, a part of the main.  
John Donne, Meditation XVII*

November draws us into a season of remembrance - a time to recall with gratitude the saints and souls who have gone before us, and to honour all who have given their lives in the cause of peace. From All Saints' and All Souls' Days to the Feast of Christ the King, we journey through the closing weeks of the Christian year, reflecting on the communion of all God's people, living and departed.

In remembrance we acknowledge our shared humanity, our longing for peace, and our dependence upon one another. We pray that the God of compassion and justice will guide all nations toward a world where peace is founded upon righteousness, and where all people - of every faith and none - may dwell in freedom, security, and mutual respect.

### **All Saints' Celebrations**

#### **Saturday 1 November, 18.00 - Salisbury Cathedral**

Our five confirmation candidates from Holy Trinity, ranging in age from 14 to 84, will be confirmed at Salisbury Cathedral. They will receive their first Holy Communion at Holy Trinity the following day at 9.30am. We rejoice with them in this important step of faith and celebration.

## **Sunday 2 November - All Saints' Sunday**

08.00 - BCP Holy Communion at Holy Trinity  
09.30 - All Saints' Eucharist with the First Communion of Confirmation  
Candidates at Holy Trinity  
09.30 - Eucharist for All Saints at St Mary's, Wingfield  
11.15 - Eucharist for All Saints at St Mary the Virgin, Westwood  
16.00 - Choral Evensong at Holy Trinity

*For all the saints who from their labours rest...*

From the earliest days, the Church has recognised as its foundation stones those heroes and heroines of the faith whose lives have inspired others to holiness. Traditionally celebrated on 1st November, this observance is now also remembered on the nearest Sunday as *All Saints' Sunday*. All are warmly invited to join us for these joyful celebrations.

## **All Souls' Day**

### **Tuesday 4 November, 09.30 - Benefice Eucharist for All Souls' Day at Holy Trinity**

The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, commonly known as All Souls' Day, follows All Saints' Day. At Holy Trinity there will be a special service of Holy Communion, during which we can name before God our loved ones.

In Christ, all the faithful, living and departed, are bound together in "a communion of love and prayer."

As John Donne reminds us:

*Any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.*  
*John Donne, Meditation XVII*

## **Sunday 9 November - Remembrance Sunday**

08.00 - BCP Holy Communion Service at Holy Trinity  
09.30 - Service of Remembrance at St Mary's Wingfield  
10.15 - Town Service of Remembrance at Holy Trinity, with procession to Westbury Gardens and the laying of wreaths at the War Memorial  
10.50 - Service of Remembrance at St Mary the Virgin, Westwood

## **Sunday 16 November - The Second Sunday before Advent**

08.00 - BCP Holy Communion at Holy Trinity  
09.30 - Sung Eucharist at Holy Trinity  
09.30 - Chuppa Service at St Mary's, Wingfield  
11.15 - Mattins at St Mary the Virgin, Westwood  
15.00 - Service of Remembering at Holy Trinity

*Can a woman forget her nursing child, or show no compassion for the child of her womb?*

*Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.*

*See, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands.*

*Isaiah 49.15-16*

In a society often uneasy with death, where traditional patterns of mourning have largely faded, the opportunity to express grief openly before God is both healing and holy. Such moments of remembrance hold a special place in the ministry and witness of the Church.

On Sunday 16 November, at 15.00, Holy Trinity hosts the Benefice Service of Remembering, welcoming all who have been bereaved, recently, or in years past. The journey of bereavement, from grieving to remembering, is tender and personal; we all need help in making that journey, with companionship along the way.

This reflective service offers space to name our loss, to give thanks for those we love but see no longer, and to find comfort in the promise of God's enduring love. The service will be followed by refreshments, providing an opportunity to meet one another and share memories.

*"You never enjoy the world aright, till the Sea itself floweth in your veins, till you are clothed with the heavens, and crowned with the stars."*

*Thomas Traherne, Centuries of Meditations*

## Sunday 23 November - The Feast of Christ the King

08.00 - BCP Holy Communion at Holy Trinity  
09.30 - Sung Eucharist at Holy Trinity  
09.30 - Morning Prayer at St Mary's, Wingfield  
11.15 - Eucharist at St Mary the Virgin, Westwood

The Christian year reaches its moving climax in the Feast of Christ the King, a celebration of Christ's sovereignty over time and eternity. Traditionally, this final Sunday before Advent was known in the Book of Common Prayer as 'Stir-up Sunday', echoing the opening words of the Collect:

*"Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people..."*

This phrase is preserved today in the Post Communion Prayer of Common Worship, reminding us that God calls not to complacency but to renewal, to be stirred up in faith, love, and service.

As we give thanks for God's mercies and proclaim the kingship of Christ, we pray that God will indeed awaken our hearts, renew our compassion, and strengthen our commitment to the coming of his kingdom of justice and peace.

## Sunday 30 November - The First Sunday of Advent

08.00 - BCP Holy Communion at Holy Trinity  
09.30 - Sung Eucharist at Holy Trinity  
09.30 - Eucharist at St Mary's, Wingfield  
11.15 - Eucharist at St Mary the Virgin, Westwood  
18.00 - Benefice Advent Carol Service at Holy Trinity

Our Advent Carol Service at 18.00 marks the beginning of the new Christian year - a season of watchful waiting and hope. This is a **Bradford on Avon Churches Together** occasion, and all are warmly welcome.

Join us for readings, music and candlelight as we begin to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. The service will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies.