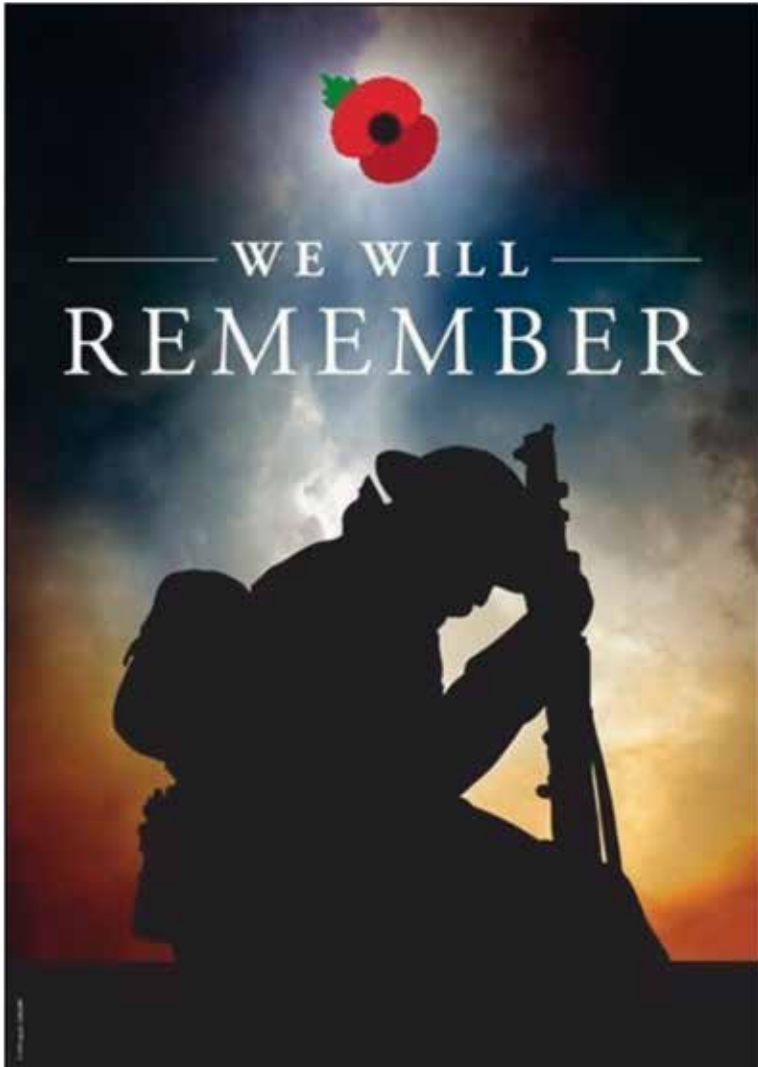


DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH
AND
CROSS STREET CENTRE ST ALBANS



MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER 2025

Free

Minister: Mark Welch

Church Secretary: Chris Penn

Finance Deacon: Trevor Oakley

Property: Ray Saunders

Site Manager and Caretaker: David Hobbs

Cross Street: 01727 846891

Bookings: bookings@dsbc.org.uk

Charity Registration Number: 1127791



"When you're curious, you find lots of interesting things to do." *Walt Disney*

FREE CHURCH SERVICES
St Albans Cathedral

This service is celebrated monthly on the first Wednesday of every month at 11am with our Free Church Chaplain and other ministers.

For further information:

Contact: Rev Simon Carver

simoncarver@btinternet.com

November 2025

NOVEMBER SERVICES

2nd November	Visiting Minister
9th November	Rev Mark Welch Remembering that Reshapes the Future
16th November	Rev Mark Welch All Age Family Service
25th November	Rev Mark Welch The First Temptation of Jesus
30th November	Rev Mark Welch All Saints Day



Dear Friends

Before I am anything else, I am a follower of Jesus. The very heart of Jesus' moral teaching is found in the golden rule.

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." (Mk 12:30-31).

In the Old Testament, God spoke to Israel, reminding them of their experience of being foreigners and aliens in a strange land. God commanded them to love everyone as they loved themselves, even people who were different because they had once been the 'different' strangers in Egypt.

"When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the native-born among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God." (Leviticus 19:33-34).

In today's fractious political climate, there are those who are trying to make ethnic minority groups feel uncomfortable and are proposing policies of mass deportations. There is no way of putting this subtly, this is an expression of evil and is contrary to the teaching of Jesus. As Christians we all have a duty to stand up and be counted, to engage in public dialogue clearly and courageously. At such a time as this neutrality is simply not an option for Jesus' followers.

In the face of a gathering storm, it's always tempting to batten down the hatches and hide in a place of safety. But now is the time to stand up for Jesus' teaching, to speak and live the Biblical truth that every human being is made in the image of God and is, therefore, of infinite value and worth.

I write with love and tenderness and resolution, here I stand.

George Frideric Handel

With much love to you all, *Mark*

November 2025

Dagnall Street Baptist Church
Prayer Diary
2025



November

Saturday 1	Prayer Morning at Cross Street
Sunday 2	Morning Worship & Church in the Cafe
Monday 3	Vulnerable Children
Tuesday 4	Vulnerable Adults
Wednesday 5	Firework Safety
Thursday 6	Poverty
Friday 7	Loneliness
Saturday 8	Prayer & Share Group
Sunday 9	Remembrance Sunday
Monday 10	War and what it means
Tuesday 11	Soldiers & their Families
Wednesday 12	Gaza & Israel
Thursday 13	The Middle East
Friday 14	Ukraine & Russia
Saturday 15	Other Countries at War
Sunday 16	All Age Family Worship
Monday 17	Parents
Tuesday 18	Grandparents
Wednesday 19	Family Life
Thursday 20	Students
Friday 21	Teachers
Saturday 22	Education
Sunday 23	Morning Worship
Monday 24	The Government
Tuesday 25	The Royal Family
Wednesday 26	Dagnall Street
Thursday 27	St Albans
Friday 28	Memories of Loved Ones
Saturday 29	Thankfulness
Sunday 30	Waiting & Wondering

If you have any Prayer requests that you would like to be included please tell:

Flo Mintern





PASTORAL TEAM

The members of the Pastoral Team are always happy to make appointments to visit, talk or pray with you. This can take place in your home, at Cross Street or at our homes at your convenience and at mutually convenient times.

Martin Taylor (07787 555730), Marjorie Jones (01727 422930), Jill Potter (07779 797928), Liz Blight (07884 431051) and Alison Ashmore (01727 867335), are active members of the Pastoral Team.

The team hope you will notify them of anybody who you think may be ill, lonely or who needs help.

Mark Welch

November 2025



PASTORAL NEWS

In Hertfordshire the autumnal tree colours are a magnificent sight and with the colder temperatures our wardrobes reflect the climate changes. British summertime will have ended at 2am on Sunday, 26th October, when clocks were put back one hour. Now the mornings are beginning to get lighter but the evenings are darker.

On 9th November it is 'Remembrance Sunday'. In our church we will be reflecting on the tragedy of the second World War, 1939-1945. Statistics state that between seventy and eighty-five million people died, half of which were civilians and some of these were known to our families.

According to international analysis the world saw the highest level of armed conflict since the second World War in 2024, with this trend continuing in 2025. Daily we are reminded in the media of these atrocities and we continually pray for all people affected in our world.

In our church the following friends would benefit from our prayers: Sandra and John Carpenter, Olly Branch and family, Linda Williams, Jenny Johnson, Krisztina Schreiner, Veronica Williams, Elizabeth Allen. Prayers also for Jane Swain, following a fall and for Joanne Kipgen as she settles back into her role at the Emmanuel School.

We also remember the following friends who can no longer get to church: Bill and Elizabeth Allen, John Peters, Brenda and Jack Passmore.

***In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,***

***When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.***

***No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!***

(Songs of Fellowship 1346)

Jill Potter



Liz has received a thank you note from David Nelson for the book token gift he received when he stopped doing our church and café payroll and pensions earlier this year.

“Dear DSBC

Thank you so much for the very kind and generous gift to mark my departure from ‘the payroll’ at DSBC and Cross Street. It’s been a pleasure to do that for you, and through this to keep in touch with life in St Albans—so many happy memories of that. God Bless.

David”

November 2025

TEA, CHAT AND PRAYER



We are planning our Christmas get-together on

Tuesday, 9th December

2.30pm to 4pm.

At the home of

Jill and Alan Potter

(There is no meeting during November)

**Please let me know if you will require transport
for this gathering or you need any further details.**

Jill Potter

mobile no: 07779 797928



DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH **ST ALBANS, AL3 5EE**



TODDLERS

Wednesday mornings at 9.45 am
(Maximum limit of 30 Adults)

£2 donation per family; Refreshments provided

Meeting every Wednesday during term-time
in the Lower Hall

Entrance via the church car park

The last meeting for the Autumn Term will be on
WEDNESDAY, 17th DECEMBER

All are welcome to any of our services and activities.
Please come along and join us



Our Cross Street Café is open for everyone
Wednesday – Saturday, 10am – 2pm

Serving a range of drinks, meals and delicious cakes

November 2025



Church in the Café Sunday Afternoon 4pm

Our next Church in the Café meeting will be on:

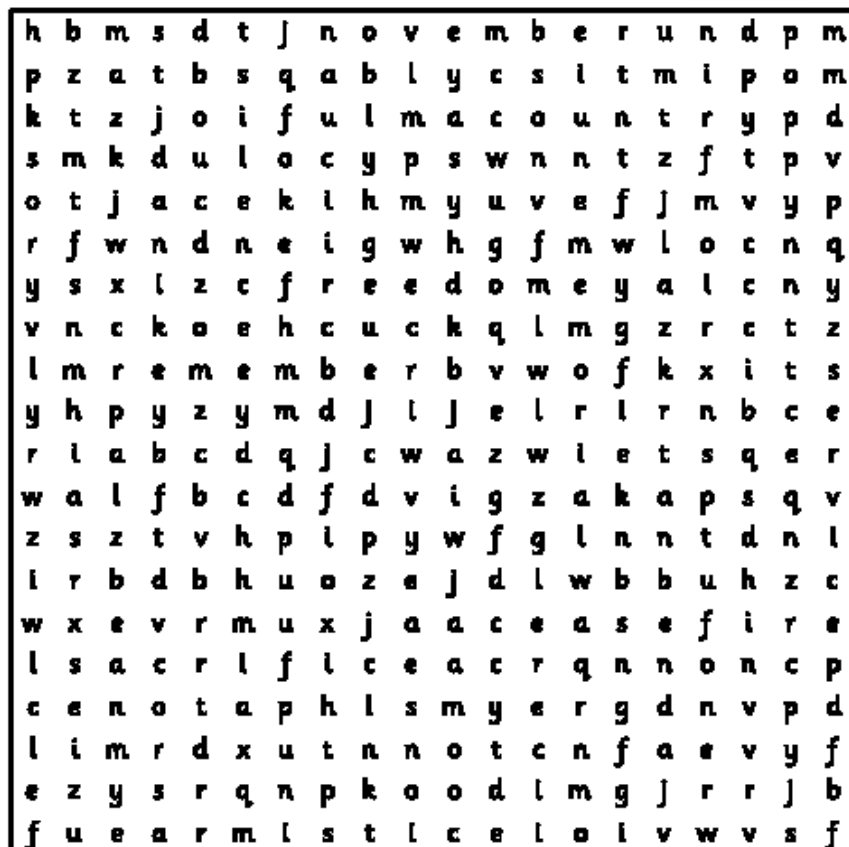
2nd November: We will be welcoming Claire Banham director of 'Haven Hope', which is partnered with the local *2:67 Project*. The Haven helps young people who are dealing with stress and anxiety to equip themselves with practical skills and tools that help benefit their mental health.

Based in St Albans, *The 2:67 Project*, named after Colossians 2:6-7, is a dynamic Christian ministry dedicated to supporting and resourcing youth and children's work across churches and schools. With a heart for **community, collaboration, and connection**, the team works alongside leaders, churches, and young people to grow discipleship and celebrate faith in everyday life.

Everyone is very welcome to these informal gatherings in our Cross Street Centre as we meet together over tea and cake.



Remembrance Day Word Search



ceasefire

conflict

poppy

Flanders

wreath

remember

November

armistice

war

memorial

peace

sacrifice

freedom

service

country

silence

Cenotaph

Remembrance Day Word Scramble

Unscramble the jumbled words below, all of which are used in
Dr John McCrae's poem from 1915, "In Flanders Fields".

1. leesp _ _ _ _ _
2. oef _ _ _
3. utesns _ _ _ _ _
4. sppipoe _ _ _ _ _
5. srcsoes _ _ _ _ _
6. atifh _ _ _ _ _
7. vleod _ _ _ _ _
8. nwad _ _ _ _
9. ighh _ _ _ _
10. lkars _ _ _ _ _
11. relaybv _ _ _ _ _
12. ilsefd _ _ _ _ _
13. rnefalds _ _ _ _ _





Christmas Post Box

The Christmas Post Box will be available in the Upper Link on Sundays 7th and 14th December. This is for cards for regular worshippers only.

Cards will be available for collection from the Church Vestibule from Thursday 18th December and given out on Sunday December 21st.

Donations in lieu of postage please, will go to Christian Aid.

The Postal Team



What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought
Since Jesus came into my heart!
I have light in my soul for which long I had sought,
Since Jesus came into my heart!

I have ceased from my wand'ring and going astray,
Since Jesus came into my heart!
And my sins which were many are all washed away,
Since Jesus came into my heart!

I'm possessed of a hope that is steadfast and sure,
Since Jesus came into my heart!
And no dark clouds of doubt now my pathway obscure,
Since Jesus came into my heart!

I shall go there to dwell in that city, I know,
Since Jesus came into my heart!
And I'm happy, so happy, as onward I go,
Since Jesus came into my heart!

REFRAIN

Since Jesus came into my heart,
Since Jesus came into my heart,
Floods of joy o'er my soul like the sea billows roll,
Since Jesus came into my heart!

Hymn





NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

7th—Krisztina Schreiner

16th—Trevor Oakley

19th—John Macey

26th—Janet Moverly-Peers

A prayer for When the Days Become Shorter

***Lord, who turned darkness into light, be out light as
the days give way to darkness.***

***Help us still to see your beauty in cold winds and
evening fires.***

Be our joy in quiet moments.

Be our peace as the pace of life begins to slow.

***Creator of time, use these shorter days to remind us
to slow down and listen for your still small voice.***

Amen

***(from Prayers for Ordinary Moments—Our Daily Bread
Ministries)***

I wish a Happy Birthday to all those born in the Autumn.

Linda Williams



Birthday scheme



Be a blessing on
your birthday.
Transform a life.

Join your church's Birthday Scheme today to change lives with BMS World Mission. Go to www.bmsworldmission.org/birthday to find out how your birthday can make a difference.

Your Birthday Scheme Co-ordinator is:

LINDA WILLIAMS

Photo: Each year, gifts to the Birthday Scheme save lives at Guinebor II Hospital in Chad.
The Baptists Missionary Society: registered in England and Wales as a charity number 1174364 and a company limited by guarantee number 10849659.



MISSION NEWS

Christian Aid's 2025 Christmas Appeal

"No Crib for a Bed"

As the festive season approaches, a time traditionally marked by tidings of peace and joy, we are invited to consider the reality of those facing unimaginable hardship due to violence.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), decades of conflict and political instability have fuelled one of the world's largest humanitarian crises. Violence between multiple armed groups and government forces has left millions of families with no option but to abandon their homes and livelihoods in search of safety. As a result of conflict, the DRC is among the five poorest nations in the world. It's estimated that more than 70% of the population lived on around £1.50 a day last year. The violence has damaged infrastructure. Shops and businesses have been looted and church congregations have been subjected to targeted attacks.

Chance is the mother of eight children, including baby Siborge, and used to work as a shopkeeper. When armed conflict swept through her community in February, Chance knew her family had to escape to survive. Clutching her newborn baby and rallying her children, Chance fled on foot. Her husband stayed behind. As fighter jets screamed overhead and bombs fell, Chance felt her recent caesarean wound open. With great courage, Chance sought out the relative safety of Katashola Camp for displaced people and was able to receive some medical assistance.

But now, her children are hungry, and at grave risk of malnutrition and malaria. Chance told us: 'Here in the camp, people need food, clothes, jerrycans, saucepans, blankets and mattresses.' The humanitarian emergency in the DRC is one of the largest global hunger crises, with more than 27 million people in need of food. Though Chance is a brave and resourceful mother, she's running out of options – because of a situation that's heartbreakingly beyond her control. She says: 'I wish you could help me and my companions who are suffering like me. Please help us.'

Joyce is a farmer and mother of four children. Her loving family includes her husband, Michel, three daughters and one son. When Joyce was heavily pregnant with her daughter Emiliana, violence was spreading in the region where the family live in the DRC. Joyce was afraid that the conflict would reach their home. As she went into labour, Joyce could hear bombs falling nearby.

When Emiliana was just two months old soldiers came to Joyce's village and the family were forced to hide in the nearby forest. Returning to their home meant capture or death. The family fled to Bulengo Camp for displaced people. Joyce told Christian Aid: 'Emiliana was in a near death state. I tied her to my chest and covered her with a blanket. The child just clung to my chest. I was scared and thinking: Will I die? Will my children die too? I was asking God, if I die, who will take care of my child?'

Sadly, life in Bulengo Camp offered little relief. Food and drinking water were in exceptionally short supply. After two days, the family faced serious hunger and thirst. Michel risked his life returning to their home to collect whatever supplies he could salvage. While the family have been able to return to their home full-time, the trauma stays with them. Joyce says: 'All the time I am thinking about the war. If it gets here, where will we flee to?' She adds: 'Emiliana's whole five months of life have been very stressful. She doesn't even get enough time to play with me – her mother – due to my fear.'

Working with trusted partner, ECC-MERU, Christian Aid is delivering financial assistance to refugees, people who've been displaced, and people who are marginalised in the DRC. Called the Chronic Crisis Stream, this vital funding is a lifeline for families who've left everything behind to survive. Offering financial assistance means people can prioritise their own specific needs and decide how to meet them. Many choose to buy ingredients that will guard their family from malnutrition. Others opt to replace left-behind bedding and blankets for their children – help

ing to make temporary shelters feel a little more homely. With medication beyond the budget of many households, some choose to buy lifesaving malaria treatment. ECC-MERU is also working to increase sustainable access to drinking water.

Christian Aid urgently needs our support this Christmas, so that mothers like Chance & Joyce can buy nutritious food, vital medicines and hygiene products. Our gifts could fund emergency shelters, as well as cosy bedding to comfort traumatised children.

Look out for the Christian Aid Christmas Appeal envelopes in the church on Christmas Day. Alternatively, you could go to the Christian Aid website to donate on-line, or use the QR code on the poster in the Cross Street Centre.





Baptist Union Prayer Diary November 2025

2 November: This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer, held annually on the first Monday in November. This year's theme is 'Living the Good News' and we are encouraged to link hearts and hands with others as we seek the wisdom of God's Word, pray with intention, and learn how the Lord is moving in every part of the world. www.bwawomen.org/day-of-prayer

9 November: A prayer from the Armed Forces Christian Union for Remembrance Sunday: Father God, we come to you today so thankful for the freedom that we enjoy in our country. We remember the sacrifice of all those who have given their lives to secure that freedom in the two great wars and all the areas of conflict which have arisen since. Lord, we pray that you will strengthen and sustain all those currently serving in our military today. We ask that you continue to lead and guide our military leaders in the challenging days ahead and that the leaders of our Armed Forces will always seek your wisdom in their planning and strategies. Amen.

www.afcu.org.uk

16 November: A prayer on Safeguarding Sunday: We come to the God who saves us and makes us safe in him. Let us commit ourselves to the welfare of those in our care. We look towards the needs of the vulnerable and consider our responses and actions for their health and salvation. Prayer taken from materials produced by thirtyone:eight for Safeguarding Sunday:

www.safeguardingsunday.org

23 November: Please pray for the East Midland Baptist Association. Their vision is to serve East Midlands Baptists in Mission, through growing healthy churches, and they do this by inspiring, pioneering, equipping, partnering, and caring.

www.embaptists.co.uk

30 November: This week we pray for the work of the Joint Public Issues Team. The Team work to:

- equip Christians to act and pray on issues of injustice,
- resource churches to reflect and campaign effectively,
- help our Churches to speak out with a distinctively Christian voice on injustice.

www.jointpublicissues.org.uk



PLANNED MISSION GIVING

Grants for most of this year's budgeted beneficiaries have been made by bank transfer, and gift contributions will be sent to our church partners next month.

This year our grants have gone to:- Manipur Charitable Trust; Bible Society; Central Baptist Association; St Albans & Harpenden Christian Education Project; Youth with a Mission; the Saltmine Theatre Company Tour of local Primary Schools; 2:67 Project; St Albans Fund for the Future; Vineyard Care Centre; Herts Welcomes Refugees; and to Interserve in support of our friends the Vokuhl family, in Nepal.



Family Nativity & Gift Service

Sunday 14th December

10.30am

This year will be the 11th consecutive year we have collected children's gifts for the St Albans and Hertsmere Women's Refuge, (SAHWR). Last year you very generously donated nearly 200 'wonderful' presents which the refuge was not only delighted to receive, but were very appreciative of the generosity of everyone who contributed. It is a very valuable and tangible way of supporting a significant need in our local community.

This year's arrangements will be similar to last year:- Firstly, the Refuge would prefer presents not to be gift wrapped, as although a number of them are given on behalf of Santa, others are passed directly to the respective parent, who can arrange the gift wrapping to make the gift more personal.

Secondly, if you are unable to attend on 14th December but would like to contribute, a Gift Donation Box will be left in the lower link for contributions to be made in advance, from Monday 1st December. For those of you who would like your contribution to be collected, please get in touch with me.

However you plan to shop this Christmas, please consider including an extra item or two on your festive toy shopping list, for the children of SAHWR. We will be inviting representatives from the refuge to our Gift Service on 14th December where all your gifts will be on display. It would be wonderful if we were to make their visit as meaningful and worthwhile as it has been over the past 10 years.

Happy toy-shopping!

Chris Penn



DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH ST ALBANS, AL3 5EE



ALL AGE FAMILY WORSHIP

Come and join us on

Sunday, 16th November at 10.30 am

All are welcome to any of our services and activities

Do just come along, we would love to see you

**There are activities, crafts and games for
children at all our
services**



**Our Cross Street Café is open for everyone
Wednesday – Saturday, 10am – 2pm**

Serving a range of drinks, meals and delicious cakes



Dear Supporter

Regrettably we are unable to send individual messages of thanks through Localgiving but wanted to assure you that your donation is greatly appreciated.

This last year has seen over 14,000 three day emergency food parcels provided throughout the St Albans District together with fresh produce and hygiene goods via our 9 distribution hubs.

We strive, however, to be more than a foodbank by helping clients to access the support to which they are entitled and to this end have partnerships with Citizens Advice and Mind and employ our own Wellbeing and Advocacy coordinators.

I would like to share a couple of pieces of feedback from clients who attended our hubs.

First, a lovely thank you.

“Hi All, I just had to send a message of thanks after my visit today. Not only did I get some lovely food for myself and daughter, I also received support, advice and complete non judgement for other issues I shared. This meant so much. Here is a pic of my lovely dinner made with my food parcel. Thanks again.” (I cannot attach the pic)

Second, a heart-warming story of how a little help can go a long way.

Client D has attended a centre for over a year. He was living in his car, suffering with MH issues amongst other things.

As he was deemed homeless with no fixed abode he had no

access to funds, etc. The Foodbank saw him weekly, provided warm clothes, shoes and heated hand warmers to support him over winter. He engaged with the Citizens Advice at the Foodbank hub and the local community group. The Foodbank became his weekly check in with society. He accessed support with his case, benefits advice, hot drinks, company from clients and volunteers and mental health referral via Foodbank's Well-being team. He recently won his court case and gained access to money he was owed. He attended the Foodbank a few weeks back, with a large donation, clean shaven, new bike and new clothes. He now supports the Foodbank with lived experience information, feedback on how we could do better and what we did really well.

Your support helps make this possible.

Best wishes,

Mark Pontin, Trustee, St Albans & District Foodbank



FOODBANK

Can you add one extra thing to your weekly shop?

There is even more need for food bank donations in the St Albans area. All DSBC food donations are now sent to the St Albans and District Foodbank run by the Trussel Trust Charity whose depot is in Redbourn, who also collect from the Foodbank baskets placed in many of the local supermarkets and the Town Hall and the Verulamium museums.

You can now access the shopping list needs on a free app called 'Bank the food', however, it seems that the most urgent needs are:

LONG LIFE JUICE
LONG LIFE MILK
MULTI SURFACE CLEANER
LUNCH BOX SNACKS
TINNED CUSTARD
TINNED FRUIT
TINNED MEAT

If you want to see the full list but cannot get the app speak to me.

If we just add one item to our shopping list we can bring it with us on a Sunday and I can ensure it is taken to a collection point.

Many thanks

Diane





HARVEST

As the Harvest decorations in the church were so lovely, I thought you might like to see a few photographs that were taken on the day. Thanks to the flower arranging team.





'Thinking Lunches'

Thursday 6th November - Sustainable St Albans
From 12.30 - 1.30pm at Marlborough Road Methodist Church.



The Honey Bee

Honey bees are fascinating insects! They live in "colonies", with several thousand co-operating together to build their nest (hive), collect food and rear young. Each member of the colony has a particular task to perform, depending on its role and age:



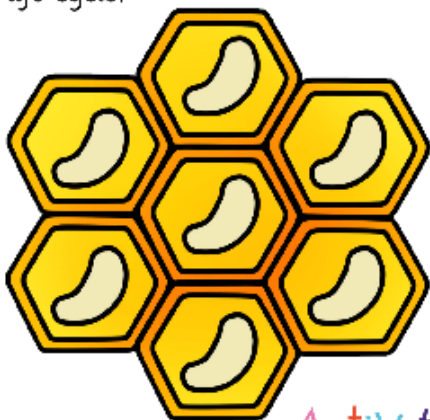
- the queen bee, which is the only bee able to produce eggs. There is only one queen bee in a colony, and the queen bee is the largest bee.
- the male drone bees, which mate with the queen bee and then die. They don't sting. A typical colony or hive has 700-1000 drones
- the female worker bees, which collect food, make beeswax and build honeycombs and feed the young. These are small, and have stingers. There might be up to 60,000 worker bees in a colony or hive!

Life Cycle of a Honey Bee

There are 4 stages in the honey bee's life cycle:

Egg - Larva - Pupa - Adult

The queen bee mates with drone bees (which then die). She lays a single egg into each cell of the honeycomb. A queen might lay up to 3,000 eggs per day!



The Honey Bee

Egg

The egg is long, thin and white, and about the size of a grain of rice. The eggs are laid into different cells, depending on whether they will become worker bees, drone bees or queen bees.



Larva

After a few days, the egg hatches into a larva which looks like a white grub.

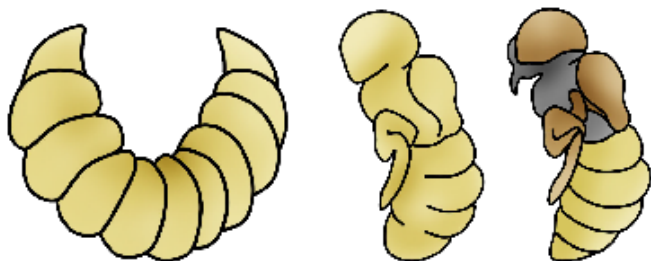
Young worker bees feed the larva, first with a special liquid called Royal Jelly, and then "bee bread" (a mixture of pollen and honey). Potential queen bees get special treatment and are fed only Royal Jelly!



Pupa

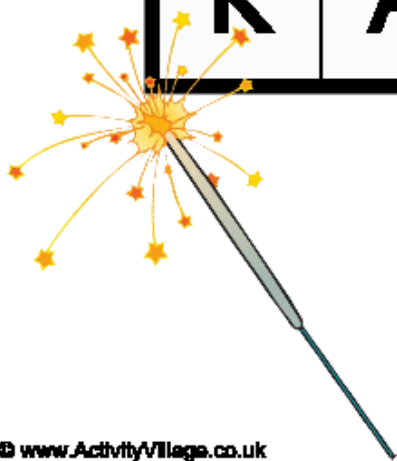
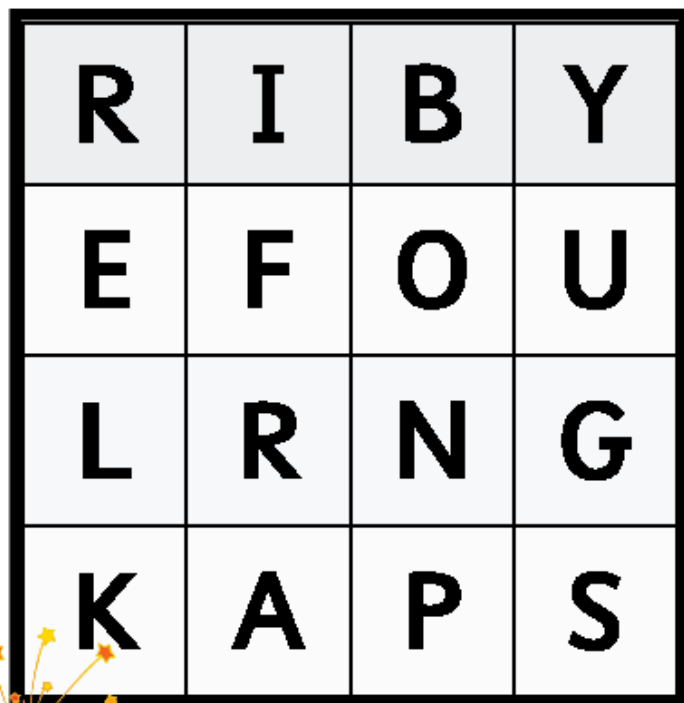
After a few days, the larva stops eating and spins itself a cocoon. The pupa's cell is capped by the worker bees with a lid of beeswax.

The pupa is no longer fed but it continues to grow, developing legs, eyes and wings inside the cocoon.



Bonfire Night Boggler Puzzle

How many words of 3 letters or more can you find using the letters below? Words are formed from adjoining letters. Letters must join in the proper sequence to spell a word and may join horizontally, vertically, or diagonally, to the left, right, or up-and-down. No letter square, however, may be used more than once within a single word. You may use plurals if available. Score 1 point for each 3 letter word, 2 points for 4 letter words, 3 points for 5 letter words and so on. Score an extra 2 points for every Bonfire Night themed word that you make!



My points _____

Bonfire Night Squashed Sentences

Start from the shaded letter on each grid and draw a path from one letter to the next to complete a Bonfire Night themed sentence. The letters must be in adjacent squares and you can move up, down, left or right but not diagonally. Each grid contains a new sentence. The 2 unused letters from each grid can be rearranged to make a 6 letter Bonfire Night themed word.

N	N	Y	F	O
E	P	K	Y	R
R	E	C	R	T
P	L	Y	U	H
O	E	P	G	E

C	R	A	C	K
D	N	O	W	L
O	A	R	E	E
Z	Z	K	R	T
I	F	S	I	F

O	N	D	P	L
S	A	N	T	O
A	U	N	P	O
E	G	C	D	W
R	T	R	E	E

The remaining letters
spell the word



“I AM A COMPANION OF ALL THEM THAT FEAR THEE” Psalm 119 v 63

The business man knows the value of unsolicited testimonials. If he has any, he puts a choice selection in his advertisements and advises the reader the the originals, together with hundreds more in a similar strain, are available for inspection at If I buy anything with these testimonials on the wrapper I admit I always read them. It is for me a very happy experience to hear unsolicited testimonials from all kinds of people concerning our church.

The past few weeks have brought forth a whole spate of testimonials. It is refreshing and heartening. So often the Church is just left unnoticed and not even scorned, that to hear favourable comments is somewhat extraordinary.

I have heard remarks about many aspects of the work in Dagnall Street, but by far the commonest are those concerning the friendly atmosphere regnant in the services. That is a wonderful advertisement not only for our fellowship but also for the gospel of Christ. It is just the way the Church should be.

New worshippers have been surprised to find that, on their second visit, they have been welcomed by name. Someone told me, “Church used to mean a building to me, but since I came to Dagnall Street it means people.” Another remarked that the warm fellowship would attract him again—and it has done so.

So we have to face the fact that, during the next few months when we go to church we shall have to brave the cold and the rain. Then let the warmth of the fellowship continue to make the journey worth while.

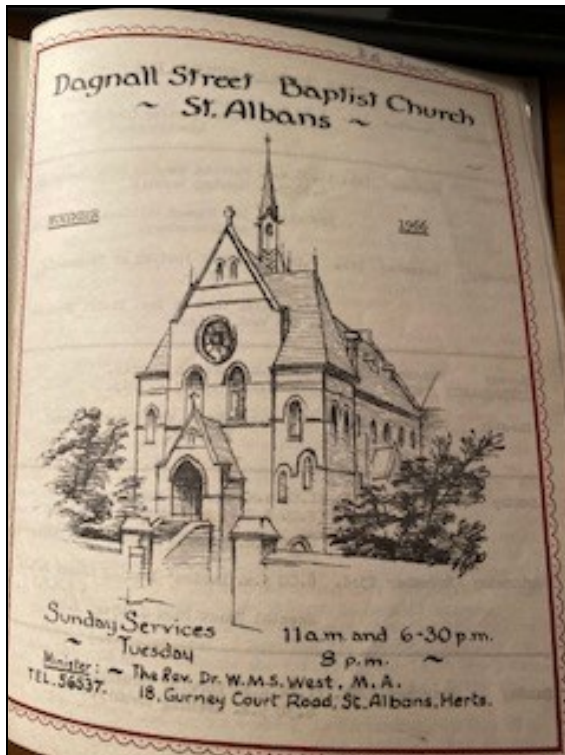
But let us always recall that we are seeking to welcome people with our friendliness not to fill our pews but to

bring them under the sould og=f the Gospel. Bear in mind that we are not a friendly society seeking new members, but ambassadors of Christ seeking new converts. Therefore, let our friendliness be free of frivolity and full of Chhristian love.

By just a word of welcome to the stranger who sits beside you you may help to win another soul to Christ. And this word we can all speak.

Glen Garfield Williams.

Welcome letter from the front of the Church Magazine, November 1956





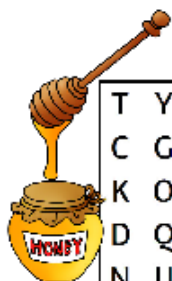
Teachers and Officers of the Dagnall Street Baptist and Village Sunday Schools and Sopwell Lane Mission of 20 years old and upwards.
Circa 1890



Sunday School Outing 1916
Bricket Wood Tea Pavilion

The Life Cycle of the Honey Bee

Can you find all the words in the grid below?



EGG

COCOON

COLONY

HONEYCOMB

QUEEN

DRONE

LARVA

CELL

WORKER

HIVE

BEE BREAD

BEESWAX

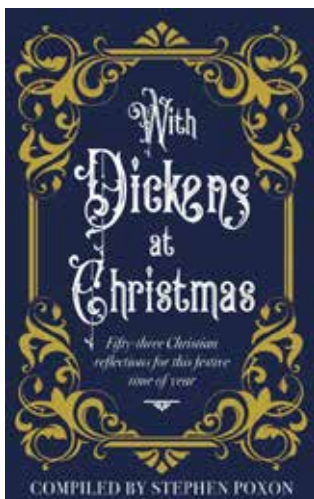
ADULT

PUPA

ROYAL JELLY

HONEY





This beautiful book comprises 53 carefully-curated extracts from the writings of Charles Dickens, all relating to the season of Christmas. Each reading is presented for reflective reading alongside an appropriate passage from the Bible, a prayer, and a verse from a traditional Christmas carol. The collection as a whole is the perfect Christmas gift for fans of Dickens, and an inspirational armchair companion for all non-Scrooges at 'this kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time' of year.

The book, written by Stephen Poxon who has conducted many services for us, particularly during our recent pastoral vacancy, is due to be published later this month, and in a recent email he says, "Any help you might be able to offer in promoting my newest book would be greatly appreciated."

'With Dickens at Christmas' is available from **Eden.co.uk** at: <https://www.eden.co.uk/christian-books/christmas-and-advent-books/advent-books/advent-devotionals/with-dickens-at-christmas/>

It's simply a question of visiting the Eden website, then entering 'Stephen Poxon' into the 'Search' box - then ordering lots of copies as Christmas presents!

November 2025

DAGNALL STREET BAPTIST CHURCH ST ALBANS, AL3 5EE



Who Let the Dads Out (WLTD0)

Meets on the Second Saturday of each month

**£2 donation per family; Refreshments provided
For Dads, Grandads, Uncles etc..**

Taking place in the Lower Hall

Entrance via the church car park

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON
SATURDAY, 8th NOVEMBER, 10am**

**All are welcome to any of our services and activities.
Please come along and join us**



**Our Cross Street Café is open for everyone
Wednesday – Saturday, 10am – 2pm**

Serving a range of drinks, meals and delicious cakes

AUTUMN YOUTH MINISTRY DATES

19TH OCT
23RD NOV

THE FUEL ADVENTURE, 6PM-8PM
AT CHRIST CHURCH ST ALBANS



8TH OCT
4TH NOV

TRIBE BREAKFAST 9.30AM
ST PAULS - 8/10
VERSO/STEP - 4/10



16TH OCT
6TH NOV
11TH DEC

'THE CORE' - YOUTH AND KIDS MINISTRY
WORKSHOPS. 7.30PM-9.30PM AT
CHRIST CHURCH ST ALBANS



27TH SEPT

18TH BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR 267.
COME AND JOIN US. 2PM-6PM AT
ST MARKS COLNEY HEATH



3RD OCT



ILLUMINATE WORSHIP AT SOUL
SURVIVOR WATFORD. 7PM-9PM.



31ST OCT



ILLUMINATE NERF WAR AT
VERSO VINEYARD. 7.30PM



8TH NOV



ILLUMINATE SILENT DISCO AT HIGH
ST METHODIST CHURCH, 7PM-9PM.



ILLUMINATE CATHEDRAL 2026 - 28TH FEB. TICKETS LIVE SOON.





THE CORE

YOUTH AND KIDS MINISTRY WORKSHOPS

THURSDAY 16TH OCTOBER

'The BIG ideas session' – games, storytelling, websites, visual aids, craft, songs and much more. Come grab some ideas!

THURSDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

'Helping parents survive their teenage years' – join us as we unpack some of the challenges of having teenagers and chat through a few ways we can support one another.

THURSDAY 11TH DECEMBER

'Intergenerational, all-age, multi-age, worship for all' – whatever you call it – ideas to help your worship work better when everyone is together.

7.30pm–9.30pm

Christ Church, High Oaks, St Albans, AL3 6DJ

To book or for more info: mike@the267project.com



RESOURCE
GROW
CELEBRATE

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES



Let's remind ourselves of the items we can undertake as a church.

Food Bank

A list of items we can give to support this are listed in the church magazine.

Any items can be taken to the Town Hall (10.30am to 5pm)

TWAM -Tools with A Mission.

Any items of hand and machine tools to support people in overseas countries to help them be self-sufficient. Any tool items can be taken to Marshalswick Baptist Free Church, Sherwood Ave. St Albans, on any Thursday afternoon.

TWAM leaflets are in the leaflet rack in the Centre, or if you require further details contact me.

Emmaus; who recycle old furniture as well as supporting people who are homeless.

Used Postage Stamps for local charity. Please leave in the box on the link table

Due to circumstances, I will no longer be attending Car Boot sales, so any items can be taken to your local Charity shop of choice.

We can all play our part with environmental issues in protecting God's planet.

Recycling you can undertake at home:

Recycle Paper - Cardboard Tin – Glass and Plastic with the council waste collection.

Recycle food waste and plants in a compost bin, if you can.

Many thanks in anticipation

Trevor Oakley



Advent Cloze

Fill in the missing words using the words in the box below.

Advent is the season in the _____ Church that marks the period before Christmas. Advent comes from the Latin word meaning '_____'. The season starts on the fourth _____ before Christmas which can fall between 27th November and 3rd December.

The modern Advent Wreath dates back to nineteenth century Germany. It is traditionally made of _____ tree branches tied with red ribbon and decorated with pine cones, and other evergreens. There are four _____ which are lit on each of the Sundays of Advent.

Non-religious Advent celebrations tend to start on the 1st of _____. Advent _____ were traditionally a picture with windows for the twenty-four days of December which were opened on each day to reveal small pictures. Many calendars now have _____ behind the windows.

Word Bank

waiting	candles
Sunday	Christian
December	fir
calendars	chocolates





PHOTOGRAPHY

You may have noticed bright yellow signs placed in areas of the church and Cross St café. These are a reminder to us all that any photos taken on our premises are for personal use only and **must not** to be shared on social media or in any form of publicity, **unless** permission has been granted by those being photographed, or in the case of children, by their parents or carers.

There are consent forms available if needed.

For further information please contact:

LINDA ROBERTS on 01727 858869 or FRANK IDDIOLS on 07939 287785 (both responsible for Safeguarding) or CHRIS PENN on 07770 334339 (Church Secretary)

Thank you.

Scrabble Club



DSBC Scrabble Club is on the ***first and third*** Tuesday of the month from ***14:30 to 16:30***.

So the next meetings in February will be on the following dates:

Tuesday 4th and 18th November

All are welcome.

So come along to the Cross Street Centre and give it a try.

Speak to me for further information.

Colin Owen

November 2025

Table Tennis – Snooker – Pool and other Indoor Games



Every Monday at;
Dagnall Street Baptist Church, St. Albans
In the Lower Hall from 10.30am till 12.30pm

*Come along and join us for a time of
Fun and Fellowship*

All are Welcome

Contact: Trevor Oakley

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE CHURCH

As we all know our household bills are rising and the cost of heating and lighting the church is no different to the energy costs at home. Our church relies on raising its own income. Some of this comes from hiring out our rooms, but the majority comes from congregational giving. There are various ways in which this can be done. There is a plate by the door of the church for cash and offering envelopes.

We now also have a contactless offering device which accepts card or phone payments of specific amounts and this is also by the main church doors on Sundays. These donations are completely anonymous.



We are happy to receive bank transfers and standing orders and the details are below:

Deacons of Dagnall Street Baptist Church
60-18-11
42087783

If you decide to make an offering in this way, it is helpful if you are able to email our Finance Manager, Liz Blight, lizblight@gmail.com, so that she can connect up the entry on our bank statement.

Thank you for your generosity!

The Deacons



'Share St Albans' is a 'library of things' where we lend DIY, garden, kitchen, party items or something for your home. Set up for St Albans and district to borrow not buy. Whether you want to loan a gazebo or DIY equipment we are here to share and reduce our collective environmental footprint and have a collaborative community.

By borrowing something for a small fee you can save yourself money, save on space needed for storage and help to save the planet.

Locations:

The Green House, 46 London Road, AL1 1NG
Sandridge Parish Council Car Park, The Ridgeway AL4 9TU

Please log onto the site to see opening times at these locations



THE COPY FOR THE DEC 2025/JAN 2026 MAGAZINE IS DUE ON THURSDAY, 20th NOVEMBER

The run up to Christmas starts this week as it is Christmas cake baking time. Christmas puddings next week! I'm up to my ears in fruit soaking in brandy. It smells really nice. And sometime, in amongst the cake baking, I need to do something with all the tomatoes I have picked—red and green ones!

While finishing off the magazine tonight I had Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy on with Gary Oldman. I still think I prefer Alec Guinness, but really I still haven't worked out who are the spies and who are the spies that got away with it!!

The garden looks a bit of a mess at the moment, as I have a lot of shrubs and hedges to prune and, as I have been doing a lot of cover at the hospice, I have been doing it in spurts, so nothing is finished at the moment. But I am sure I will get it done in the end. I've become a dab hand with a pruning saw and with a cordless hedge trimmer. But the pesky grass is still growing! Yet another cut is needed. I've also been trying to plant some allium and daffodil bulbs but the ground is still very hard and it has been quite tricky. I hope after the bits of rain this weekend it might be a bit softer next week.

I've done my best to get this magazine to the printers as early as possible this month and will keep my fingers cross that it will be in the church by next Sunday (last Sunday of the month) as the last two editions missed it.

I've watched a great firework display tonight through my windows as some of my neighbours are celebrating Diwali.

Have a good November.

Glynis
glynis.griffiths1@gmail.com
01462 733665
07517 877601

What, When and Where November 2025

The church is open for services at 10.30am each Sunday. There are activities, games and crafts for children during every service on a Sunday.

After service coffee is being served in the Cross Street Centre.

All Age Family Worship. The next service will be on Sunday 16th November, 10.30am.

Church in the Café, Sunday, 2nd November, 4pm. Claire Banham, director of 'Haven Hope'.

Tea Chat and Prayer. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 9th December from 2.30-4pm. No meeting in November.

Scrabble Club is held on the first and third Tuesday of each month, 4th and 18th November, 2.30-4.30pm.

Toddlers is held every Wednesday during school term time from 9.45—11.15am. The last meeting for the Autumn term is on Wednesday, 17th December.

Who Let the Dad's Out . Meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month. The next meeting will be on Saturday 8th November, 10-11.15am.

Monday table tennis/games club is held in the Lower Hall from 10.30am

The fourth Tuesday of each month the Prayer and Share Group meet in the Cross Street Centre at 7.30pm.

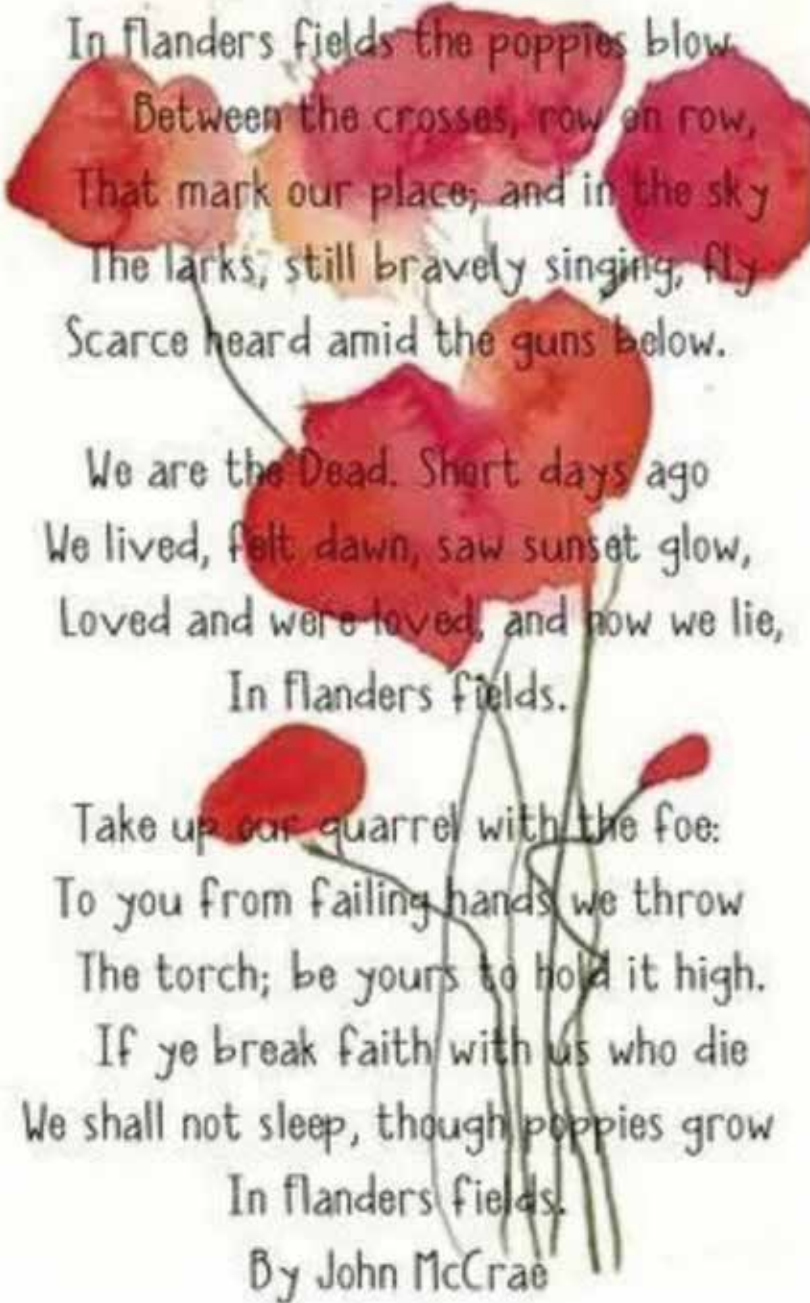
First Saturday of the month Prayer Hour at 10am in Cross Street.

The Cross Street Café opens weekly from Wednesday to Saturday, 10am to 2pm.

Newsletter by email, weekly.

You can view this magazine in colour on our website.
<https://www.dsbc.org.uk/>

In Flanders fields



In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

By John McCrae