Words of Light and Hope from Tony Hawes - Remembrance

I was born in 1937, so I remember the blackout, the gas masks, the sirens at night, the shared underground air-raid shelter in Roger's garden next door, the Morrison shelter in the living room. I also remember rationing ("Only scrag-end this week, Mrs Hawes"), the American soldiers ("Got any gum chum?"), the searchlights and the bomb craters, ARP Wardens ("Norwich took a pounding last night!"), the iron railings cut down for munitions, my siren suit. Then I remember the All Clear signals, the Victory street parties, Thanksgiving Services, "O Valiant Hearts……"

A Prayer Rosary.
Somme, Ypres, Hiroshima, Bosnia, Belfast,
the names slip through our fingers like bloodstained beads.
As we tell the story, tell us, tell us, tell us the way to peace.

Beirut, Nagasaki, Sudan, Ukraine, Gaza, Iran.
Still they come, countless numbers: people hounded,
refugees tramping the road out of hell, into hell.
Where will it stop? Show us, show us, show us, the way to peace.
Iona Community.

An Act of Commitment.
Lord God our Father,
we pledge ourselves to serve you and all mankind,
in the cause of peace, for the relief of want and suffering,
and for the praise of your name.
Guide us by your Spirit;
give us wisdom; give us courage; give us hope;
and keep us faithful now and always. **Amen.**

Dates for your diary…..*(see our website for more information)*

Pre-Christmas Coffee Morning - St Margaret's Church, Swannington, 10am-12pm 21st November. Raffle, Tombola, Christmas gifts etc (and lots of cake!)

'Oh Yes it is!' The History of the English Pantomime – a talk by Jim Stebbings at St Margaret's Church, Swannington, 2.30pm 29th November, £10 with seasonal refreshments, tickets from pamela.smith@btinternet.com

Music for the Season with Singing for All Community Choir and Taverham Brass Band – Hall for All, All Saint's Church, Weston Longville, 7.30pm Wednesday 2nd December, £10 on the door (under 16s free), seasonal refreshments on arrival.

REEPHAM & WENSUM VALLEY BENEFICE

Pew Notes 8th November

Upcoming Sunday services

- **Sunday 15th November**
  10.00am for 10.30am Café Church, St Michael's, Reepham
  10.30am Holy Communion St Andrew's, Attlebridge
  10.30am Mattins, St Peter & St Paul, Salle
  (Mattins replacing Evening Prayer at Salle until Spring 2027)

- **Sunday 22nd November – Christ the King**
  9.00am Holy Communion, St Andrew's, Thurning
  10.30am Holy Communion, St Mary's, Reepham
  10.30am Praise & Thought, St Margaret's, Swannington

- **Sunday 29th November – 1st Sunday of Advent**
  10.30am Benefice Communion Service, St Mary's, Reepham

- **Sunday 6th December – 2nd Sunday of Advent**
  9.00am Holy Communion, St Peter & St Paul, Salle
  10.30am Holy Communion, St Mary's, Reepham
  10.30am Morning Prayer, Weston Longville

Contacts:
Rector: Revd Nigel revd.nigelkinsella@gmail.com
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If you would like to receive our weekly e-newsletter or advertise any events please email Sharon

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact your
Parish Safeguarding Officer,
details in the church porch or on the RWV Benefice website:
https://www.reepham-and-wensum-valley-benefice.org.uk

Readings for the 3rd Sunday before Advent

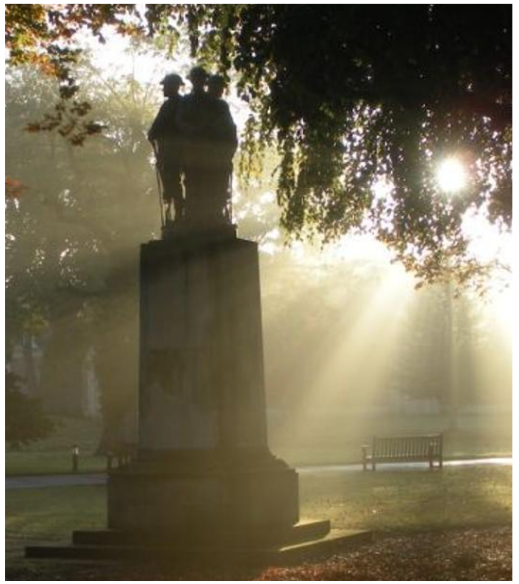
1 Thessalonians 4.13-end

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Matthew 25.1-13

'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Reading for Remembrance Sunday



1 John 3.16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers and sisters. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us, for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God, and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.