T E N T E R D E N K E N T

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**Newsletter for the week commencing 25th October 2020**

**Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary time (A)**

**Entrance antiphon: Let the hearts that seek the lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.**

**First Reading: Exodus 22: 20-26**

**Psalm 17 Response: I love you, Lord, my strength**

**Second Reading: St Paul to the Thessalonians 1: 5-10**

**Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!**

**Gospel: Matthew 22: 34-40**

**Communion antiphon: We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.**

**Father Behr writes:**

Dear Parishioners

**Halloween**

As you know, Halloween on 31 October means the ‘eve of the holy’, the vigil of the feast of All Saints, celebrated on 1 November, when we ask all the people who have entered Heaven to pray for *us*. Special Masses were also offered on the vigil so Halloween was a holy day as well.

2 November is All Souls Day, when *we* pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all throughout that month.

We owe the celebration of these feasts at this time of the year to a pope and an abbot of the 8th and 9th centuries.

Masses were offered for the dead on All Souls Day and, in the Middle Ages particularly, when plagues were dreaded, people began to concentrate more on their own death and the death of loved ones around this time, - hence the skeletons, ghouls and scary stuff in general … visiting the graves of loved ones was common across Europe.

In Europe too, the custom of ‘souling’ grew up. Special cakes were baked called soul cakes, and on All Saints and All Souls day children went from house to house promising prayers for the deceased of the households in exchange for a cake. Here we can see the origins of Trick or Treat. Sometimes a song was sung outside the house, (rather like carolling at Christmas). Candles or lanterns were carried and sometimes the children dressed up as souls in purgatory. Most likely, then as now, in rather scary costumes!

         So, as Catholics, let’s enjoy these wonderful feasts of the Church, asking the Saints to pray for us, and remembering to pray and have Holy Mass offered for the souls in Purgatory to help them on their way to Heaven.

If you would like to listen to a podcast with more detail on the origins of Halloween, please visit

https://www.churchpop.com/2019/10/29/the-true-origins-of-halloween-are-actually-deeply-catholic/

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Those recently deceased**: Winifred Ada McDowall RIP, whose funeral will be at Saint Andrew’s on Thursday November 12th at 13:00, followed by burial in Cranbrook Cemetery.

**Those ill or infirm:** Charlotte Elliot (daughter of Maureen Davidson), Jennifer Jorden, Joe Adams, Ellie Lawrence, Anne Bryant, Eric Booth, Patricia Hook, Elena Peck (senior), Marjorie Dumbleton, Josie Payne, Joe Venables. Pat Holland and all those self-isolating or suffering from COVID-19.

**Those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time:** Sam Liles, Kieran Corcoran, Gerry Raffe, Sheila Hoskyns, Katherine Keane, John Philips, Clive Holland, Marie Witham, Charles Carlson, Ross Smith, Maureen Gilberto and John Dumbleton.

**This week’s services (25th – 31st October)**

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| **Mass will be held daily at 10am except on Wednesday when there will be****a Service of the Word and Holy Communion at 10am** |
| **Feasts during the week** |
| Sunday 25th October | **Thirtieth Sunday (A)** | Thursday 29th October | Feria |
| Monday 26th October  | Sts Chad & Cedd, Bishops | Friday 30th October | Feria |
| Tuesday 27th October | Feria | Saturday 31st October | Our Lady |
| Wednesday 28th October | Sts Simon & Jude, Apostles | Sunday 1st November | **All Saints** |
| **Flowers for Sunday 1st November** | **Kathy Gibbs** |

**Winifred Ada McDowall** died on 13th October in Breton Court. She was born on 20th December 1918, which will have made her 101 years old. **Her Requiem Mass** will be at **Saint Andrew's on Thursday 12th November** (Perigoes of Cranbrook) **at 13:0**0 followed by burial in Cranbrook Cemetery (We will need to see what our Tier level is at that time to advise folk, as to how many can attend the service).

**Thank you** to all those who have generously and spontaneously donated money for the new statue of Our Lady. The fund now stands at £250.

**Congratulations to Chloe** who made her First Holy Communion on Saturday (24th October)!

As the days get colder, please wrap up warm when you come to Mass as the doors and windows will be open to allow a good air flow. Stay in your cars until 5 or 10 minutes before Mass (Mass starts at 10 am) and wrap up warm!

The **Minutes of the recent Parish Council meeting** (28th September) can be found on the **parish website** and **on the noticeboard** in the porch for you to peruse.

We normally hold a **Remembering Service** in October/November but, because of Covid 19, we are unable to do so. However, St Mildred’s is holding several services which members of St Andrew’s are invited to join. Please see the invitation below:-

We would like to invite you to a

**SERVICE OF LIGHT**

at St Mildred’s Church in Tenterden

during which we will remember those who have died during the past year, together with others whose remembrance has been requested.

Because we can accommodate only a limited number of people, we are holding four services this year:

**on Saturday 31st October at 2pm and 4pm**

**and on Sunday 1st November at 2pm and 4pm**

If you wish to come, please choose a service and then contact Karen Edgar

**(07546 483376 /** **kass.edgar2018@gmail.com****)**

to reserve a place or places, giving the number of people who will be attending, together with the name or names of the people you would like us to remember during the service.

Lindsay Hammond,Team Rector