

Holyhead Road United Reformed Church

Sunday 8 November 2020



Unfortunately, worship in the church building has once again had to be suspended. Alternatives are still running (see below)

Ministers: Revd Debbie Brown 024 7659 6433; brown_debbie@sky.com
Revd Bill Young 024 7671 7223; bill@morvern.com

Lectionary readings this week: Wisdom of Solomon 6: 12-16 (OR Amos 5: 18-24); Psalm 70 (OR Wisdom 6: 17-20); 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18; Matthew 25: 1-13

Communicating and Worshipping:

Please contact the ministers or Elders with any concerns or prayer requests.

A 'Podcast' service uploaded every Saturday by **Revd Bill Young** is available to listen to at revdbill.uk/worship-material. The podcast link also allows for downloading a service transcript.

Revd Debbie Brown will lead phone-in worship every Sunday afternoon at 4pm. You can join on any telephone by calling the number **0330 606 0403** and listening to the instructions. When you are asked for it, enter the following access code on your phone pad: **442786#**.

There will be a special **Remembrance** dial-in on 11 November at 10.50am, using the same phone number

A message from Debbie:

Dear Friends,



November is the perfect month for remembering and reflecting.

On 1st November (the day after Halloween) All Saints Day is celebrated in Western Christianity in honour of all the saints known and unknown (also known as All Hallows).

November 5th (Bonfire night) is the date associated with Guy Fawkes attempt to blow up the Houses of Parliament. The 8th is Remembrance Sunday and the 11th is Armistice Day.

The 11th is also Martinmas. St. Martin was a Roman soldier who was met by a beggar in need of help on his return to the city. Martin tore his cloak in half to place around the beggar to save him from dying in a snowstorm. That night he had a dream that Jesus appeared to him wearing the half cloak. Martin was baptized as an adult and became a monk.

St. Catherine's Day is the 25th, remembering Queen Catherine of Alexandria (4th century). Catherine, a Christian, was arrested for her faith and her execution was to be tied to an iron wheel with spokes. (This is the origin of the 'catherine wheel'). When the wheel got close to Catherine's body, it shattered and saved her from a terrible death. The 30th is St. Andrew's Day, the patron saint of Scotland. It has become Scotland's official National Day. He is recorded in the New Testament as being a disciple and the fisherman brother of Peter.

Throughout history - amongst all the turmoil, conflict and destruction in the world, God still works through people, bringing change and transformation. Jesus brought us the message of the importance of working towards reconciliation and peace, of sharing God's love for humanity which brings salvation.

REMEMBRANCE PRAYER

We remember past wars: those who fought in them; those who lived through them; those who died in them.

We pray for the victims of past wars, remembering before you, loving God, those who died in battle, or from the consequences of injury or disease, and those who mourned or still mourn them.

We remember those permanently maimed or disabled, and those psychologically scarred or disturbed. We pray for an end to the suffering of war.

We pray for the victims of current conflicts, remembering before you, loving God, children trained to hate and fight, families turned into homeless refugees, and lands laid waste and made barren.

We remember those blinded or crippled and those driven insane by nightmare experiences. We pray for an end to the destructive hatred of war. We pray for the peace of the world remembering before you, loving God, areas where there is armed conflict...and those who are working for peace. We remember that you have called us to strive together for the coming of your kingdom of love and peace.

We pray that you will equip us for the task with the faith that knows that nothing can separate us from the love of Christ.

In the name of Jesus, Prince of Peace we pray.
Amen.