



All Saints'
Newtown Linford



Safeguarding Sunday

19 November 2023

10am Holy Communion

The Revd Richard Trethewey

First reading: 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11

Second reading: Matthew 25.14-30

This service will be streamed online at

www.facebook.com/allsaintsnewtownlinford/live

A warm welcome to all to worship today, whether onsite or online. Please use this sheet to help you during the service and then take it away as a reminder of the notices and as a guide to prayer.



There is a loop system for those with hearing aids

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News and forthcoming events

Advent and Christmas

Advent begins on *3 December*;

we have a Christingle Service on *Sunday 10 December* at 10am;

on *Saturday 16 December* we particularly welcome people to Light a Candle;

the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols is at 7.30pm on *Sunday 17 December*;

on *Christmas Eve* we have the Crib Service at 3pm;

and Midnight Communion begins at 11.30pm;

on *Christmas Day*, Holy Communion is at 9am;

on *Sunday 31 December*, we host the Bradgate Group Holy Communion at 10am;

as last year, there will be a Christmas Tree Festival in church, launching with the Village Fayre on *Thursday 7 December*.

Building work

Our last five-yearly inspection of the building identified a few areas where some of the stonework needs repair. We have agreed a tender from a building firm and expect the work to begin this week and take until Christmas. The work is external so will not affect our services or groups.

Christmas Cards

Thank you to those who put in an order for particular designs of the church Christmas cards. Those have now arrived and are available at the back of church for sale, including those which were pre-ordered.

Distribution of Communion

At Communion services here in Newtown Linford it is now possible to receive the wine from a chalice. If you wish to continue to receive the wafer dipped in the wine rather than sip from the shared cup, please hold out **just one** hand as the priest approaches you and they will dip it in a separate chalice.

Giving

If you would like to give to support All Saints', please use our online donation page, <https://bit.ly/asnl-donate>. A basket and contactless giving system are available at the back of church. If you would like to give regularly, please speak to Michael Upstone about the Parish Giving Scheme.

Shaped by God Together: Journey to Minster Communities

It is very likely that the conversation about All Saints' involvement in a Minster Community will begin in the next six months. To prepare, we can:

- Pray for the renewal of God's church.
- Partner with neighbouring churches.
- Promote vocations – please pray and consider: is there someone you know who you think should explore this?
- Prioritise school links.

Prayer

Why Safeguarding Sunday?

Churches are places where anyone can come and feel welcomed, loved, and part of a community. But with that openness comes responsibility, particularly when it comes to safeguarding children and vulnerable people. It's easy to think that abuse and neglect don't happen in our churches. But the sad truth is that they can and do happen. In some cases, failure to safeguard people from abuse has had devastating and long-lasting consequences on people's lives.

Thanks to the many brave people who have experienced such abuse and spoken out about it, we are now much more aware of our responsibility to prevent similar harm in the future. Today, many churches are committed to being safe places for everyone and safeguarding is now a familiar word to most people who work and volunteer in Christian ministry.

But there are always things we can do better and more to learn, which is why Safeguarding Sunday exists. It's our chance to remind everyone in church the part they play in supporting the safeguarding arrangements we have in place, including what they should do if they have a concern. We reaffirm our commitment to protecting vulnerable people, to creating safer cultures and communities for all, and to praying for a world free from harm and neglect.

For those who are abused and those who abuse; for those who are care-less about others and those who are care-full; for those who offer guidance through the dark and those who endeavour to safeguard the vulnerable: good Lord, we pray.

Good Lord, give hope to the hurt and a sense of your love and rightness. May we all be led into safe and sound living. Give us your strength for today, your hope for tomorrow and the light of your love to guide us in all things.

Amen.

(Methodist Church Past Cases Review Prayer)

Rachael Spiers , Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor

Collects

Collect: Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion: Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Additional Collect: Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Measures for everyone's safety

Ventilation: we continue to have windows open whenever we meet.

Space: pick up a card from the table as you enter to place next to you to indicate you wish increased space.

Hygiene: sanitizer is provided in key locations – at the entrance, where books can be collected and where communion is distributed.

Communion is available with the bread dipped in the wine.

You should not attend services while you are testing positive for COVID-19. Please join the service online – we stream every Sunday.