

## WEEKLY MESSAGE FROM OUR VICAR, ALEX – 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2024

Dear Church Family & Friends,

Hoping you're all well.

Thank you so much to all who contributed to our recent Foodbank Collection, of which I attach a photo. It was great, as usual, to be able to send these gifts donated by church family & community members off to the Epsom & Ewell Foodbank and they have sent their thanks for this too.

This email is to remind you of some events coming up in the parish over the next couple of weeks.

1. Parish Fundraiser - Saturday 2nd November, 7.30 pm
2. Remembering Loved Ones - Sunday 3rd November
3. Remembrance Sunday - Sunday 10th November
4. Operation Christmas Child Shoe boxes Collection
5. An opportunity to take part in the Sutton Schools Work Easter Experience in 2025

As always, please do ask if you have any questions about any of the contents of this email.

### **1. Parish Fundraiser - Saturday 2nd November, 7.30 pm**

Tomorrow evening at 7.30 pm, at St. Paul's Hall, it will be our next parish fundraiser: A Bingo Singalong with Ploughmans supper.

It's not too late to join in. Tickets are £7.50 per adult and £5 per child. Please contact Sue Wharton for more information: [cw\\_bh@norkwithburghheath.com](mailto:cw_bh@norkwithburghheath.com)

### **2. Remembering Loved Ones - Sunday 3rd November**

On Sunday, 3rd November, it will be our 'Remembering Loved Ones' services at St. Paul's at 9 am and at St. Mary's at 11 am.

Last Sunday we had sheets out to write names of those who have died to be read out in the service and these lists will be available to be added to at the start of the services on Sunday.

Some people have also emailed names and if you would like to do this, please do email them to me by 10 pm on Saturday (after that I may not see the message in time) and I will add them for you.

### **3. Remembrance Sunday - Sunday 10th November**

Sunday 10th November is Remembrance Sunday and we will have two services to mark this in our parish: 9 am more informal, Community Alive with an act of Remembrance at St. Paul's and our traditional Remembrance Service at St. Mary's at 10.45 (an earlier time than usual to enable 2 minutes silence at 11 am).

For those who wish to attend, there is also the Remembrance Parade at the War Memorial in Banstead at 10.30 am (Banstead High Street will be closed from this time). As Chair of the Banstead Five Churches Together, I will be participating in this service and David Packham will be leading the service at St. Mary's. I will be leading the service at St. Paul's before going on to Banstead.

#### **4. Operation Christmas Child Shoe boxes Collection**

Thank you to all those who have taken shoe boxes from both churches to fill for children overseas who would otherwise receive nothing at Christmas. It is time to return those shoe boxes to the churches (or if this is tricky they can be dropped to the vicarage porch as an alternative or to Michelle in the office between 9 am and 5 pm next week).

The final deadline for returning the filled shoe boxes is Sunday 10th November, as Tricia and Deirdre will be taking them to the distribution centre the next week.

It is also possible to pack shoe boxes online, using the following link:

<https://samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/shoebox-online>

If you do this, please let Tricia or Deirdre (or me via email and I will tell them) know that you have done this so we can count how many shoe boxes have been collected/created by our parish as a whole this year.

#### **5. An opportunity to take part in the Sutton Schools Work Easter Experience in 2025**

The Sutton Schools Network is running their popular 'Easter Experience' again in 2025, at the following venues:

- Carshalton Methodist Church: Monday 3rd – Friday 7th March
- Sutton Baptist Church: Monday 10th – Friday 14th March
- North Cheam Baptist Church: Monday 17th – Friday 21st March
- St Michael's & All Angels Church (Wallington): Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th March
- St Peters Church (Morden): Thursday 27th & Friday 28th March

They are looking for any volunteers who may wish to join in. David Wharton has done this for many years now and is happy to chat with you if you would like more information - or to put you in touch with the Sutton Schools Network. Please do contact him on: david.ob1@hotmail.co.uk

Love and prayers,  
Alex

**Rev Alex Stevens**

**Vicar**

**Parish of Nork with Burgh Heath**

**07312 113019**

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