



in touch

50p

All Saints' Church, Springfield

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All Saints' Church,
Springfield

NOVEMBER 2026

www.allsaintsspringfield.org.uk



Remembrance
Sunday
8. November

WHO'S WHO

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For confidential prayer support

* PTO = Permission to officiate

From the Revd Sally

Dear Friends

November already, I am sure that the months pass by quicker than they used to, or is it my age? I have now been your Rector for three years and time has definitely gone quickly, but hopefully productively, and I look forward to the future and what God has planned for us at All Saints' and our community of Springfield.



November is traditionally a time of remembering, with the celebration of All Saints, the memorial service, where we make space to remember those who have died, and Remembrance Sunday, where we honour those who gave their lives in battle and give thanks for those who continue to serve and protect us.

However, November is also a time of preparation as we move towards Advent by commemorating Christ as King, which ends our liturgical year. This relatively recent addition to the Church calendar, established in the 20th century, holds a profound purpose to acknowledge the dominion of our king, Jesus Christ, over all of creation and every aspect of our lives.

Ashley Tumlin Wallace, a writer and wife of a priest, writes;

The belief in Christ as King finds its roots in the Christian understanding of Jesus as the Messiah, whose reign exists as both a present reality and a future hope. In the here and now, his reign manifests in the lives of believers who seek to live under his lordship. But the Feast of Christ the King also carries a sense of eschatological (*the branch of theology and philosophy concerned with "last things" – such as death, the afterlife, the end of the world, the Last Judgment, and the ultimate destiny of humanity*) anticipation, signalling the ultimate culmination of time when the reign of Christ is fully realized.



The Feast of Christ the King is a relatively recent addition to the Western liturgical calendar. Its roots trace back to the 20th century when Europe was grappling with the aftermath of World War I. The war had ravaged Europe, leaving destruction in its wake. The loss of life was more significant than in any previous war in history. It is estimated that 20 million people died, and 20 million more were wounded. Governments teetered on the edge of economic collapse, and unemployment soared. In some places, people were on the brink of starvation.

The war ushered in significant political and social changes. Secularism was on the rise, and traditional institutions, including both monarchies and the Church, were facing challenges from emerging political ideologies like communism and fascism.

From the Rector continued

The old world, with its established social and political orders, was disintegrating. Pessimism and a sense of helplessness infected the people, exacerbated by the bitterness between nations. In this fertile ground for tyranny, figures like Benito Mussolini, Adolf Hitler, and Joseph Stalin began to rise. In their distress, the people gravitated to anyone who could offer them hope.

In this climate of despair, Pope Pius XI saw people turning away from Christ, seeking hope, guidance, and sustenance from emerging dictators. Amid this shift, there was a growing inclination to relegate morality and the Church's teachings to the annals of history, deeming them irrelevant in the modern age. In this modern worldview, Christ might be accepted as a historical figure but had no place in modern life.

Recognizing that people were turning their backs on Christ in favour of secularism, materialism, and the false promises of tyrants, Pope Pius XI knew he had to act. In 1925, he issued his encyclical letter "Quas Primas" and established the Feast of Christ the King. His motivation was clear: to reaffirm the kingship of Christ, emphasizing that Jesus holds ultimate authority over all aspects of human life, including the political and economic realm. Pius intended the feast to counteract the secularization and atheism of the time, boldly proclaiming that Christ's kingdom transcends worldly powers. Through it, he called on the faithful to consecrate themselves to the lordship of Jesus, reminding them that Christ must reign in our minds, wills, and hearts and that they must love God above all things and cleave to him alone.'

Unfortunately, our world today is not so very different from the world of Pope Pius XI. Peace remains elusive, political, social, and economic orders continue to falter, and most nations reject the kingship of Christ in their lives. The Feast of Christ the King remains as relevant today as it was in 1925 and it needs a special recognition in our calendar at All Saints'.

As we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King, let us embrace the reign of Jesus in every part of our lives, and let us hold fast to the promise that he will come again in power and great glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

And so we make our prayer,
Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Blessings



Stir-Up Sunday

Well before the establishment of Christ the King Sunday, the last Sunday before Advent was known as “Stir Up Sunday.” “Stir Up Sunday” is an informal term that gets its name from the opening words of the collect for the day in the Book of Common Prayer of 1549 (and subsequent editions).

“STIR up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

Because of the beginning words of the collect, it was traditional in England to stir up Christmas plum puddings on Stir Up Sunday. Christmas plum puddings were made in advance so that they could mature before being served on Christmas (supposedly, they do not spoil because of their high alcohol content).

Plum pudding is a misnomer since no

plums are used. The “plum” in plum pudding was a generic term for any dried fruit, most commonly raisins and currants. Traditionally, the pudding consisted of thirteen ingredients to represent Christ and his disciples and was always stirred from East to West in honour of the three Wise Men who visited the baby Jesus from the East. The pudding represents all of the good things of heaven that Christ brought to mankind.

Every family member stirred the pudding and made a Christmas wish. They added a coin to the ingredients and cooked in the pudding. According to tradition, the coin would bring wealth to whoever found it on their plate on Christmas Day. After making the pudding, they would put it away until the feast of Christmas. Then, they would pour warmed brandy or rum over the pudding at the Christmas feast and set it ablaze. Finally, they brought the flaming pudding to the dinner table and served it as soon as the flame burned out.

Christ the King Pound Cake

- 3 cups sugar
- 1½ cup butter/margarine room temperature
- 6 eggs,
- 3 cups flour
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- 1 cup milk
- 1 teaspoon rum extract
- 1 teaspoon coconut extract



Preheat the oven to 160°C. Cream butter and sugar until fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Sift dry ingredients together. Add the dry ingredients to the creamed mixture, alternating with the milk. Add extracts and blend well. Pour batter into a buttered and floured 10-inch bundt pan. Bake for 1 hour and 30 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the centre of the cake comes out clean.

Chelmer Valley Nature Reserve

He leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. *Psalm 23:2b,3a*

Of all the places to connect with nature in All Saints' Springfield parish, the Chelmer Valley must be one of the best. But how it has changed!

When we moved to our house in Humber Road 45 years ago, there was only a narrow path beside the river across mainly scrubland leading from where we joined it, downhill from Arun Close, into Chelmsford town centre. There were no river bridges at that time. If you wanted to get to Broomfield, you had to go into the centre and out again, or else use Mill Lane to cross the valley further north. Chelmer Valley Road and Valley Bridge hadn't been built – they didn't open until 1989.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s poplar trees and willows were planted, and the riverbanks were strengthened and adjusted in places to allow better water flow and to encourage a greater variety of river life. Some of the trees were "cricket bat willows", specifically grown as a sustainable timber crop in partnership with an Essex-based bat manufacturer, to be harvested and replanted every 15-20 years.

Around the year 2000 the Council decided to put in playing fields to create what is now Springfield Hall Park (which became the home of Springfield Football Club). And this was when the idea of using the

rest of the riverside land as a Nature Reserve came into being.

Access to the reserve has been greatly improved. A tarmac shared foot-and-cycle path now leads from Arun Close down to the 'Bunny Walk' as it is locally known. There it joins the main path which goes through the heart of the reserve right down to Riverside Leisure Centre. There is a large car park at Arun Close, and a very popular children's playground (the 'Rocket Park') with allotments beyond.

Chelmer Valley Nature Reserve is divided into several different sections. In the north there is an area of wildflower meadows and grassland surrounded by mature hedging, which is good for nesting birds and for kingfishers along by the river banks. Otters have been seen here too.

The central area has many mature trees and grassland, plus a marshy area near one of the footbridges. The southern area is closest to housing and has more formally managed grass and standard trees.

Views of the opposite bank have completely changed over time. The industrial site off Rectory Land and New Street where Ransome Hoffmann Pollard used to be has been redeveloped as the Anglia Ruskin University campus, and the

open grassland up to Valley Bridge has been densely planted as a woodland which is maturing rapidly.

The Chelmer Valley is such a lovely, peaceful area to walk through at any time of the year. There is always something new to see, be it wildflowers, birds in the trees, or wildlife on the river. I feel very fortunate to be able to walk into the city centre through this beautiful area which has improved so much over many years.

The reserve is managed by Chelmsford City Council with the active support of volunteers, who normally meet up on the last Saturday morning of the month to help look after the reserve in a whole variety of ways, including cutting back undergrowth, pruning shrubs, clearing ditches, removing invasive species, weeding, and litter-picking. I try to go along when I can, and new volunteers are always welcome – look out for the posters!

Chris McFarland



To find out more or to share your ideas on Eco Church please go to the website www.allsaintsspringfield.org.uk/church-life/eco-church or speak to one of the Eco Church Group – Roger McFarland, Nicky Morecroft, Chris McFarland, Ian Poston, Dave Gauld, Beth Cornish, Ann Salmon, Shirley Duggan.

This month's eco suggestions

- Look for opportunities to **share cars** or use **public transport**
- Try to buy things which are **eco-friendly, ethically-produced, and fairly traded**

The trees of the field will clap their hands

There was a very good attendance at the Women's Fellowship's October meeting – probably more than expected. We sang “We plough the fields and scatter” – always a favourite harvest time hymn. The chosen bible reading was from Psalm 65. This includes the lovely verses about the hills rejoicing and shouting for joy. It reminds me of another favourite verse from Isaiah 55 – when the trees of the field clap their hands – all wonderful imagery of joy and celebration.

In the few minutes before our lovely Harvest Tea was ready, I shared how the daisies on our vicarage lawn inspired me to write to the Guinness Book of Records about attempting a challenge to build the longest daisy chain in the world. The record we had to beat was 4,529 ft 6 ins in 7 hours.

Having been sent a list of the rules and regulations, preparations were made and, on 27th May 1985, a chain was completed measuring 6,980 ft 7 ins (over a mile) in 7 hours. The Guinness Book web site tells us that this record still stands in the country.

At our November meeting we will welcome Lorraine Ely, who will tell us about Gilbert & Sullivan and sing some of their songs.

Also in November – Thursday 26th – we will sit down to our traditional Christmas lunch, which is always wonderful. We are asked to be at the church at 1.15pm for 1.35pm.



Mary Bartlam

Ten parishioners of St. Andrew's Church, Good Easter, plaited the daisies into a chain while six others picked them from a nearby paddock.

The picture shows the work in progress with Mary in the dark coat in the front row.

The entry in the Guinness Book of Records:

The longest daisy chain measured 2.12 km (1.31 miles or 6,980 ft 7 in) and was made in 7 hours by villagers of Good Easter, Chelmsford, Essex, UK on 27 May 1985. The team is limited to 16 members.

Tilling the soil



As you can see from the photo, the first summer of our Community Garden has produced a good crop of marrows, courgettes and tomatoes. Some of the tomatoes were eaten at our harvest supper.

Despite the very dry summer our dedicated team were watering the raised beds to keep the plants healthy and productive. We have also grown strawberries, raspberries, sunflowers and beetroot.

Now the beds are being refreshed ready for us to sow onions, kale, and some flowers to be used in church.

Thank you to all our volunteers for their dedication and hard work

Chris McFarland

Notices (apparently) found in church newsletters

Mavis remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of the vicar's sermons.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married last weekend in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their schooldays.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

In memoriam – Corrine Hooker

Corinne Cynthia Hooker was born in Bombay, India on 27th May 1933 to Robert and Esther Otter. She spent her childhood in Dhond and at the age of nine, went to St. Mary's boarding school in Pune until her schooling was cut short at age twelve when she fell ill with malaria (after which she was home schooled till 17).

Also, while at school, it was suspected that she had a double heartbeat or murmur so she was not allowed to play sport much to her chagrin – if only they knew she would live to be a nonagenarian!

In 1951 she secured her first job at the National Bank of India where all the senior staff were English. Corinne was extremely principled and could not tell a lie, so when her cousin told her that she should say she learnt to file in the Army and that this would get her the job, she was ethically challenged. This one time however she followed the advice and in so doing secured her first job as a filing clerk!

In 1952 Corinne's family decided to emigrate to England, departing India in late August on the SS Mooltan, a journey which saw her mother suffer epileptic fits while many were weakened by severe sea sickness due to the choppy seas. They arrived at Tilbury Docks in September, a grey miserable day so much in contrast to the blue skies and warming air of Bombay. From there were transported by train to London.

On arrival in London the family headed straight to Leicester to stay with relatives in one room. They had strict instructions not to come downstairs "so as not to wear

out the carpet"!

Corinne vividly remembered coming downstairs one night and discovering the other family members tucking into a juicy and aromatic roast chicken around a roaring fire, while she and her family were cold and hungry upstairs piling their extra clothes on the beds to keep warm.

The family moved to London after a few months and she and her brother went on to find their own digs with similar stories of hardship following them like a shadow.

Her first job in London was as an office junior working for Garrad, Garrad & Co in Hammersmith. She was offered 3 guineas but demanded £4 per week (which she got but never got another pay rise). Her boss told her she was not working fast enough and sold her a second-hand typewriter for £25.

Her next job was at Imperial College London and after about a year she met my father when she went to pick up some papers on the ground floor. She enquired of a colleague who this young man was and was informed that he was Denis, the new boy who worked in stores.

Times were hard and in those days Corinne could only afford one sandwich per day and would try and have half for lunch and half for supper (sometimes she was so hungry she ate it at lunch and had no tea). Sometimes she would have a small tin of baked beans cold for lunch (because she couldn't afford to heat them up).

Corinne and Denis started married life

with £9 after they had paid for a wedding cake, Corinne's yellow rose bridal bouquet and a bottle of sherry. The honeymoon was just one day in Brighton.

They were living in Clapham when I arrived and Corinne often told with pride of how a kindly neighbour insisted on bringing us back from the hospital in his Rolls Royce!

They moved to Chelmsford, firstly to Moulsham in 1963 and then to Burnham Road, Springfield, the family home since 1966!

Corinne had a number of jobs in London and Chelmsford and made many good friends particularly at Britvics.

Corinne finally retired as an executive assistant from Nabisco when she was 57 and Denis retired two years later when he was 65, but sadly they only had three years left together. They are now reunited after 68 years of marriage!

In her leisure time Corinne had many interests, she thoroughly enjoyed her food, gardening, holidays all over the world, including a return trip to India after 55 years with her son, news and current affairs, crosswords, going to church and joining their ambles and rambles, as well as doing charitable work raising funds for Farleigh Hospice.

She supported Liverpool (though she would fake Spurs fandom for her beloved son and grandsons often observing "why don't they pass the ball to each other!"). She also loved watching tennis (going to Wimbledon several times) and snooker, as well as Judge Judy and Songs of Praise of course!



Corinne was loving, loyal, fiercely independent, kind, generous, thoughtful and constantly sought the good in people rather than the bad. Her smile and laughter were infectious and her selflessness humbling.

During Corinne's last hospital stay when her ability to talk was diminishing, a fellow patient shared that she had got them all singing "Daisy, Daisy give me your answer do..." So like her to raise everyone else's spirits! Corinne wished to be remembered for the fun times, all the laughter and the all the smiles and in that all who knew her should find comfort and solace. Corinne passed away peacefully on 22nd September at Anisha Grange, Billericay with her son by her side. She is survived by her son Darryl & Jackie and grandsons Daniel, Perry and Harrison and sister Brenda.

Darryl Hooker

Calendar for NOVEMBER

A recording of the Sunday 10.30am service will be available on YouTube, accessible from the church website, soon after the service.

Su 1 ALL SAINTS' DAY

8.00am Holy Communion

president: The Revd Andy Hudson *preacher:* Robin Stevens

10.30am Holy Communion

president: The Rector *preacher:* Robin Stevens

10.30am The Sunday Special Service

leader: The Revd Andy Mussell

4.00pm Memorial Service

leader: The Rector

Mo 2

Tu 3 10.00am 'Start the week' prayers in church

7.30pm The Ministry Team meets

We 4 9.30am Children in Church

10.00am Holy Communion *president & preacher:* The Rector

Th 5 1.30pm Faith and Food – bring your lunch and feed your soul

2.00pm All Saints' Connect Café – weekly social gathering

Fr 6 12 noon Chelmsford Cathedral Lunchtime Concert – organ

Sa 7 9.30am An opportunity for churchyard gardening (to noon)

10.00am Ministry Team Awayday at Pleshey (to 3.00pm)

7.00pm Young Caprice Concert at St Andrew's Church, Melbourne

Su 8 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

10.30am Worship Together

leader & preacher: The Rector

Mo 9 8.00pm

Beer & Bible Hour at The Tulip – all welcome

Tu 10 10.00am 'Start the week' prayers in church

We 11 9.30am Children in Church

10.00am Holy Communion

president: The Rector *preacher:* Robin Stevens

Th 12 1.30pm Faith and Food – bring your lunch and feed your soul

2.00pm All Saints' Connect Café – weekly social gathering

2.30pm Women's Fellowship – *Gilbert & Sullivan*

Fr 13 12 noon Chelmsford Cathedral Lunchtime Concert – *Forest School*

Sa 14 9.30am Family (Prayer) Breakfast at Wetherspoons

9.30am Walk Through the Bible Course – see page 16

11.30am Mothers' Union Thanksgiving Service at the Cathedral

Su 15 SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR THE DECEMBER MAGAZINE

8.00am Holy Communion

president & preacher: The Rector

10.30am Holy Communion

president & preacher: The Revd Andy Hudson

10.30am Sunday Special Holy Communion

president: The Rector with Charlotte Laurence

Mo 16

Tu 17 10.00am 'Start the week' prayers in church

We 18 9.30am Children in Church

10.00am Holy Communion

president: The Rector *preacher:* Dave Gauld

7.30pm The Church Council meets

Th 19 1.30pm Faith and Food – bring your lunch and feed your soul

2.00pm All Saints' Connect Café – weekly social gathering

Fr 20 12 noon Chelmsford Cathedral Lunchtime Concert – *fusion band*

Sa 21

Su 22 CHRIST THE KING

10.30am Holy Communion

president: The Rector *preacher:* The Revd Andy Mussell

10.30am The Sunday Special Service

leader: Julian Mallett

Followed by a fund raising table for The Leprosy Mission in the hall

Mo 23

Tu 24 10.00am 'Start the week' prayers in church

We 25 9.30am Children in Church

10.00am Holy Communion

president & preacher: The Rector

Th 26 1.15pm Women's Fellowship Christmas Lunch

1.30pm Faith and Food – bring your lunch and feed your soul

2.00pm All Saints' Connect Café – weekly social gathering

Fr 27 12 noon Chelmsford Cathedral Lunchtime Concert – *piano*

Sa 28

Su 29 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10.30am Holy Communion

president: The Rector *Preacher:* Peter Balls

10.30am The Sunday Special Service

leader: Roger McFarland

Mo 30

Gardeners & flower arrangers take a break



It was busy inside the church and outside on the first Saturday in October, with preparations for our Harvest Festival indoors. The flower arrangers joined the gardeners out in the sunshine for a coffee break mid morning!

Outside we weeded and tidied up generally; collected more fallen crabapples around the rose beds; the courtyard planters were tended but are almost in need of their winter plantings; more laurel was pruned and converted to chippings; and we started on cutting back overgrown brambles nearest the centre.

Do come and join the team on the first Saturday each month - the next dates are 7 November, 5 December and 2 January. Any help would be very much appreciated.

Many thanks
Barbara Garside

Miscellaneous observations on life

The only thing that wakes you up faster than coffee is spilled coffee.

About the only thing that comes to us without effort is old age.

An apology is the best way to have the last word.

I'm good at firework displays. I've got a flare for it.

For a **home visit**
from a
Foot Health Practitioner
please call

Raul Rodrigues

DipCFHP, DipBMec, MPSPract
on **07425 144983**

Services Include:

- Nail trimming/Thick nails
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- Calluses/Corn removal
- Fungal infections/Verucca treatment
- Biomechanical assessments & orthotic corrections
- Bespoke orthoses prescribed
- Diabetics cared for

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and CRB checked*





AUTUMN CONCERT

Saturday 7th November

St Andrews Church, CM1 2JB

7.00pm

WITH GUESTS

The Cathedral CofE
Primary School Choir

IN SUPPORT OF



TICKETS £10

from ticketsource.co.uk,
Orchestra members and
St Andrews Church,
01245 440026



capriceorchestra.co.uk



SCAN ME



Chelmsford Cathedral
Saturday 14th November at 11.30am
Thanksgiving Service
Led by Rt Revd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani
Followed by celebration cake
RSVP secretary@muchelmsford.org.uk

Don't give large sums of money in church!

No we're serious. Let us explain.

Apart from the regular Gift Aid system where paperwork is needed from the donor, the government also allows us to claim Gift Aid on small donations.

To qualify as 'small' it has to be £30 or less and can be in cash or via our contactless machine. This increases the value of your gift to the church by a quarter – so, for example, £20 becomes £25.

If you give more than £30 in one transaction, we can't claim for it. But we don't want you to stop you doing it when using the Planned Giving Scheme!

So, for example, a £50 note in the collection bag would not qualify, but £50 cash in smaller notes would, or two contactless payments of £25 would each be eligible while one of £50 would not.

This isn't a fiddle; it's just the way the government helps charities who receive small gifts.

Those who give regularly through the Planned Giving Scheme don't need to worry about this as the Gift Aid is recovered on their giving.

Walk Through the Bible Course

Following a successful Mission Opportunity Fund (MOF) bid, St Andrew's Chelmsford will be hosting the Old Testament Walk Through the Bible course on **Saturday 14th November, 9.30 am to 4.30 pm** for FREE!!.

Just take a packed lunch – refreshments provided

For more details, please visit their website www.bible.org.uk/index.php

You will need to book a ticket to ensure that they have enough workbooks. To book a ticket, please go to <https://tickets.myknowchurch.co.uk/gb/NjgyMi0z/t>

Remembrance

This year the our service at All Saints' for Remembrance will be held on Sunday 8th November at 10.30am. It will include the two-minute silence.

This year Remembrance marks several significant milestones:

- The 110th anniversary of the 1916 Battles of the Somme and Jutland, as well as the introduction of wartime conscription.
- The 70th anniversary since the Suez Crisis of 1956.
- The 25th anniversary since UK armed forces first entered Afghanistan, following the 2001 deployments.

A happy visit

A lady from America contacted us at All Saints' in August. She was visiting England, in her words, "to see the places that my grandparents and great, great, great grandparents lived and died. I have traced my family line back to John Bailey and Mary Philpot who married in your church on 8 February 1825 in the Parish of Springfield, Essex. I am trying to find out if either one or both of my grandparents may have been members of your church."

She wanted to be able to know for sure where they attended church, where they might have lived and anything that would prove their lineage. To cut a long story short, we pointed her in the direction of the Essex Records Office for details of the registers. But we also made arrangements for her to visit the church, which she was very excited about.

On returning to America she sent the following kind email to Jen, our administrator:

"I have been sharing pictures of All Saints' Church with my family and every time I mention the age of the church, they smile in disbelief and amazement. It was such a wonderful experience to meet you and Robin in person and to be in your church. I shall never forget it.

I want express my deepest gratitude for making this possible for me. It has made me feel so connected to my posterity and to the lives they led 200 plus years ago. We share the tradition of Sunday worship and a love of God and the congregations that shaped our friendships and beliefs."

Robin Stevens

Nothing is priced!

On Sunday 22nd November there will be a Fundraising table during Morning Coffee, after the morning services, in aid of The Leprosy Mission (TLM).

For those of you who have not been to a TLM fundraising event before: *nothing is priced!* You are welcome to help yourself.....and of course it is hoped that you will leave a generous donation in the fundraising box!! There is an Information Board in the porch to learn more about the amazing Christian work of TLM , supported financially by Churches across the world.

Shirley Duggan



Angel Tree 2026

“Thank you, thank you. The gifts that you give for the children of people in prison are a god-send and help us to keep contact with our children at a difficult time of year”.

This message is from a parent in prison last year.

Keeping families together is known to improve the futures for ex-prisoners. This is facilitated by the Angel Tree scheme. Angel Tree is run by members of Prison Fellowship for their local prison, in our case the one in Springfield Road. It is the means by which the dads, who are permitted to contact their children, can request a Christmas present and a message to be sent in their name to their child/ren under 16 years old.



Members of All Saints congregation have been supporting this for many years. This year I shall receive a share of the requests. A list with names and ages and probable interests of the children. All presents have to be posted. If you would like to buy a present for a child or contribute to the cost of one, please ask to see the list.

Thank you.

Pat Otter (Prison Fellowship Chelmsford) 01245 267093

Welcome to Changing Leaf Forest School

*Come outside – Get muddy – Explore –
Discover – Grow.*

We are Changing Leaf, a new Forest School founded and run by Hannah Hounsom and Maxine Talbot. We are both experienced primary school teachers and Level 3 Forest School Leaders, and we are incredibly excited to be bringing Forest School to our local community at **All Saints' Church, Springfield, Chelmsford**.

Our first sessions will begin on Thursday 5th November, giving children the opportunity to get outdoors, explore nature and learn through hands-on experiences in a safe, welcoming and inspiring environment.

☺ **Why All Saints Is the Perfect Location**

When we began looking for a home for Changing Leaf, we wanted somewhere that shared our passion for nature, sustainability, community and helping children connect with the world around them. We couldn't have found a better fit than All Saints', Springfield.

All Saints' has a strong commitment to caring for the environment and encouraging greater awareness of the natural world. These values align closely with our own at Changing Leaf, making the grounds a wonderful home for our Forest School.

And, perhaps best of all, All Saints has a wonderful hidden gem ... its very own woodland! Tucked away within the grounds is a beautiful natural space just waiting to be explored. It provides the perfect setting for children to discover the sights, sounds, textures and wonders of nature, right in the heart of Springfield.

We feel incredibly lucky to have the

opportunity to use this special space and share it with local families, creating a welcoming environment where children can explore, learn, play and develop a lasting ap

☺ **Why did we create Changing Leaf?**

As teachers, we see first-hand how much children benefit from being outside. In a world where children are increasingly surrounded by technology, screens and busy schedules, we believe children need opportunities to slow down, breathe in the fresh air, get muddy, explore and simply enjoy being children.

You don't have to travel into the countryside to experience the benefits of nature. Nature is right on our doorstep, even in the heart of Chelmsford.

There is so much for children to discover, trees, leaves, insects, birds, plants, sticks, mud and the changing seasons. Our aim is to help children develop a genuine connection with the natural world and discover just how much fun learning outdoors can be.

☺ **Home Education Forest School – Ages 5–11**

Our weekly Forest School sessions for home-educated children aged 5–11 will begin on:

Thursday 5th November: 9.30am–11.15am

Every session will be different, giving children the freedom to explore, create, investigate and learn at their own pace. Activities may include den building, natural crafts, scavenger hunts, bug hunts, woodland games, weaving, seasonal activities, fire and cooking skills and imaginative play.

Along the way, children will have opportunities to develop confidence, independence, resilience, creativity, teamwork and practical skills, all while having lots of fun outdoors.

☺ **Preschool Forest School – Ages 2–4**

We are also delighted to be offering Forest School sessions for preschool children aged 2–4.

Fridays: 9.30am–11.00am

These sessions will give our youngest explorers the chance to experience nature through play, exploration, stories, seasonal activities, crafts and discovery, all in a relaxed and nurturing outdoor environment. This is an opportunity for parents/carers to engage and play with their children in the fresh air.

☺ **Our Forest School Philosophy**

For us, Forest School isn't simply about being outside. It's about giving children the time, freedom and confidence to explore and learn for themselves.

We want children to climb, build, collect, create, investigate, solve problems, work together and get a little bit muddy along the way!

We also want to nurture a respect and appreciation for the natural world. By spending time outdoors and discovering nature for themselves, we hope children will begin to understand why these spaces are so precious and why looking after our environment matters.

This is one of the reasons our partnership with All Saints' feels so special. Our values naturally complement those of the Eco Church, and together we hope to encourage the next generation to enjoy, value and care for the world around them.



Most importantly, we want children to leave each session with a smile on their face, a sense of achievement and a new adventure to tell their families about.

☺ **Come and Try Changing Leaf – Your First Session is FREE!**

We would love for you to come along and experience Changing Leaf for yourselves.

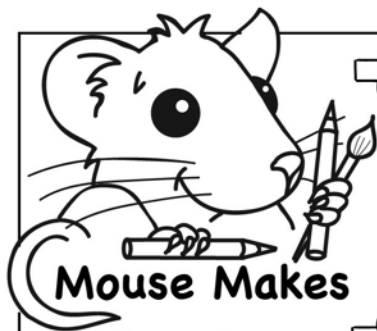
Your first session is completely FREE, so there is no commitment, simply come along, meet us, explore the woodland and discover what Forest School is all about.

Places will be limited, so scan the QR code to book your session or visit our website to find out more.

Please visit: www.changingleaf.co.uk to register your interest or book a FREE introductory session or scan the QR Code.



Hannah Hounsom & Maxine Talbot
Primary School Teachers & Level 3 Forest
School Leaders



Remembrance Sunday is the day we remember the sacrifice of those who gave their lives so that we could live in peace, it mirrors what Christ did for us when he gave his life so that we could live in peace with God.

Remember
the words Jesus said:
*"It is more blessed to give
than to receive."*
Colossians 3:25

Jesus said:
*"No one can have
greater love than
to give his life for
his friends."*
John 15:13

O P R O T E C T
 S R E S P E C T U N
 B R A V E R Y H E F
 E S E C O L O Y A L H T C
 I R E M E M B R A N C E R O
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 D A R M I S T I C E
 E D E F E N D N

REMEMBRANCE • PROTECT • DEFEND • SACRIFICE • SELFLESS • SERVICE
 BRAVERY • VALOUR • HONOUR • COURAGE • HEROISM • LOYAL • REGARD
 RESPECT • THANKFUL • MEMORIAL • TRIBUTE • COMMEND • ARMISTICE • PEACE





Faith & Food

Thursdays at 1.30pm

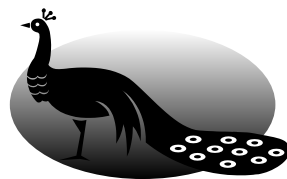
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Share the love this Christmas – with All Saints'

'One-And-All' Christmas Cards

We're offering you the perfect way to send a Christmas card to all your church friends.

How will 'One-And-All' Christmas Cards work?

From 1st December onwards, instead of sending individual cards you will be able to display **one card** wishing a Happy Christmas to all your friends at All Saints', on a display board in the church porch, or on the notice board at the Church Centre entrance, or both. This can either be your own card, or a card which the church will provide for you to write. So everyone will be able to read all the cards that we are sending each other.



Why send a 'One-And-All' Christmas Card?

- ☺ *Best for your friends:* with 'One-And-All' Christmas Cards, nobody gets missed out!
- ☺ *Best for your pocket:* not spending so much on cards leaves more for other important things.
- ☺ *Best for charities:* A money donation typically gives a charity 50% more than they get from selling their own Christmas cards, and ten times more than they get from charity cards sold in shops.
- ☺ *Best for the planet:* Some 1.5 billion cards are sent each year in the UK, using vast quantities of paper (trees), and producing over 200 million tonnes of carbon emissions. Sending fewer cards will reduce these environmental impacts.



**Come and see
Father Christmas
at All Saints'
Christmas Fayre**



**on Saturday 12th December
from 2.00-4.30pm**

**Children's crafts : Games : Stalls :
Raffle : Chocolate tombola & more**