



CHURCH DIARY FOR November 2008

Sunday, 2nd November - Toy Service

10.00 am All-age service
(Gifts of toys and games welcome which will be given to under-privileged children via Home-Start Swindon)

Sunday, 9th November - 3rd before Advent

10.45 am Remembrance Service

Sunday, 16th November - 2nd before Advent

9.30 am Parish Communion

Sunday, 23rd November - Christ the King

9.30 am Morning Prayer

Sunday, 30th November - 1st in Advent

10.00 am Team Eucharist at St Andrew

There will be a midweek service of Holy Communion each Wednesday at 10.00 am at Holy Cross

From the Register

Baptism

21 September Magnus Frost

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK

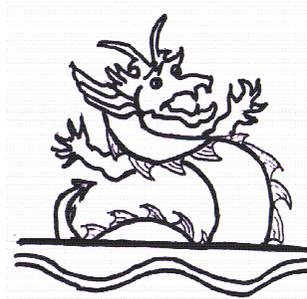
From Advent Sunday the Gospel readings will usually be taken from Mark. If you would like to know more about this Gospel please join us for two sessions in the church, on Tuesdays 11 and 18 November at 7.30 pm. Details in church or from Timothy George (01672 841278 or tjbg@martlets.wanadoo.co.uk).

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE The Revd Roger Powell (01793 740369)

CHURCHWARDENS Charlotte Frost (841361)
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Contributions for the next issue by 20th November please



The Dragon

The Village Newsletter for
Ogbourne St George

November 2008

WHAT'S ON IN OGBOURNE ST GEORGE THIS MONTH

November

- 9** Remembrance Service. 10.45 am
- 11 & 25** The Ogbourne Little Fishes from 1.45-3.00 pm at the Church
- 22** Christmas Fair organised by Friends of Ogbourne School. 9.00am to 12.30 pm at Marlborough Town Hall
- 27** (Revised date) Parish Council Meeting. 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Christmas Fair

Following last year's successful event – Friends of Ogbourne School (FOS) will be holding another Christmas Gift Fair in Marlborough Town Hall on Saturday 22nd November 9.00am to 12.30pm. Any support from the village community would be greatly appreciated. Donations for the homemade baking/produce stall and the 'Unwanted Gift' stall are always appreciated or pop in for a spot of Christmas shopping or a coffee! Any questions or donations please contact Debbie Sandison on 841468.

The Last Post

Kevin, who has been a friendly face delivering the post for us in all weathers for over 20 years, has left Royal Mail to take up a new job with Great Western. The school organised a collection and presented Kevin with John Lewis Vouchers on behalf of the village. We all wish Kevin every success in his new career.

Latest on the proposed School Hall. The planning application was due to have been submitted in the last week or so. It was originally anticipated that this would have been earlier but it was discovered that the school is home to a colony of Pipestrelle bats, the UK's smallest species, who are roosting in the roof space. As they are protected the plans have had to be altered to accommodate them!

October Village Hall 100 Club winners:

1st: 19 Arthur Allen 2nd: 66 Wendy Reardon-Smith 3rd: 93 Nicky Irwin

The Revd Roger Powell writes...

In the calendar of the Christian Church, November is the month of remembrance. Remembrance Sunday is the 9 November and the times of the special services on that day can be found elsewhere in the magazine.

It is on Remembrance Sunday that we remember the victims of war and violence. We give thanks for those who have given their lives fighting against injustice and tyranny and we also pray for the souls of those who died as innocent victims of war. As we remember those who have died as a result of war it is also an opportunity for us to renew our Christian commitment to rid God's world from all that is evil and to pray that the leaders of the nations may find better ways of resolving the conflicts in the world.

Remembering is important because it helps us to understand and try to make sense of what has happened in the past and to learn from this so that those same mistakes are not made again. Alas, it does seem sometimes that no matter how hard we do try to understand and learn we make the same mistakes again and again!

This, I believe, is where a life of faith in Jesus can make a difference. By giving us the strength and courage to understand, to learn, and to grow to be the people that God ultimately wants us to be. Fr Roger

Missing in the Village: When we came to prepare for the Harvest Supper only 7 of the 10 Blue Tartan tablecloths came to light. If anyone knows where the other three are it would be useful to reunite them as they fit the village hall tables. Information please to Richenda George 841278.

£1,000 to Spend In the last issue it was announced that the Ogbourne Fundraisers have £1000 available to spend on projects or events for the village and asked for suggestions on how the money could be spent. To date there has been very little response. There is £1000 to be spent – a really worthwhile sum of money - so if anyone has any ideas for making use of the money as a whole or in parts on village centred events please contact Megan Shaw (841445), Colin Stribling (841155) or Andy Wall (841315).

Halloween Disco Anyone with a faint disposition was well advised to stay indoors on the evening of Friday 24th October! The school held a Halloween Disco and Talent Show in the village hall and several very scary costumes were seen arriving soon after dark! The array of talent did not disappoint, from skipping to joke telling (and one person doing the both at the same time!) to singing and instrument playing. If the talent was above average then the food was even more so. Thanks to some hard working parents the selection included Wizard Rolls and Beetle Blood (sausage rolls and ketchup), Spooky Blood Tarts (jam tarts), Frogs Spawn (half a grape with a raisin on top – very effective!) and Slime (lemon squash) or Blood (blackcurrant squash) to drink. Special thanks to Jackie Lund and Helen Leader for organising the event and to all those who helped. For those interested there will soon be photos on the school website, www.ogbourne-st-george.wilts.sch.uk. *Debbie Sandison*

Harvest Festival Celebrations

Harvest Festival in the village was celebrated at the beginning of October. On the Friday morning, Father Roger presided at the school service in the church, when the children brought lots of gifts of fruit, vegetables, cakes and useful tins of food, much of it in beautifully decorated boxes. They sang three unusual harvest hymns very fluently, listened attentively to the reading and to the talk, and were supported by a good complement of parents.

After some hard work during the afternoon rearranging all the pews around long tables laid up with tablecloths and candles and pretty arrangements of hedgerow greenery, the church was absolutely crammed in the evening for the harvest supper. Over 110 people, including lots of children and even a handful of under-fives, crowded in, three-quarters from St George and the rest from St Andrew. The bar came under heavy pressure immediately (and eventually ran out of red wine) as people tackled a table quiz until supper was served: ham, quiches, baked potatoes and salads with pasta for the children, this all being provided by our village, with coffee and cakes provided mostly by the St Andrew contingent. Serving so many people was a bit chaotic, and we will be better organised next year! The other problem was that it was a cold night, so although the church was cosy and warm it meant that with all the children having a wonderful time galloping in and out the people sitting at the table nearest the door got absolutely frozen. We must hope it will be warmer next year! But judging by the racket, by and large everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

Finally on Sunday morning, Timothy George led the all-age service, which once again was very well-attended and even more harvest gifts were brought and laid out on the chancel step. Later in the day, Mr and Mrs George took all the produce to the Women's Refuge in Swindon, where they were extremely grateful for everyone's great generosity. The main purpose of the Ogbournes' harvest supper is social, an opportunity for everyone to have a relaxed and jolly evening out and to meet up with our neighbours from 'down river'. Fund-raising is of secondary importance, but this year it was actually very profitable with nearly £750 divided pro rata between the two villages. As ever this would not be possible without a good deal of help and generosity, and huge thanks are once again owed to the usual suspects, Rebecca, Sarah, Tina, Tim, Nicky and Richard, and to Ogg Valley Organics for supplying a big sack of baking potatoes. *Charlotte Frost*

Success for Ogbourne School Ogbourne Primary School has won the "Small Competition" in a Mini Football Festival organised by St John's School. The team took it right to the wire winning in the final in a sudden death penalty shootout.

It is over three years since I took over The Dragon from Timothy and Richenda George. I've enjoyed my time reporting on the happenings in the village but I feel that it is now time for someone else to bring a fresh look to The Dragon and I have decided to hang up my editor's hat following the January issue. Will anyone interested in taking on the editorship of The Dragon please contact me on 841270. *Wendy Reardon Smith*