



**CLIFTON
DIOCESE**

Chaplaincy Newsletter November 2017

A Prayer of Remembrance

God of peace, who in Christ
Embraced that ultimate act of loving sacrifice,
We give You thanks for those who have laid down their lives
For the sake of others,

And all those who have given of themselves
In service of humanity;
For the cause of freedom;
To fight injustice;
To make and maintain peace;
To bring healing and wholeness, to people and nations

And so, inspired by their example we dedicate ourselves
Where we find peace to uphold its cause
Where we find strife to work for reconciliation

Where we find injustice to stand with the oppressed
Where we recognise difference to celebrate our diversity
Where we find brokenness to seek healing

By Your Spirit, give us the strength and wisdom
To live and work for your Kingdom

(Slightly adapted from a prayer on the website <http://www.icf-online.org/downloadpdfs/Remembrance.pdf>)

In November, it is a time to remember. For me this November takes on new meaning as it sees the first anniversary of my mum's death. In the care home where my mum spent the last few years of her life there was another elderly lady suffering from dementia. Her husband came to visit her every single day. I am not sure she knew who he was, and she wasn't able to speak, but every day he came and sat with her for the whole of the day holding her hand and helping to care for her. It occurred to me that I was watching unconditional love in action. He remembered for her who she was, he loved her as she was. I believe in God and I believe that no matter what God walks with us. If it seems to outside eyes that we are losing ourselves I believe God holds us safe. November is a time of remembrance, sometimes of pain and of loss but also a time of hope. We can never lose those we love. Pope Francis has also called us to remember those the world forgets. Those who died alone, unseen, through war, violence, poverty. We are called too to try to help the living, to bring hope now and to try to build God's Kingdom

Try to celebrate the Month of November in school. You could do some of the following things:

- Invite parents to a mass or liturgy to celebrate the lives of those in our own families who have died.
- Create a Remembrance Wall. On this place images of those throughout the world who are dying unnecessarily because of the actions of others. (Mark the top of the wall with the phrase '**You are not forgotten**' and the bottom of the wall with the phrase '**We will try to make a difference**'. Commit to helping one group on the wall. This could extend into Advent as we invite both parents and pupils to give up one present for themselves in order to make a difference to the lives of others.
- Hold a penitential service.
- Explore Pope Francis words during November. Link them to Gospel passages which remind us of the hope of Christ



- For Remembrance Day/remembering those who have died there are PowerPoints on the chaplaincy section of the website.
- Explore why we use light to remember those who have died. Make cut out candles and on each of them write the name of a group or individual we want to remember. Create a display of these.

Chaplaincy Commissioning November 24th

This year it will be held at Downside Abbey

- Bishop Declan has already sent a message to our chaplaincy teams and is looking forward to meeting the pupils.
- In order to try and accommodate numbers we will, for this year only, be operating the following arrangements:
 1. There will be two services. The first one we hope to start at 10.45. The second about 11.50. Please see the list attached for which service your school has been allocated. Generally, schools furthest out have been allocated to the second service to allow longer to arrive. The list is attached to the end of this newsletter
 2. All coaches/cars must park in Abbey car park not the school car park. The Abbey and visitors centre are signed separately to the school. As parking may be tight it would help if schools could share a coach where possible.
 3. Toilets for staff will be in the **visitor's centre** but please note this is for staff only not pupils. There will be two sets of toilets for pupils. One in the car park area the second by the 'Well'.
 4. Schools arriving for **the first service** should go **straight to the Abbey Church**. After the service, the 'Well' will be available for you to use if you need a place to eat a packed lunch or meet other schools. Tea/coffee will be available for staff but not pupils.
 5. Schools arriving for the **second service** should **assemble in or by the 'Well'**. We will process into the Abbey Church from there. (Tea/coffee will be available for staff but not pupils.) You can return to the 'Well' at the end of the service, if you wish.

6. As usual new chaplains will receive their badges from the Bishop. All Chaplaincy team members will be recommissioned.
7. Service booklets will be sent out shortly for you to print for your pupils.
8. You will need your school banner and two pupils to carry this

Please could you help us by doing the following:

9. Check which service you are down for. If there are any issues please contact Graham.
10. Please use the accompanying form to confirm a) total numbers of pupils and staff, and b) the names of the new team members who will be receiving their badges and for their certificates of commissioning. The completed form should then be emailed to Graham.
11. A map of Downside will be sent out later to show you where the various places are.

Thank you for your co-operation. I appreciate that the arrangements for this year will not be ideal but we are doing all we can to make it a joyous celebration for pupils. The Bishop really values the opportunity to interact with team members.

A Future Full of Hope

The Anchor as a sign of hope appears on the new documentation for our pastoral guidelines launched by Bishop Declan on Saturday 28th October. It is important that all schools make sure they have a copy of this and disseminate this to staff. The schools' implementation guide will be out shortly and leaders will be expected to review their school in the light of these documents. Over the next three years there will be specific themes for the diocese. **Advent 2017 to Advent 2018 will take the theme of Mission.** This will be followed in subsequent years by Prayer and Communion. Advent lends itself to beginning this theme of Mission.



On November 29th In Clifton Cathedral at 7pm Bishop Declan will be presenting Advent resources to accompany a 'Future Full of Hope' Please try and ensure that your school is represented.

Days for Chaplains.

This Term we are running two separate days.

One for Primary Chaplains on November 22nd at the Dunstan Centre Keynsham. This will run from 10.30 (tea/coffee from 10am) and finish no later than 3pm

One for Secondary Chaplains at Alexander House on November 23rd This will run from 10am (tea/coffee at 9.30) and finish before 3pm

Our expectation is that all schools will be represented at these days. Please confirm attendance by contacting Graham on graham.tiley@cliftondiocese.com. Lunch is provided so if you have any special dietary needs please let us know.

Both days will consider:

1. 'A Future full of Hope' and how it applies to schools. (For the Secondary Day Fr Christopher Whitehead, the Director of Adult Education will introduce this)
2. The new inspection framework and how it applies to Chaplaincy
3. Advent resources
4. Future developments

Each day will hold an opportunity to share stories and pray together.

Holy Days

With effect from the 1st Sunday of Advent 2017, two holydays of obligation are being reinstated. This decision was made by the Bishops of England and Wales, and has been confirmed by the Holy See. The days are:

- **The Epiphany of the Lord** — 6 January
- **The Ascension of the Lord** — Thursday after 6th Sunday of Easter

Therefore, from the 1st Sunday of Advent 2017 the Holydays of Obligations for England are:

- Every Sunday
- Nativity of the Lord (25 December)
- Epiphany of the Lord (6 January*)
- Ascension of the Lord (Thursday after 6th Sunday of Easter)
- St Peter & St Paul (29 June*)
- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (15 August*)
- All Saints (1 November*)

* According to a decision of the Bishops' Conference (1984) Holydays which fall on **Saturday or Monday are transferred to the Sunday.**

Resources

- **For Liturgy**
There are a series of books called '**Celebrating the Lectionary- Supplementary Lectionary Based Resource**'. The books are aimed at different age groups and look at the Sunday liturgy. They include Gospel reflections and activities. These could be a very useful bank of information and ideas. You may want to note however that they are expensive. Each book retails at about £25. To cover the whole Lectionary Cycle you would need to buy 3 different years. Oddly they take the school year not the liturgical year as their basis. They are American and occasionally the language reflects this. The books also reflect the American school system -ages are slightly different so you would need to check which ones you need. If you wish to see them first they with other resources will be available to look at on the chaplaincy days. They are available from <http://www.mccrimmons.com> (If only buying one make sure you get 2017-2018 this takes you to the end of the summer term. You would then need to buy 2018-2019)

For November

- <https://re-worship.blogspot.co.uk/2011/10/prayer-for-remembrance-day.html>

This site has services on for Remembrance Day. Mainly aimed at older students

- <http://www.icf-online.org/downloadpdfs/Remembrance.pdf> Also

Remembrance Day material

- <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources> The Cafod website has material for both November and December for all age groups. If you go to the Mission Together Website <http://missiontogether.org.uk/advent/> the material is mainly primary based you will find lots of useful stuff including some activities for young children like making Angels or peace paper chains.

Please check the Primary and secondary newsletters for additional resources.

A newsletter for Pupils

I would like to produce a chaplaincy newsletter for pupils where we can share the work of chaplaincy teams around the diocese. Ideally, I would like the first edition to go out in January. In order to do this, I need you to send me stories and pictures of what your teams are doing. If the accounts are written by pupils this would be even better. Please could you support this by sending me material no later than the end of the December term. Please check if you send photographs that you have permission for these photographs to be published.

Many thanks for all the work you do

Ann Fowler

Commissioning of Chaplaincy

Teams – 24th November 2017 1st

Service (10.45 am)

St Gregory, Bath
St John, Bath
St Mary, Bath
St Bede, Bristol
St Bernard, Bristol
St Bernadette Primary, Bristol
St Bernadette Secondary, Bristol
St Bonaventure, Bristol
St Brendan, Bristol
Christ the King, Bristol
Holy Cross, Bristol
St Joseph, Bristol
St Nicholas of Tolentine, Bristol
Our Lady of the Rosary, Bristol
St Patrick, Bristol
Ss Peter & Paul, Bristol
St Pius X, Bristol
St Teresa, Bristol
All Hallows, Shepton Mallet
Downside, Stratton-on-the-Fosse
Prior Park College, Bath
St Benedict, Midsomer Norton
Ss Joseph & Teresa, Wells
St Louis, Frome
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Wincanton
St Augustine, Trowbridge
Christ the King, Amesbury
St Edmund, Calne
St George, Warminster
St John, Trowbridge
St Joseph, Devizes
St Joseph, Salisbury
St Mary, Chippenham
St Osmund, Salisbury
St Patrick, Corsham
Wardour, Tisbury

2nd Service (11.50 am)

All Saints, Cheltenham
St Catharine, Chipping Campden
St Dominic, Stroud
St Gregory the Great, Cheltenham
St Joseph, Nympsfield
St Mary, Churchdown
St Peter's Primary, Gloucester
St Peter's High, Gloucester
The Rosary, Stroud
St Thomas More, Cheltenham
St Edward's Preparatory, Cheltenham
St Edward, Cheltenham
St Mary, Shaftesbury
St Edward, Sherfield English
St Rose, Stroud
Corpus Christi, Weston-super-Mare
St Francis, Nailsea
St Joseph, Portishead
St Augustine of Canterbury, Bristol
Christ the King, Thornbury
Holy Family, Bristol
St Mary, Bristol
Our Lady of Lourdes, Bristol
St Paul, Yate
St George, Taunton
St Gildas, Yeovil
St Joseph, Bridgwater
St Joseph, Burnham-on-Sea
St Catherine, Swindon
Holy Rood, Swindon
Holy Cross, Swindon
Holy Family, Swindon
St Joseph, Swindon
St Mary, Swindon
St Joseph, Malmesbury

**COMMISSIONING OF CHAPLAINCY TEAMS
NOTIFICATION OF NEW CHAPLAINCY MEMBERS & ATTENDANCE AT
COMMISSIONING**

Name of School:	
Address:	

Names of new chaplaincy members for certificates:	

If your school will be attending the Commissioning Service, please enter the number of pupils and members of staff attending in the boxes below:

No. pupils attending:	
No. staff attending:	

Please enter the total number of badges required, including the ones for new members in the box below:

Total number of badges required:	
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Please note that all badges are provided at a cost to the school of £1.00 per badge. Schools not attending the Commissioning Service will have their certificates and badges delivered to them by post.

Please return this form by email no later than **Friday, 10th November 2017** to:
graham.tiley@cliftondiocese.com

A Service for All Souls

Below is the service for All Souls which was on last year's newsletter this is a fairly straightforward service. After this I have included a more meditative approach based on the prayer station idea but this would probably only work with KS2 children and above.

Before the service starts:

Pupils and families need to know this will be a service to pray for and remember those who have died. You will need small candles for everyone who wishes to remember someone and either people bring a picture of the person they are remembering or write their name on a piece of card. This is meant for a class group not a whole school event.

Hymn

A large candle is lit and placed on the floor where it is surrounded by unlit small candles. (If younger children would be safer to use the small electronic candles). As it is being lit the leader says:

Leader:

Neither death nor life,
nothing that exists, nothing still to come
nor any created thing
can ever come between us and the love of God
made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.
May this risen Lord be always with you.

All: and with your Spirit

(Leader explains why we are gathered)

We read from the book of Wisdom the following passage

"The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and the going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace".

The reading is then placed on the floor next to the large candle (a little raised up if possible)
The pupils are then asked if they wish to remember someone to come and light a small candle (or switch it on if electric) which are then placed around or below the reading. We could sing the Taize chant Jesus remember me at this point.

At the end of this the Leader says the following prayer:

Leader:

Lord of the living,
we believe that you are a God of a love
Love is stronger than death
we believe that Jesus rose from the dead

And that death is not an end.
We remember all those that have died
Knowing that they are safe in your love
We pray for all our family and friends who have died
Asking that they find peace with you
We remember too those who have no one to pray for them
Help us to be better people
To try to stay close to you and to help others
We ask you this through Christ our Lord.

We sing: The lords my Shepherd

Then the pupils bring either their photographs or the names of the people they wish to pray for the names or photos are placed in the shape of a cross. This should be done slowly one or two people at a time

Different Readers:

We believe that no one is forgotten, that death is not an end

We are confident that our friends and family are with God

We ask for God's help to live in the way God wants us too

Help us always to try to help others

Help us to remember that no matter what happens God is always with us.

Final Hymn

Prayer station for All Souls (or any time during November)

Before you begin:

You need to set this out in a specific room. 4 of the stations are around the outside of the room. If possible the room itself you should be conducive to a reflective atmosphere. Each prayer station needs specific resources. However, all of them would need a candle. This is a small group activity and pupils should be encouraged to move around the stations in a prayerful manner. The order they move round the stations doesn't really matter but the resurrection station should be in the middle of the room and all the group should gather around this at the same time for the final part.

Station 1: Our World Today (You will need a table or a board with images of people who have died in acts of terrorism or natural disasters over the last 12 months. These images should be suitable for the age of the pupils. Beside each a caption, just highlighting the event and those who died. You will also need prompt cards for pupils. In the middle of the images place the paper cross.

Station 2: War. (During November, we have Remembrance Day) You need a poppy cross, and a prompt sheet for pupils. This station also requires a power point projector to play the remembrance power point. You will need to restart this as each group of pupils reach the station. You will also need small pieces of card and pens for pupils to write with. The power point is called remembrance and is on the chaplaincy section of our website. We cannot put music on for copyright reasons but I suggest you use Barber's adagio for strings for the first part and the second part is set to the Townsend version of the Lord's my Shepherd (note the timing for the first part is automatic for the second part you need to do this manually).

Station 3: Peace. You need a long sheet of paper with the words PEACE in large letters on. A prompt sheet for pupils and coloured pens.

Station 4: My Family. For this station pupils need to bring in images if possible of those members of their own families who have died. You need a prompt sheet for pupils, small candles that pupils can light and a board or table to place their own photographs on. The centre piece should be the following quote from scripture. ***“For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8: 38-39***

Station 5: The Resurrection. If possible the focus for this should be a cross (not a crucifix) with a white sheet draped over it surrounded by small candles. You need small paper cups with soil in and small seeds. You need a copy this account from Mark.

“Saturday evening, when the Sabbath ended, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome went out and purchased burial spices so they could anoint Jesus’ body. Very early on Sunday morning, just at sunrise, they went to the tomb. On the way they were asking each other, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?”⁴ But as they arrived, they looked up and saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled aside. When they entered the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a white robe sitting on the right side. The women were shocked,⁶ but the angel said, “Don’t be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He isn’t here! He is risen from the dead”

For this Station, a leader needs to read this account slowly and prayerful. We then pause and say something like this;

No one can explain exactly what happened at the resurrection but the disciples believed that Jesus was with them. They believed he rose from the dead and was present in their lives. They were ready to change their whole life because of this belief. The question for us is do we believe that Jesus is with us still? Do we believe that death is not an end to our lives but a new beginning?