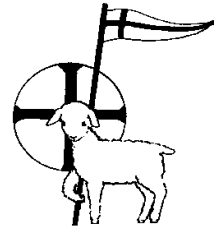


Church of St John the Baptist, Tisbury

reflecting Jesus Christ



Sunday 15th November

The Second Sunday before Advent



The Revd Juliette Hulme writes:

A hundred years since the Unknown Warrior was interred in Westminster Abbey, a service was held there on Wednesday, Remembrance Day. Some of you may have seen it broadcast on BBC1. Prince Charles laid a laurel wreath on the tomb as his great grandfather, King George V, had a century before. The vision for the Tomb for the Unknown Warrior began when Padre David Railton, serving on the Western Front, saw a grave with a rough wooden cross on which was pencilled 'Unknown British Soldier'. He shared his vision to honour all fallen soldiers with the Dean of Westminster Abbey, Herbert Ryall. The remains of the unidentified soldier were brought from the Battlefields of France and placed in coffin within a casket.

On the morning of 11 November 1920, the casket was placed onto a gun carriage of the Royal Horse Artillery and drawn by six horses through immense and silent crowds. The route followed was Hyde Park Corner, The Mall, and to Whitehall where the new Cenotaph, created by Edward Lutyens, a 'symbolic empty tomb', was unveiled by King George V. On the Cenotaph are no religious symbols, only engraved are the names of the dead. Over a million were to come here to mourn and lay flowers symbolising their love and loss.

When the casket of the unknown soldier was carried into the Abbey, followed by King George V, the guard of honour was made up of one hundred recipients of the Victoria Cross. The guests of honour were a group of about one hundred women. They had been chosen because they had each lost their husband and all their sons in the war. The unknown soldier was then buried in soil brought from each of the main battlefields, and covered with a silk pall. Servicemen from the armed forces stood guard as tens of thousands of mourners filed silently past. In the words of our Poet Laureate, Simon Armitage, composed for this centenary,

'All this for a soul
without name or rank
or age or home,
because you are the son we lost,
and your rest is ours.'

(Extract from 'The Bed')

The unknown soldier was buried simultaneously with a similar interment of a French unknown soldier at the Arc de Triomphe in France, making both graves the first to honour the unknown dead of the First World War. As we reflect on the Unknown Warrior and remember the loss of life in war, what is our call of duty in these difficult times?

Today's service: 9.30am

Parish Communion

Online via Zoom

President: The Revd Dr Graham Southgate

Preacher: The Revd Tina Fox

Do join us online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84966332040> Password 039012

Services during the week continue online

Full details are on the website: www.tisburyparishchurch.org

Next Sunday, 22nd November

There will again be a service online, via Zoom. Please see next week's newsletter for details.

Church open for private prayer

The church is open for private prayer **every day** between 9.00am and 4.00pm (approx.) We hope that you will find this provision helpful; do please follow the guidelines on the notice at church to minimise the risk of spreading infection.

The Collect for The Second Sunday before Advent

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. Amen.

The Gospel: Matthew 25.14-30

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

A Call to Prayer for the Nation

The Archbishops have asked that every church pray for the nation at 6pm each day; they have published a weekly prayer and a prayer theme for each day. In the Nadder Valley, we shall be joining this initiative just a little earlier each weekday, by incorporating the prayers into our online service of Evening Prayer at 5.30pm. Do join us!



Coffee Time

There is no online coffee meeting this week, but Coffee Time resumes next Friday, 27th November, at 10.00am.

If you need support

As always, the Revd Juliette Hulme (Parish Priest) is available to give pastoral and spiritual support (see below)

Other useful numbers with trained listeners (calls to these numbers are free):

The Samaritans 116 123

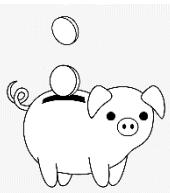
Childline 0800 1111

Domestic Abuse Helpline 0808 2000 247

Silverline (age 55+) 0800 4 70 80 90

Wiltshire Domestic Abuse Helpline 01225 775276 [weekends and out of hours 01793 610610]

Giving to the church



Thank you very much to those who continue to give regularly to the church. If you haven't committed to regular giving, why not consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme or setting up a standing order? Details from Paul Naish, email sjtgiftaid@gmail.com tel 01747 870731 07587 072900. Our income dropped significantly during the first lockdown, while expenses continued; any donations would be very welcome.

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