

Parish of Cirencester with Watermoor and Chesterton

Remembrance



Lest we forget

November 2024 £1

Parish of Cirencester with Watermoor and St Lawrence (Chesterton)

Useful contacts:

Vicar of Cirencester: Revd Canon Graham Morris

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The Vicar is very happy for you to contact him directly
for matters of concern pastorally or spiritually.

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Parish Magazine articles (submitted by 16th day of previous month)

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Lead Article

Remember, remember, the 5th November.

What are we to remember as we send our rockets up into the sky, ooh and aah at the shapes and colours and sounds of the fireworks and gather round the bonfire



(fire and safety rules permitting). *Gunpowder, treason and plot* is what we are to remember but what are we celebrating? If we are not celebrating, why the fireworks and bonfires. What we are celebrating is the foiling of the plot to blow up the Houses of Parliament, certainly, but are we not also celebrating the hanging, drawing and quartering of the main plotter, Guy Fawkes, with an effigy of Guy placed atop the bonfire?

In 1606, the year after the gunpowder plot, it became an annual custom for the King and Parliament to commission a sermon to commemorate the event. I'm very pleased this custom seems to have disappeared because I'm not sure what I would preach. Times have changed and, thankfully, the traitor would have been dealt with differently today, but are things really so different today?

As I write, the situation in Lebanon, Israel and Gaza is becoming increasingly dangerous. Gunpowder, treason and plot is apparent in the positions adopted by the various parties involved and the weapons

being used in the conflict. How will it all end? How can peace be achieved?

November is a month of remembering. After the bonfires and the fireworks comes Remembrance Sunday, another reminder of the cost of human conflict. Yet at the end of the month, on 24th November, we celebrate Christ the King. As he sits enthroned as our King, what must Christ think and feel about all he observes in his beloved world, the world and the people for whom he gave his life?

As Christians it is easy to lose heart about what we see happening in our world today and how that must grieve the heart of our King whose kingdom values are the very opposite of the world's, human ways, of dealing with conflict and tensions between peoples.

But our King is the Prince of Peace and that is what he holds before us. We are to make for peace. How can we as ordinary people do that in a world context? With difficulty we may think, but what we can do is strive to live lives of peace in our own context – in our daily lives, in our community, with our families, friends, in our work and leisure places. And to bring before God in our prayers all the hurt of the world.

If you are attending a bonfire party, it's ok to enjoy the spectacle but let's remember that the only lasting end to human conflict is to follow in the steps of our King of peace.

Revd Karen

Harvest

The recent amazing Parish supper caused me to think about how the harvest has changed during my lifetime. The answer, as I am very old, is in every aspect.



The cutting, threshing and the baling of straw used to dominate and affect every aspect of Cotswold life. The considerable acres of Cotswold wheat, of barley and oats were no less than today, but even the vocabulary was different.

The crops were cut by a 'binder'. This was an import from the North American prairies. Each produced 'sheaves' which were made into 'stooks' of about four or five. These were made into ricks before a thresher or drum came to each farm and the individual ricks were threshed. This was not a swift process, needing good weather. For us, with three boys at grammar school, there was another important word - overtime. Overtime was essential for school uniform and happily, came at the right time for each new school year. For me, as a sixth former, anxious to take a pretty girl to the pictures, It meant I now had change if she wanted an ice cream. Plus a small sum to augment my County Major Scholarship when I was heading for university.

Change was very much happening. Exciting new machines had followed the route from North America. Combine harvesters. Their name was self-explanatory - they could cut and thresh the corn and

straw at the same time, leaving a line of straw to be baled. These machines eased harvesting, paving the way for the large, swift machines that operate behind hedges, swiftly hoovering up fields in hours. Believe me, It happens, as our joyful supper happily reminded us.

The tasty supper, displayed so splendidly and just as good to eat, was a credit to the small, industrious team. Well done, Dawn Miller and team! John Lawrence was an impressive M.C. building some impressive entertainment. His jokes always entertain Cirencester. Male Voice Choir members performed a few numbers. And there were Pauline Farnan poems.

One piece of advice - charge twice as much next time. It was well worth it.

John Light



Do you struggle with wellbeing? Want to get out and meet people? Want to challenge yourself to try something new? Apply for a free craft course or workshop at New Brewery Arts in Cirencester.



WHAT IS NEW BREWERY HEARTS?

We are giving 1200 free hours on our creative classes to those who need it the most. Working in partnership with local front-line charities, we can give moments of joy, connection, community and creativity.

HOW CAN CRAFT HELP ME?

Making something creates a sense of fulfilment, sparks joy and brings people together. It has even been recognised as beneficial to wellbeing by the World Health Organisation.

WHAT COURSES AND WORKSHOPS CAN I DO?

At New Brewery Arts, we offer courses and workshops in a broad range of crafts, including: pottery, stone-carving, textiles, painting & drawing, printing, fashion and millinery. Courses run for five to 10 weeks, while workshops can be anything from a half-day session to a full weekend. Beginners are welcome.

WHERE IS IT?

Courses and workshops are held in our wheelchair accessible building in the centre of Cirencester with great public transport links. You can find us at New Brewery Arts, Brewery Court, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 1JH.

HOW DO I APPLY? Call us on 01285 657181, email hello@newbreweryarts.org.uk or visit our website at www.newbreweryarts.org.uk/support-with-fees to find out more.

Remembrance Day Remembered.

The first two-minute silence held in London (11 November 1919) was reported in the *Manchester Guardian* on 12 November 1919:



The first stroke of eleven produced a magical effect.

The tram cars glided into stillness, motors ceased to cough and fume, and stopped dead, and the mighty-limbed dray horses hunched back upon their loads and stopped also, seeming to do it of their own volition.

Someone took off his hat, and with a nervous hesitancy the rest of the men bowed their heads also. Here and there an old soldier could be detected slipping unconsciously into the posture of 'attention'.

An elderly woman, not far away, wiped her eyes, and the man beside her looked white and stern. Everyone stood very still ... The hush deepened. It had spread over the whole city and become so pronounced as to impress one with a sense of audibility. It was a silence which was almost pain ... And the spirit of memory brooded over it all.



From the October edition of the Ciren Parish Magazine 1915

The Parish Magazine of St Andrew's Plymouth, contains an interesting letter from the Revd R H Fulford, who is acting as Chaplain to the Forces in the Dardanelles:

“Services in the trenches,” he says, “are difficult to arrange, as we are under

constant fire. Yet I have administered the Sacrament in my dug-out to as many as the place would comfortably hold, and we have often spoken to men individually and in small groups in the firing line itself, and, of course, at the fixed ambulance station.

Here there is a large natural cave, and on Sunday evening it was good to hear ‘Abide with me’ sung by a large number of men, with the shells rattling overhead. We had a wonderful service in the dark just before landing on the Peninsula, and it gave us the greater courage to meet the heavy shell fire which greeted us.

Any day you may see men openly reading their New Testaments in the trenches and elsewhere, and many and earnest prayers are said from the heart. Last week I was burying a fellow when the Corporal told me that the fatigue party, of which the dead man had been one, after a heavy shelling had gone down on their knees and thanked God for their escape.

We live here on the threshold of two worlds much more consciously than in everyday life, and England will be the better for the return of her Army in the present spirit.

Of course, there are dull and foolish ones even in the tightest corners; but, at any rate, the question of life and death has to be faced, and in most cases the religious answer carries conviction and comfort.”



Lament

Lament, lament for the fallen,
Far from home in a foreign land,
Blasted from life,
In their youth and their strength.
The bugle calls at the last,
And, lonely at home, bereft ones weep
To the keening cry of the pipes.

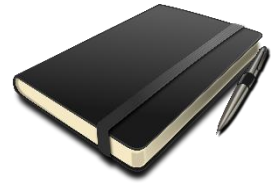
Mourn, mourn for the murdered ones,
Lying in the city streets
And the country towns,
Whence safety has fled
Since more kindly times,
At the lawless ways of the faceless ones.

Weep, weep for the little ones,
Dead of abuse in their homes,
Tiny bodies tortured and torn,
Broken beyond belief,
In cruel neglect and rage,
By those who should love and care.

Lament, lament for us all,
For the evil abroad in our world,
Seek, seek, in our desperate need,
For the wisdom and will
From a merciful God,
To find, and to follow,
The more excellent ways of His peace.

From the late and much loved Teresa Davies

Musings in Mark



2024 Nov Mark 5:22

Mark 5:21-23 NIV

[21] When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake. [22] Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. [23] He pleaded earnestly with him, “My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live.”

It’s not going to be an easy journey for Jairus! Here is a Jewish temple leader; a man brought up in all the Jewish teaching, caught up in the complex web of understanding who Jesus is. His colleagues consider Jesus a problem regarding the temple and also the people. Although in the previous story of the Gerasenes, the gentiles sent Jesus away, nevertheless, a head of steam was building up regarding his teaching and miracle working for the Jews. So for Jairus to approach Jesus at all was quite remarkable. Yet when the need is great, and such encouraging things have been heard about this man, tradition, peer pressure and questions take second place to hope.

Even the arrogance of many of the Jewish leaders is swept away as Jairus throws himself at Jesus’ feet. Hope springs as Jesus agrees, but we can’t imagine the agony as, while Jesus is about to head to Jairus’

house, Jesus is distracted by a woman with her own problem, and worst of all, Jesus stops to deal with her. For Jairus, every second counts, and they are ticking away as Jesus challenges this woman.

Eventually word comes to Jairus that it's too late and his daughter is dead. Jesus hears and effectively tells Jairus to trust him. The walk to his home must have been traumatic for Jairus, and to hear the sounds of mourning and grieving as he gets there, compound the feeling.

After Jesus words to her *“Immediately she stood up and walked around..”* and we leave Jairus in his ecstatic joy and relief.

What a journey, but it does challenge us on two fronts. Firstly, being prepared to humble ourselves in our need, ignoring our traditions and expectations, even ignoring the doubts of those around us, and throw ourselves on Jesus' grace.

Secondly, in this story the “immediately” doesn't come until after the excruciating wait for other things in the Father's plan to be fulfilled. Holding to both hope and faith in the waiting is a challenge in itself.

The journey of faith is a wild journey in itself. Sometimes things happen as we want, sometimes they don't, but perhaps like Jairus, the key is to trust Him and keep walking with him until we get Home. Our Father is good and faithful, as Jesus says, *“Don't be afraid; just believe.”*

Rev Paul

Dear Members and Friends,



At our October meeting we heard from Michael Gibbons, a trustee of GARAS (Gloucestershire Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers) which was formed 25 years ago to support young people who come to Britain to escape war and persecution. Michael explained that they arrive as asylum seekers, and GARAS helps them to navigate the necessary process towards becoming legitimate refugees. We also had the pleasure of welcoming Michael's mother, Olga, our Diocesan Vice-President and Roundabout Editor.

On the 9th of October we had our Soup Lunch, attended by more than 30 people, including our Diocesan President, Doreen McLellan, and Enid Lovell, a former V.P. who brought MU goods, including Christmas cards, for sale.

Four different soups were enjoyed, along with bread and cheese, fruit, and tea and coffee afterwards. We raised £291.00, including the Raffle (£69), for MU projects, and enjoyed a lovely social occasion.

I enjoyed reading in the Autumn edition of 'Connected' about the transformative power of our MU Literacy Programme. A survey of women from Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and South Sudan who have gone through the programme showed that 70% now hold community leadership roles, some as MU leaders, and leaders of savings associations. Within churches they have become lay readers,

Sunday School leaders, and ordained clergy. 36% run their own businesses. Their lives have been changed in so many ways, and they are looked up to in their communities (and by their husbands and families!)

Another article was about the way MU is helping people who are suffering in Myanmar, offering a glimmer of hope where little exists, since outside aid has decreased by 40% since 2020.

‘Mothers’ Union’s resilience and faith-driven service shine as a beacon of hope . They embody the spirit of Christ’s love in action, even in the darkest times.’

To conclude, here is the November prayer from our Prayer Diary:

May our championing of women’s equality and empowerment provide women with the means to lift themselves up in their communities; highlighting God’s restoration of human dignity in relationships, based on love and justice, not domination. Amen.

With love,

Rosemary

Diary Dates:

November

Wed 6th	2.30 pm. Parish Hall, Watermoor. Speaker from ‘Charlie’s Cancer Support’	Bring and Buy
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| Wed 27th | 10-1 MU Forum at St. Philip and St. James,
Hucclecote |
| Thurs 28th | 10.30 am Corporate Communion, Lady Chapel,
Parish Church |
| Thurs 28th | 7.30 pm Chill and Chatter, the Vicarage |
| Friday 29th | Mid-day Prayers for 16 days of Activism against
Gender Violence, Gloucester Cathedral |
| December | |
| Wed 4th | 2.30 Parish Hall, Watermoor Christmas theme, with
tea and mince pies |
| Friday 6th | 10- 12 noon Cake and Craft Stall, Parish Church
Porch |



We are proud to announce the first Huntington's Disease Art Exhibition to showcase the artwork of 8 very accomplished people who are affected with HD, to show off their beautiful, creative and outstanding pieces of art. The idea of the Art Exhibition came about during Covid at one of the online group meetings - we were amazed and delighted during those conversations to discover we had such a range of accomplished and talented 'artists'.

Phil R Daniels and Charles Cusick-Smith are award winning theatre designers working internationally, also skilled artists themselves, so we would like to say a big Thank You to them for supporting us in helping mounting this Exhibition.

Carol

OUR CREATIVE JOURNEY

The first exhibition showcasing the beautiful artwork created by people affected with Huntingtons Disease



St John Baptist Church

Market Place, Cirencester, GL7 2NH

Tuesday 12 November - Saturday 16 November

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday - Friday

9am - 2 p.m. Saturday



PARISH OF CIRENCESTER

St John Baptist | Holy Trinity | St Lawrence

<https://cirenparish.co.uk/>



In aid of



**Huntington's
Disease
Association**

www.hda.org.uk

The HDA and families would like to acknowledge our grateful thanks and appreciation to CIRENCESTER ART SOCIETY for supporting this Exhibition and supplying the stands to showcase the beautiful art work

Make a difference

Become a volunteer school governor with us

What do I enjoy about being a governor? Making a difference and seeing the children flourish

(Mike)

All our governors come from our local community and we:

- ▶ get to know the school, including visiting the school occasionally during school hours (in agreement with the headteacher) and gaining a good understanding of the school's strengths and weaknesses
- ▶ attend induction training and regular relevant training and development
- ▶ attend meetings and read all the papers before the meeting
- ▶ act in the best interests of all the pupils of the school
- ▶ behave in a professional manner, as set down in the governing board's code of conduct, including acting in strict confidence

Being a school governor is a commitment and a responsibility, but offers you the chance to see first-hand the impact you can make in improving education for children in your community.



What's the time commitment?

Once you're in post and fully set up with training completed, we'd expect the monthly time commitment to be anything from 3 to 8h/month, depending on what additional tasks or responsibilities you're able to take on.

*Why am I a governor?
I think children's time at school is really important and I want to do what I can to help*

(Marie)



What difference can I make as a governor? - I can use my skills and experience to contribute to the school.

I can have an impact!

(Amy)

What qualifications do I need?

No special qualifications are needed - the most important thing is to have a keen interest in the school and be prepared to play an active part in the governing body's work.

Please note: we have a separate process for parents of children at the school who want to be governors - please contact Brian (below) for details.

Let's talk

I'd love to talk through what being a governor at Watermoor school might look like for you, and I'd be happy to meet you at your office or in Watermoor school itself - just let me know what works for you.

If it's something you might be interested in we really hope you'll get in touch. We really are keen to have more local community voice within our school!

Brian

Chair of governors - email me at chair@watermoor.gloucs.sch.uk



Arise Africa Campaign with Open Doors

Jesus warned that following him could mean being hated, rejected and even killed, and for 16.2 million Christians in sub-Saharan Africa today this is a reality. The scale of the persecution is shocking and its something that is not being talked about.

The African church is urgently calling for our support, our prayers, our voice – to stop the violence and start the healing. You can help that happen by signing the petition, which you can do on- line , or there are copies in church at Holy Trinity.

The petition asks for 3 things –

1. Protection – from violent militant attacks, which are mostly ignored by the state and security forces.
2. Justice – to ensure fair prosecutions of the attackers
3. Restoration – that people can return home and rebuild their lives

The aim is to present the petition by 2026 with signatures from around the world – to the UK government, African Union, European parliament and UN leaders of the Human Rights Council.

You may remember that in 2016 thousands of us signed the Hope for the Middle East petition for Christians in Syria and Iraq. 808,172 people signed from 143 countries. The petition was presented to the UN Secretary General's office in New York by 12 year old Noah, who fled his home in Iraq to escape IS.

It had an immense impact on people's awareness of the need to stand up for Christians in the Middle East. Iraq received \$55 million from the UN to help rebuild Christian and other minority areas taken by IS, with Open Doors consulted on spending. Countless lives were improved as a result – so let's add our support to bring long-term change for the church in Africa, who have suffered for too long.

Jill

Services for November and December 2024



3rd November: All Souls Service, St John Baptist - 4pm

10th November: Remembrance Sunday, St John Baptist - 9.40am
followed by service in the Market Place -10.50am

1st December: Toy Service, St John Baptist - 10am
Advent Carol Service, St John Baptist - 6pm

15th December: Carol Service, Holy Trinity - 6pm

20th December: Carol Service, St Lawrence - 6pm

22nd December: Nativity, Holy Trinity, - 10am
Nine Lessons and Carols, St John Baptist - 6pm

23rd December: Town Crier & Vicar Singalong, St John Baptist -
3pm

24th December: Shoppers Carol Service, St John Baptist - 11am
Family Nativity, St John Baptist - 4pm
Christingle, Holy Trinity - 6pm
Midnight Mass, St John Baptist, 11.30pm
Midnight Mass, Holy Trinity, 11.30pm

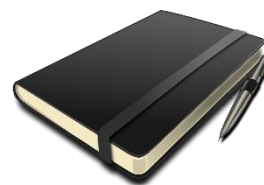
25th December: BCP Holy Communion, St John Baptist - 8am
Holy Communion, Holy Trinity - 8am
Christmas Day Eucharist, St John Baptist - 10am
Christmas Day Eucharist, Holy Trinity - 10am
Christmas Day Eucharist, St Lawrence - 10am

26th December: St Stephen's Day Eucharist, St John Baptist, 12 noon

29th December: Just one Combined service for the parish, St
Lawrence, 10am

31st December: Bless the Market Place, St John Baptist, 11.45pm

Dates for November



Daily

12 – 1pm	Eucharist - Catherine Chapel	St John Baptist
9:15 – 9:45am	Morning Prayer	St John Baptist

Monday, Wednesday & Friday

5 – 6pm	Evening Prayer	St John Baptist
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Weekdays

10am – 12pm	The Parish Forum Open (except Wednesday)
10am – 12pm	Thursdays Drop In at The Parish Forum
9am – 10am	Wednesdays Drop In at St Lawrence

1 Nov, Fri

1:30 – 2:30pm	Wedding	Holy Trinity
2:30 – 3:30pm	Guided Tour	St John Baptist
3 – 5pm	Cirencester Food Pantry	The Parish Hall

2 Nov, Sat

6:30 – 8pm	Winstone Lecture - Marc Morris	St John Baptist
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3 Nov, Sun

8 – 9am	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
8 – 9am	Holy Communion BCP - Lady Chapel	St John Baptist
10 – 11:30am	Non-Eucharistic Family Service	Holy Trinity
10 – 11:30am	All Age Eucharist	St John Baptist
10:30 – 11:30am	Eucharist	St Lawrence
4 – 5pm	All Souls Service	St John Baptist
4 – 5pm	Restore@4	St Lawrence
Church		

4 Nov, Mon

9:45 – 11am	Little Angels	St John Baptist
5:30 – 6:30pm	Vicars Open Office	Parish Forum

5 Nov, Tue

6:30 – 9pm	Bell Ringing	St John Baptist
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6 Nov, Wed

9 – 10am	Drop In	St Lawrence
10:30 – 11:30am	Eucharist	St Lawrence
1:10 – 1:50pm	Organ Recital	St John Baptist
7 – 8pm	Eucharist	Holy Trinity

8 Nov, Fri

1:10 – 1:50pm	Serinus Trio Recital	St John Baptist
3 – 5pm	Cirencester Food Pantry	The Parish Hall

9 Nov, Sat

7:30 – 9:45pm	Cheltenham Bach Concert	St John Baptist
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10 Nov, Sun

8 – 9am	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
8 – 9am	Holy Communion BCP - Lady Chapel	St John Baptist
9:30 – 11am	Eucharist	St John Baptist
10 – 11:30am	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
10:30 – 11:30am	Eucharist	St Lawrence
4 – 5pm	Evening Prayer	St John Baptist

11 Nov, Mon

All day	Huntington's Disease Art Exhibition	St John Baptist
9:45 – 11am	Little Angels	St John Baptist
5:30 – 6:30pm	Vicars Open Office	Parish Forum

12 Nov, Tue

All day	Huntington's Disease Art Exhibition	St John Baptist
6:30 – 9pm	Bell Ringing	Holy Trinity

13 Nov, Wed

All day	Huntington's Disease Art Exhibition	St John Baptist
9 – 10am	Drop In	St Lawrence
7 – 8pm	Eucharist	Holy Trinity

14 Nov, Thu

All day	Huntington's Disease Art Exhibition	St John Baptist
9:15 – 10:45am	Seedlings	St Lawrence

15 Nov, Fri

All day	Huntington's Disease Art Exhibition	St John Baptist
3 – 5pm	Cirencester Food Pantry	Parish Hall

16 Nov, Sat

All day	Huntington's Disease Art Exhibition	St John Baptist
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17 Nov, Sun

8 – 9am	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
8 – 9am	Holy Communion BCP - Lady Chapel	St John Baptist
10 – 11:30am	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
10 – 11:30am	Eucharist	St John Baptist
10:30 – 11:30am	Eucharist	St Lawrence
1 – 2pm	Baptism	St John Baptist
4 – 5pm	Choral Evensong	St John Baptist
4 – 5pm	Restore @4	St Lawrence

18 Nov, Mon

9:45 – 11am	Little Angels	St John Baptist
5:30 – 6:30pm	Vicars Open Office	Parish Forum
7:30 – 9pm	Quarter Peal	St John Baptist

19 Nov, Tue

6:30 – 9pm	Bell Ringing	Holy Trinity
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20 Nov, Wed

9 – 10am	Drop In	St Lawrence
7 – 8pm	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
7:30 – 9pm	Standing Committee	St Lawrence

21 Nov, Thu**22 Nov, Fri**

3 – 5pm	Cirencester Food Pantry	Parish Hall
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23 Nov, Sat

7:30 – 9:30pm	Cirencester Choral Society Autumn Concert	St John Baptist
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24 Nov, Sun

8 – 9am	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
8 – 9am	Holy Communion BCP - Lady Chapel	St John Baptist
10 – 11:30am	Eucharist	Holy Trinity
10 – 11:30am	Eucharist	St John Baptist
10:30 – 11:30am	Eucharist	St Lawrence

25 Nov, Mon

9:45 – 11am	Little Angels	St John Baptist
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26 Nov, Tue

6:30 – 9pm	Bell Ringing	Holy Trinity
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27 Nov, Wed

All day	Christmas Tree Festival	St John Baptist
9 – 10am	Drop In	St Lawrence
7 – 8pm	Eucharist	Holy Trinity

28 Nov, Thu

All day	Christmas Tree Festival	St John Baptist
9:15 – 10:45am	Seedlings	St Lawrence
10:30 – 11:30am	Mothers' Union Corporate Communion	St John Baptist

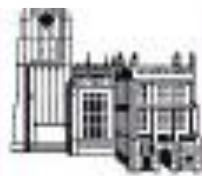
29 Nov, Fri

All day	Christmas Tree Festival	St John Baptist
3 – 5pm	Cirencester Food Pantry	The Parish Hall

30 Nov, Sat

All day	Christmas Tree Festival	St John Baptist
10am – 6pm	CTC Advent Festivities in	St John Baptist
12 – 1pm	Eucharist	St John Baptist





CHURCH SHOP



Open Monday to Saturday 10am ~ 4pm

Why not take a look at our Parish Church Shop, there's more than you expect!

Books
CDs

Gifts
Cards

Souvenirs
Bibles

Diaries
Calendars

Maps
Pictures

Icons
Prayer Books



Website: <http://www.cirenparish.co.uk>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/churchshop>

Tel: 01285 659317