



**Skinner Street
United Reformed Church
Poole November 2024**

Guided by the Holy Spirit we aim to show the love of God the Father for everyone by sharing the work of his Son, Jesus Christ, among our neighbours in Poole and the wider world.



*The season of mists and
mellow fruitfulness.*

by John Keats

To Autumn
John Keats 1795 – 1821

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eves run;
To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
And still more, later flowers for the bees,
Until they think warm days will never cease,
For summer has o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells.

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?
Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find
Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,
Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;
Or on a half-reap'd furrow sound asleep,
Drowsed with the fume of poppies, while thy hook
Spares the next swath and all its twined flowers:
And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep
Steady thy laden head across a brook;
Or by a cider-press, with patient look,
Thou watchest the last oozings, hours by hours.

Where are the songs of Spring? Ay, where are they?
Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,—
While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day,
And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;
Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn
Among the river shallows, borne aloft
Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;
And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;
Hedge-cricket sing; and now with treble soft
The redbreast whistles from a garden-croft,
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.

Written September 19, 1819; first published in 1820.
This poem is in the public domain.

Pastoral Notes

We are so pleased to have new friends coming to Prayers on Thursdays and joining in our Worship on Sundays but we do not forget those friends who, for whatever reason, cannot join in life of the Church with us. You are always held in our prayers. We also hope you enjoy hearing of how Skinner Street is moving forward.

We would love to hear from you with your news or thoughts.

We are also very willing to come and visit, just contact us.

Lorraine Thornton will be baptised and received into membership on November 10th.

For church matters or to discuss arrangements for a Baptism, Wedding or Funeral: Shirley Marden 07980 923217

To arrange a Pastoral visit or Home Communion: Tricia Knapp 01202 632399

For Hall Lets and Carpark: Gail Nuttall 07774 283179

WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER Sundays at 10.30am

3rd The Worship Group

10th Revd. Dave Harkison **Remembrance Sunday with Holy Communion** Servers: Chris Proudley & Shirley Marden

17th Mrs Tricia Knapp

24th Revd. Sally Taylor

Coffee and fellowship after the services on November 3rd & 17th

DUTY ELDER and VESTRY PRAYER

3rd Shirley Marden

10th Chris Proudley

17th Muriel Coombes

24th Janice Williams

DOOR STEWARDS

3rd Vera Brown

10th Wai Ching

17th Alan Knapp

24th Jill Campbell-Dykes

THURSDAY PRAYERS 10.15am *(Followed by coffee and fellowship)*

7th Chris Proudley

14th Vera Brown

21st TBC

28th Patricia Arnold

Diary for November

Thurs. 7th after prayers –

decorate the windows for Remembrance Sunday

Thurs. 14th 2.30pm **Games Afternoon** (everyone is welcome)

Mon. 18th 7.00pm Alternative Worship with Revd. Sally Taylor

Mon. 25th 11.00am **Craft & Chat**

Thurs. 28th after prayers –

decorate the windows for Advent and Christmas

Date for your diaries: Sunday 15th December –Candle Light Carols.

There will be no morning service.

As agreed at the church meeting the offering this year will go to Chestnut Nurseries in Poole

NOVEMBER NEWS FROM THE TREASURER 2024

Well the clocks have gone back, so winter is here, I hope you enjoyed your extra hour in bed! Not sure I noticed mine as it's been a very busy time lately. Many good things have been going on. I am sure you have noticed the excellent work to our garden and outside. This work has been funded by BCP through the CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy, a charge on development in the borough). We applied for a grant from this fund, which was agreed. This has to be used to improve our grounds for the benefit of the local community. Sally Taylor, our Pioneer Vicar for this area, has been very instrumental in this project. Please enjoy it.

We are also doing work in the Church, needed to ensure we are compliant with Fire Risk Assessment requirements and Health and Safety dictates. All this is not only for Insurance and Synod requirements but more importantly, to keep us safe and all who use the Church and premises. We are funding most of this from our own resources but are still hopeful that the Synod will be supporting us too.

We are still working with the Synod to fund scaffolding to the front elevation so access to make some repairs and renovations can be completed. Then the front elevation can be cleaned up.

Church funds, as in recent months, are reasonably stable but the recent work has made a dent. To this end, there have been some fundraising events but we will be holding more.

These include the Open Days during the Dorset Architectural Heritage Week, Dorset Historic Churches Ride and Stride Sponsored event and the recent Craft and Coffee day. These events have raised nearly £1000.00 for funds. Amazing effort by all who helped and those who came along and supported. Very importantly, each event was great fun and all had really enjoyable experiences. Some new friends have been made, an excellent result. This is encouraging us to do more!

Different news, we are going to change how we manage the car parking! Number plate recognition will be used so the old paper permits will become redundant! We plan to have this new system operational before Christmas but you will be given very clear instructions, and help, in using it. All parkers who currently pay to the church will continue, so our income is not affected. You will just need to know your car number!

With Christmas coming up (yes, it's here again!!), more events are planned which we hope you will support and spread the word to your family, friends and neighbours. Details will be sent out soon!

Happy November! Gail Nuttall Treasurer

Skinner Street United Reformed Church BH15 1RQ

Lloyds Bank Code 30 96 73 account number 00208804

Gail Nuttall grn23g@gmail.com 01202 707231 - 07774 283 179

23 Crichel Mount Road, Poole Dorset BH14 8LT

Harvest Donations



Through your generosity the amount collected so far for the work of Christian Aid around the world is £100. Thank you also for all those who are able to Gift aid their donations, this means Christian Aid can claim a further 25p in every pound.



The donations of non-perishable food will go the Poole Foodbank based at St Jame's Church.



At this time of year, fireworks are a common sight in most parts of the UK. First the days, and especially the weekends, around 'bonfire night' (5 November).

These then merge with the fireworks that Hindu and Sikh communities set off as they celebrate Diwali. And at some stage, depending on the calendar that year, our Muslim friends will celebrate Eid With...yes, more fireworks. Although this can cause a certain amount of local friction (how many weeks of fireworks is reasonable and what about the animals?), it illustrates again how much people of faith from different cultures and communities have in common.



Diwali: At this time of year (once again, the date depends on the cycles of the moon) Hindu, Sikh and Jain communities celebrate Diwali. Diwali is a celebration of the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil. The story is retold of Rama searching for his bride, Sita, who has been stolen away by the demon king, Ravanna. Rama defeats the demon in hand to-hand combat which lasts for ten days and then, victorious, he brings Sita back to his home in northern India. Upon their return, the people light small Diwa lamps to help guide their lord and his bride home.



Eid-al-Adha: This festival celebrates the faithful obedience of Abraham in his willingness to offer his son as a sacrifice to Allah, who sends the angel Gabriel to stay his hand. The festival includes both celebration and feasting, alongside charitable giving designed to ensure that everyone is able to join in the remembrance.



Most of us have now learned to live with voicemail as a necessary part of our lives. Have you ever wondered what it would be like if God decided to install voicemail? Imagine praying and hearing this.

- Thank you for calling heaven: for English press 1; for Spanish press 2; for any other language press 3
- Please select one of the following options: press 1 for request; 2 for thanksgiving; 3 for complaints; press 4 for all others.
- I'm sorry all our Angels and Saints are busy helping other sinners right now. However, your prayer is important to us and we will answer in the order it was received. Please stay on the line.
- If you would like to speak to God press 1; Jesus press 2; The Holy Spirit press 3.
- To find a loved one who has been assigned to heaven press 5, then enter their National Insurance number followed by the £ sign (if you receive a negative response, please hang up and dial area code + 666.
- For reservation to heaven, please enter JOHN followed by the numbers 316.
- For nagging questions about dinosaurs, life and other planets please wait until you arrive on heaven for specifics
- Our computers show you have already prayed today, please hang up and call again tomorrow.
- The office is now closed for the weekend to observe a religious holiday. If you are calling after hours and need emergency assistance please contact your local minister.
- Thank you and have a heavenly day.

*Deadline for December newsletter Tuesday 27th November
(please note earlier deadline)*