

The Benefice of Mitford and Hebron

Newsletter – October 2021

Dear Friends

Keeping in Touch....

Autumn is now upon us, the trees are beginning their glorious technicolour displays, the hedgerows are full of berries and there is a chill in the morning air.

Just as nature is leading us into a new season, we here in the Benefice of Mitford and Hebron are also beginning a new season. A season we embrace with hope, secure in the knowledge that God will lead us together through the ever-changing scenes of life into a new future.



We all have a role to play in this new season, both through prayer and through action. To help maintain our bond of fellowship it is important that we are all aware of 'what is going on'. To help with this the Church Wardens will issue regular Newsletters, with important dates, news items and information. We hope you will wish to receive these updates and will find them helpful. If you have a friend or neighbour who has not received this Newsletter and who would like to receive them, please get in touch. Also, if you have any queries or comments, please contact us.

Contact details are below.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Harvest In the Barn



Sunday 24th October at 11.00am

Our Harvest Festival will be held in Dungait's Barn in Hebron on Sunday 24th October, **please note revised start time.**

We would point out that the barn is very well ventilated, so you need to wrap up warm and perhaps even bring a blanket.

As our Harvest Offering, we will be collecting tinned and packet dry goods to donate to Wansbeck Valley Food Bank.

After the service there will be a pooled lunch – donations would be gratefully received.

Alas the vicarage apple tree has not been fruitful this year – so no crumbles.

Remembrance Services

Sunday 14th November

10.00 am – Mitford Church – Remembrance Service. **Please note revised time.**

4.00 pm – Hebron Church – Contemplative Worship for Remembrance

Please see the Anna Chaplain Blog below for activities planned for Remembrance.





**New Hope
for Children**

Richard Sanderson Visit

Sunday 31st October 6.00 pm – Hebron Church

Richard Sanderson of New Hope for Children is due to visit us again on Sunday 31 October after a gap of more than 2 years due to Covid. Come along to St Cuthbert's Church, Hebron at 6 pm to hear Richard speak about the work in Bogota.

It is always hugely inspiring and encouraging to listen to Richard so make sure you don't miss him at the very end of the month. Simple refreshments will be served.



Anna Chaplaincy Blog



Harvest Festival

– we hope you can come to the service and if you are able, to contribute to the lunch. It is an opportunity to actually meet and greet members of the church family face to face within a safe environment.

If you managed to grow your sunflowers from the seeds you received at Pentecost– please bring them with you. One comment from a recipient. *'Mine are like my family, one has shot ahead, one is behind and the other is refusing to co-operate!'*

Remembrance

Knitted Poppies

We plan to have a fall of knitted poppies from the altar at both churches, as well knitted poppies on the gate/wall. This will be like last year.

So, we are making a plea to our 'chicks with sticks', (we are not excluding males, but it would not rhyme), in other words all you knitters, we need red, purple and white poppies. Please dig out the knitting needles and get crafting. We even have a pattern for you – see below (or you can use your own). You can also craft poppies from fabric or by crocheting.

The knitted poppies will be on display from Sunday 7th November until Saturday 20th November, please feel free to come and add your own poppy to the outdoor displays anytime during that period. (A box of wires will be available at the gates for attaching your poppies).



In addition to poppies there will be a display of paper doves to represent peace, they will be attached to a net around the memorial at Mitford. Individuals can write a name or a situation on a dove and attach to the net. We hope these displays will attract people who are passing and that they will take time to ponder.

Love and Prayers

Mary and Janice

A Prayer for the New Season

Lord of the harvest, we thank you for your provision for us in times past and entrust our future to you.

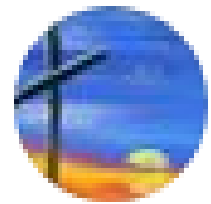
Fill us all with your spirit, as we begin our new church season. Show us when you we are called to prayer and when we are called to action.

Grant us joy and enthusiasm as we embrace all the seasons you have planned for us. Amen.

A Message from Sean

Dear All

Thanks so much to everyone who made Alyson's farewell service and pooled lunch such a success. She goes with our thanks and prayers for future happiness in her new home in Berwick. Though stepping down from stipendiary ministry I am sure she will quickly discover further opportunities to apply her skills and enthusiasm in God's work in the Border Country.



And so, as Alyson leaves us, we embark upon a new chapter of our life. There are sure to be challenges ahead, but we have good reason to look forward with confidence.

For a number of years our two parishes have been growing ever closer together, where all aspects of our combined life are shared, from a unified service pattern that makes best use of our buildings and our ministry team, right through to having the first Joint Council in the diocese; Mitford and Hebron are truly discovering the blessings of being "One Church Family with Two Homes". This sense of togetherness has continued despite the tumult of the past 18 months- when we could not occupy much loved buildings, we have adapted with You Tube services, prayer meetings by Zoom, worship in the churchyards. Surely this reassures us that God's Holy Spirit will continue to equip us for whatever and wherever he leads us. We are safe in the hands of the God of New Beginnings.

So, what happens next? Well, we enter on a time of prayerful reflection and consultation to identify the direction in which God is leading us. Then in early 2022 we will produce a "Benefice Profile" describing all aspects of our communal life and our vision for the future - this document will help the Bishop to determine what resources we will need, both to flourish within our community and to fulfil our place in the wider mission of the church. One of these potential resources could well be the appointment of a priest in charge!

In the meantime, please do keep your wardens, Joint Council and your Ministry team in your prayers- we need the encouragement, and active support of the whole church family, to know your vision of our future together and most of all, your constant prayers.

Sean

Poppy Pattern

To Knit Poppies

Use double knitting wool – cast on 71 stitches. Knit 4 rows.

5th Row – knit 6sts then completely turn around the left had needle – knit 6 sts and repeat the turning around the needle. Continue like this until the end of the row.

Knit 4 rows

Knit 2 sts together for the next few rows until you are left with 2 sts. Tie off

You will find that the knitted piece curls around. Sew together.

With black wool make a centre just by sewing over a few times.



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Sunday Service Pattern

Sunday	Service
Sunday 1	9.30 am Morning Praise and Holy Communion MITFORD
Sunday 2	9.30 am Morning Praise MITFORD 4.00 pm Contemplative Worship HEBRON
Sunday 3	9.30 am Morning Praise MITFORD
Sunday 4	9.30 am Café Church HEBRON 9.30 am BCP Service MITFORD
Sunday 5	9.30 am Morning Praise MITFORD