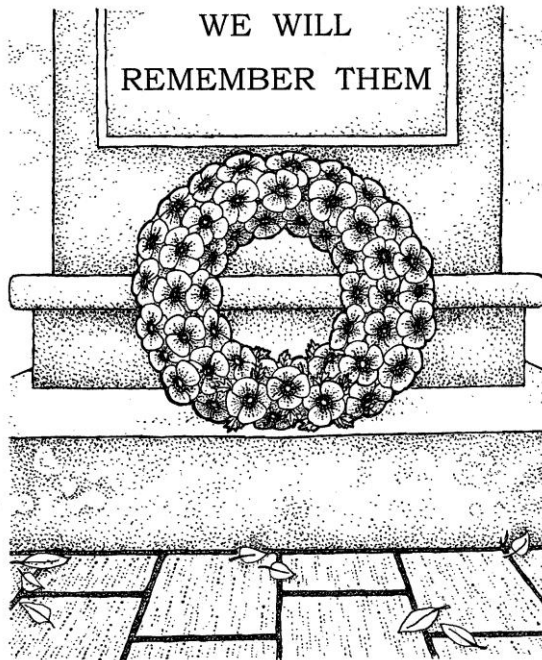


**The Parish Church of St Paul  
Ansdell & Fairhaven**

# **Pews News Extra**

**Issue No 97 – November 2016**



*God our refuge and strength, bring near the day  
when wars shall cease, poverty and pain shall end  
and the earth knows the peace of heaven,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

## **CHURCH OFFICERS**

### **Vicar**

The Rev Paul Bye

Tel

### **Reader**

Miss Janet Kimber

### **Reader Emeritus**

Mr Peter Swindells

### **Church Wardens**

Mrs Michele Briers

Mrs Pamela Rowell

### **Verger**

Mrs Carole Johnson

### **Parish Secretary**

Mr Alan Curtis

### **Treasurer**

Mrs Loraine Lee

### **Organist**

Mrs Linda Carrington

*For a full list of Who's Who as St Paul's please pick up a list from the Parish Office, Church or St. Paul's Fundraising Shop*

**Parish Office**  
**Fundraising Shop**  
**Website**  
**E-mail**

Tel No 01253 732939  
Tel No 01253 732253  
[www.stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com](http://www.stpaulsfairhaven.weebly.com)  
[stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsoffice2@gmail.com)

## Letter from the Vicarage...

Last month we began exploring a sweet called a 'Jesus Rock' - which not only tastes good but gets us thinking! Around the edge are different coloured sections. The first is green, reminding us of God's creating love. The next is grey, reminding us of what has gone wrong.



November is a time, perhaps more than any other, when this reality is brought home.

As we pause in silence for two minutes on Remembrance Sunday, or watch as countless poppies fall to the ground at the Royal British Legion's 'Festival of Remembrance', we are

brought face to face again with the effects of fighting and injustice in our world.

There is so much that is good – a beautiful view, a moment of achievement, acts of great sacrifice – perhaps none more so than those we remember 'who for our tomorrow gave their today'. Yet alongside that, there is so much that is not good. We just have to turn on our television screens to know that.

But where does it come from? It's often said if we point our finger, there are three fingers pointing back (just try it!). There are reasons 'out there' for the world's problems – lack of education, unequal resources and greed. But the Bible brings things closer to home – to those three fingers pointing back at us! Once, when Jesus had been talking to a man who hadn't grasped the problem, we hear...

*'God's light came into the world, but people loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil.'* (John 3:19)

The heart of the human problem is ultimately the problem of the human heart. The world isn't as it should be because we aren't as we should be. Instead of loving God and the things he says are good, we love other things more than him. We do things which he says aren't right and good, in fact that are wrong. Instead of letting the One who loves and made us tell us how life should run, we choose to try and run our lives without Him.

We see the effects of that in our relationships – a moment of selfishness or anger which leads us to say an unkind word. Magnify that and we see the terrible impacts of anger or selfishness in conflicts, and a broken and hurting world.

But living in God's world as if we were God, has a much bigger impact. It cuts us off from the One who gives life. It leaves us at odds with him, now and eternally. There is no more serious a problem.

Those who give their lives and health to fighting injustice and wrong have done us a great service, more than we can ever fully grasp or repay. It is right we don't forget, and give thanks to God for them. So Sunday November 13th at 10.30am, do join us at St Paul's as we pause to remember, and to pray for the world. Yet a bigger solution is needed to our problem. Read on in future months to find out what!

With best wishes,

*Paul*



**Join us on Sundays at 10.30am for *Sunday Club*, St Paul's new Sunday School.**

*Sunday Club* is for children aged 3-11  
and takes place during the morning service.  
There will be games, activities, crafts, and songs  
all as we have fun looking at the Bible.

**For more information speak to Ruth Bye on 01253 734562**

# Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Hello Everyone,

What a treat we had in September when Stephen Lane came to tell us about the developments in the Ambulance Service during his 31 years with them. It was interesting to discover that portable defibrillators, now used in ambulances all over the country, had been pioneered in this area. The use of First Responders, not only in rural areas but also the busy Blackpool centre, is also a local development. The abilities of paramedics nowadays have increased tremendously and we are all very grateful for them when emergencies occur.

Don't forget everyone - non-members included - that our meeting in November on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> at 2.15pm is open to all (so are all our meetings come to think of it), and we have Yvonne Pinder of Pinny's Pots coming to speak to us and bringing along samples of their products for purchase.

I hope all members who wish to come to our Christmas Lunch on 8<sup>th</sup> December, at The Inn on the Prom, have let me have their order form and payment. Please be quick if you have not.

An advance reminder that our A.G.M. is in the New Year (help) on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 2.15 pm.

This months' quote I felt was appropriate because it is now claimed that there are thirteen astrological signs and many of us seem to have been ascribed to the wrong one so far:

**Astrology:** the study of the movement and relative positions of celestial bodies interpreted as an influence on human affairs. In other words, the one that's not all right. And of course as Christians we just thank our lucky stars that there's no need for us to get involved with such things.

**Astronomy:** the one that is all right. Patrick Moore may have been somewhat eccentric, but he was not the High Priest of the occult movement.

That's all, be good.

*Jean Lyon*

# PARISHIONER'S NOTES

## *Thank You*

I would like to thank all the members of the Congregation, firstly, for the gifts given to me on my retirement as Reader and secondly for the good wishes sent to me during my recent illness.

*Peter Swindells*



## *Please continue to pray*

*for Andrew, Anna & Phoebe Beckham*

Anna, Andrew and Phoebe are living and working with the Laarim people in South Sudan. They are being supported by Africa International Mission.



## *St. Paul's Fundraising Shop* ***We Need Your Support*** *Volunteers Required*

We are looking for willing recruits to join our friendly and hard-working team of shop volunteers.

There are a variety of roles available including the greeting and serving the customers, using the cash till, sorting and pricing the donated goods, steaming items of clothing, filling the shelves, creating window displays, general fetching and carrying; and much, much more. There is sure to be something that you can do to help.

We are particularly looking for people who can work on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Please consider helping in any way you can.

***Your Fundraising Shop needs YOU!***

# Good Old Advent!

*Canon David Winter looks forward to Advent...*

On the last Sunday in November the Church celebrates Advent. In popular thought this is seen as the start of the Christmas season. Advent Calendars are on sale in the supermarkets. Christmas, our annual festival of excess, is just a few weeks away. Good old Advent!



I yield to no one in my enjoyment of Christmas, with all the trimmings, but where Advent is concerned I have to be a bit of a party-pooper. It's not the start of the 'run-up to Christmas', whatever the shops think. In any case, they've been 'running up' since September. Advent is a solemn but exciting reminder that Christmas is not the end of the Christian story, but the beginning.

The end, with which Advent is concerned, is the ultimate triumph of love and goodness over evil and cruelty. The final loving purpose of God will be achieved. The kingdom of heaven will lie before us, its gates permanently open. 'Death will be no more, mourning and crying and pain will be no more'. God says, 'I am making everything new'.

'Advent' simply means 'Coming'. The first Advent was Christmas, the second Advent will be when all that the coming of Jesus promised will be fulfilled. Yes, it's a bit more complicated than a cattle shed and a manger, but it's a wonderful prospect. Good old Advent!



## **Two more important November Dates:-**

**November 1st** ~ All Saints' Day, or All Hallows, is the feast of all the redeemed, known and unknown, who are now in heaven.

**November 2nd** ~ All Souls' Day – a time of reckoning with the past. A day to offer prayers and masses to commemorate the faithful departed.

*Grief  
is the  
price  
we pay  
for  
Love*

# Advent & Christmas at St. Paul's

As we look ahead to the Advent and Christmas season,  
some early dates for your diary. Please join us on...

**Sunday 27th November at 10.30am** – First Sunday of Advent



**Thursday 8th December**  
**6.15pm for 6.30pm**  
**Christingle Café**



Join us, whatever your age, for a short opportunity to reflect  
ahead of Christmas, including making your own Christingle,  
songs and light refreshments.



*The full list and dates of our Christmas service and activities  
will be in next month's PNE and on our website.*



***Churches Together***  
***Advent Service***  
**Wednesday 7th December**  
**Fairhaven Methodist Church**  
**7:30pm**





## **READERS' ROTA – SUNDAY (10:30am)**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Readings</u></b>		<b><u>Name</u></b>
<b>6 Nov 3rd before Advent</b>	OT & Ps	Job 19:23-27a; Psalm 17:1-9	Sheila Swindells
	NT	2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-end	Bryan Nicholson
	Gospel	Luke 20:27-38	Janet Kimber
<b>13 Nov Remembrance Sunday</b>	OT & Ps	Malachi 4:1-2a; Psalm 98	Ken Pocock
	NT	2 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Jo Pocock
	Gospel	Luke 21:5-19	Pam Rowell
<b>20 Nov Christ the King</b>	OT & Ps	Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 46	Liz Geddes
	NT	Colossians 1:11-20	Eileen Russell
	Gospel	Luke 23:33-43	Barbara Jackson
<b>27 Nov Advent Sunday</b>	OT & Ps	Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122	Mike Briers
	NT	Romans 13:11-end	Pam Rowell
	Gospel	Matthew 24:36-44	Janet Kimber

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## **EVENING PRAYER ROTA – SUNDAY (4:00pm)**

| <b><u>Date</u></b> | <b><u>Sunday</u></b>     | <b><u>Said/Sung</u></b> | <b><u>Leader</u></b> | <b><u>Preacher</u></b> |
|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| November 6th       | 3rd Sunday before Advent | Sung                    | Paul                 | Paul                   |
| November 13th      | Remembrance Sunday       | Said                    | Paul                 | Paul                   |
| November 20th      | Christ the King          | Sung                    | Janet                | Paul                   |
| November 27th      | Advent Sunday            | Said                    | Paul                 | Paul                   |

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### **Parishioner Donations**

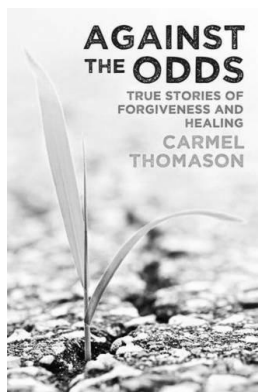
This is proving to be very popular way of giving much needed items to church. So, if the thought of donating money towards a specific item, such as a box of candles, wine or wafers, appeals to you, then please speak to one of the Wardens or a member of the PCC.

They would be very pleased to hear from you.

# A Book Review

## Against the Odds – true stories of forgiveness and healing

By Carmel Thomason, BRF, £8.99



Forgiveness is central to our faith because it is central to life. No relationship can survive without the ability to forgive, but sometimes we are hurt so deeply or so often that forgiveness appears impossible.

This collection of inspirational true stories demonstrate the healing power of forgiveness through ordinary people's experiences of war, crime, terrorism, betrayal, relationship breakdown and the uncertainty of life's path. Aimed at both individual reflection and group study, each story is followed by thoughts from a practitioner or church

leader, which can be used to open a conversation about what you've just read, and questions to help you think about the wider issues raised.

Wherever you are in your life right now, this uplifting and practical book will encourage you to think about your own experience of forgiveness - how you might make this gift an everyday part of your life, let go of pain, restore relationships and live your life to the full.

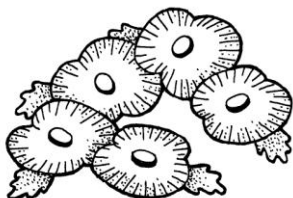


### Miscellaneous observations on life...

- ❖ If it weren't for the last minute, a lot of things wouldn't get done. – Anon
- ❖ The expression 'as right as rain' must have been invented by an Englishman. - W L Phelps
- ❖ The longer we dwell on our misfortunes, the greater is their power to harm us. – Anon
- ❖ Without God the world would be a maze without a clue. - Anon

# Remembrance ~ 100 Years after The Somme

*Remembrance Day this year is especially significant...by David Winter.*



Remembrance Day this year will have a special significance. Almost exactly a century after the Battle of the Somme finally came to its inconclusive end (18th November) we shall once again be remembering all those who have lost their lives in war, or had their lives blighted by its consequences.

The unbelievable slaughter of the Somme – more than a million men were killed or wounded – made it perhaps the bloodiest battle of human history. The incessant bombardment of heavy artillery, the suicidal waves of attack by unprotected soldiers, the introduction, a few months from its close, of the first tanks in battle all contributed to the vast number of casualties, but so did the pointless efforts of both sides to break what was in fact a five month stalemate. This was a battle nobody won but a million men lost.

This year we shall once again make our prayers for peace and our reflective remembrance against a back-drop of a world that is stubbornly inclined to think that problems can be solved by fighting over them. In the Middle East and in parts of Africa there are still too many who believe that guns and bombs can solve things, when all the evidence of history is that they can't.

Today, a hundred years after the Battle of the Somme, historians still can't decide what the Great War was actually about. And the arrival of the Second World War in 1939 tells us that whatever anyone thought it was, five years of sickening killing had not settled it.

'We will remember them', we say. Surely the finest remembrance would be a world without violence. It still seems a long way off.



THE GREAT WAR  
1914 - 1918



# No Greater Love

*'Greater love hath no man than to lay down his life for his friends'.*

Those are the words of Jesus. They are also the words inscribed on the gravestone of Captain Noel Chavasse. They are fitting for a man, who like many in the First World War, gave his lives for others.

Chavasse (alongside his twin brother, Christopher) was a remarkable man. His father was Bishop of Liverpool, he studied medicine at Cambridge and became a surgeon. In his younger years he represented Great Britain at the 1908 Olympics. In 1913, he joined the Royal Army Medical Corps.

With the outbreak of the First World War, Chavasse's regiment was sent to the Western Front. Here he won the Military Cross in 1915. A year later at Guillemont in France, he was awarded his first Victoria Cross, having attended the wounded under heavy fire all day. The citation read 'His courage and self-sacrifice, were beyond praise.'

However, Chavasse was also awarded another Victoria Cross in 1917. At Ypres, having been hit badly by shrapnel, he went repeatedly into the battlefield, rescuing and treating wounded soldiers. He died several days later from his wounds. He was the only man to be awarded the Victoria Cross twice in the First World War.



Chavasse's care was not seen only in his courageous acts, but in also in his campaigning on behalf of his men. He even argued for appropriate care for soldiers showing signs of acute stress – at odds with how many with such symptoms were treated then.

Yet his life and courage flowed from a deeper root. Chavasse's Christian faith told him of One who had laid down his life to save him – Jesus Christ. Knowing the Christ who had committed Himself to him, his commitment to Christ flowed out in self-giving for others.

*'Brothers in Arms', a performance telling the story of the Chavasse brothers will be taking place at All Hallow's Bispham on Sunday 30th October at 6.30pm and Thornton Methodist on November 14th.  
Call 01254 503272 for more information.*



# A November Field

*Nigel Beeton writes: November is the month for Remembrance, and this November is special, for the 16th November marks the centenary of the end of one of the most protracted, most bloody, and least successful military battles of all time. I pity those who have to tend the fields where so very many died.*

## A November Field

The tractor ploughs a lonely field  
Seen through November mist;  
Which, to the rising sun doth yield  
The earth is gently kissed.

The earth is gently kissed,  
And melts remaining frost  
But yet a chill does still persist  
For thousands here were lost.

For thousands here were lost.  
They fought for this same soil  
These thousands paid the awful cost  
In blood, and pain, and toil.

In blood, and pain, and toil,  
'Gainst shell, and gun, and bomb  
They fought, these men, courageous, loyal  
The Battle of the Somme.

By Nigel Beeton



## Compassionate Father

You are Sovereign. Your plans and timing are not always easy for us to understand, but we trust you and know that you love us and only want good things for us.

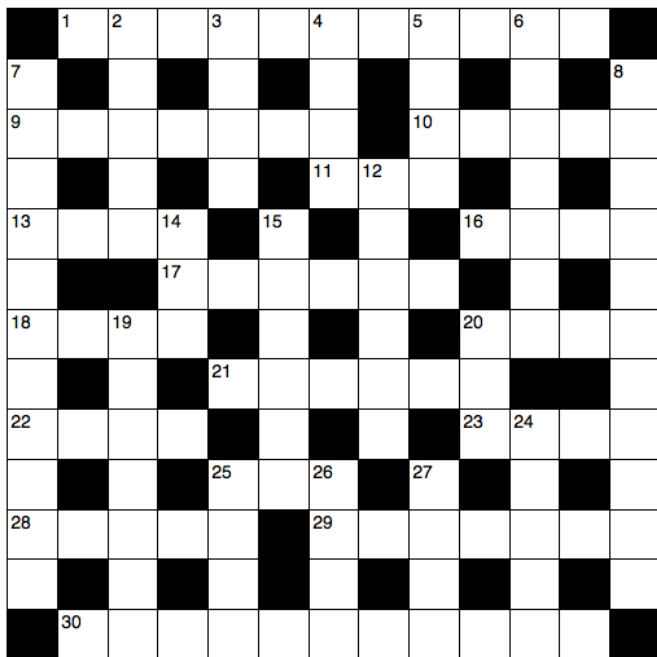


At this time of Remembering, when so many are so sad, thank you for giving your only Son, Jesus, so that if we believe and trust in Him we have the promise of eternal life and re-union with all who loved Him too. We choose to believe and trust, in Jesus' name. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

# November 2016 Crossword

*(The Bible version used in these crosswords is the NIV.)*



### Across

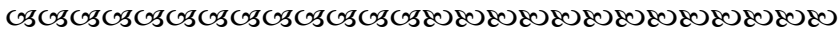
- 1 In David's battle with the Arameans, 700 of these were killed  
(2 Samuel 10:18) (11)
- 9 'No — , impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the  
kingdom of God' (Ephesians 5:5) (7)
- 10 City on the banks of the River Nile (5)
- 11 Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1)
- 13 Taverns (4)
- 16 'Be on your guard; stand — in the faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13) (4)
- 17 'He will not always — , nor will he harbour his anger for ever'  
(Psalm 103:9) (6)
- 18 and 27 Down Where the magi came from and what guided them  
(Matthew 2:1–2) (4,4)
- 20 Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4)
- 21 She married Esau when he was 40 years old (Genesis 26:34) (6)
- 22 A great-grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:7) (4)



# Bits & Pieces

## Someone out there must be very good at Scrabble!

Presbyterian – Best in prayer  
Astronomer – Moon starrer  
Desperation – A rope ends it  
The eyes – They see  
The Morse Code – Here come dots  
Dormitory – Dirty room  
Slot machines – Cash lost in me  
Animosity – Is no amity  
Election results – Lies; Let's recount  
Snooze alarms – Alas! No more Z's  
A decimal point – I'm a dot in place  
The earthquakes – That queer shake  
Eleven plus two – Twelve plus one



## Paraprosdokians ~ Part 1 of 2

*(With many thanks to Jean Lyon for providing these little gems!)*

A **paraprosdokian** is a figure of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected; frequently used in a humorous situation.

*"Where there's a will, I want to be in it," is a paraprosdokian.*

Here are a few more:-

- ❖ Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience.
- ❖ Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
- ❖ We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.
- ❖ Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
- ❖ A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk, I have a work station.

(Part 2 ~ next month)



# Time for a Smile

## Died in the services

Little Alex was staring up at the large brass plaque that hung on the side wall of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and seemed to fascinate the seven-year old. "All those names," he said to the minister. "Who are they?" "Well, they were people who used to go to this church," explained the minister. "This is a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the services."

Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he asked, "Which service, the 9 o'clock, or the 11 o'clock?"



*The treasurer still had a trick up his sleeve.*

## Light

A small boy was fascinated by the Sanctuary lamp during a rather long sermon. Finally he whispered: 'Mum, when the light changes to green, can we go?'

## Rural Deans

The following notice was once seen at a conference at Launde Abbey, the Leicestershire Diocesan Retreat House. It read: 'Rural Deans in Stables.'



*The vicar got a little carried away with the church's new state-of-the-art PA system.*

## Well, you asked...

The preacher in the Dome in Brighton had given out his text: 'Paul we know and Apollos we know, but who are these?' The stewards were just showing in two late-comers, and one called out: "They are two businessmen staying at the Queen's Hotel."

## Drops

Notice on an order of service: The service will close with 'Little Drops of Water'. Mr Brown will start quietly and the rest of the congregation will then join in.

# **Come and Join Us! Everyone is Welcome!**

## **Regular Church Hall Activities**

<b><u>Day</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Organisation</u></b>
Monday	2:15 - 4:15pm	Mothers' Union (4th Monday)
	7:30 – 8:30pm	Zumba Class
Tuesday	6:00 – 8:15pm	Beavers & Cubs (Term-Time only)
Wednesday	From 10:30am	Church Coffee Morning
	6:30 - 7:30pm	Zumba Dancing
Thursday	6:15 – 7:30pm	Family Service
Friday	5:00 - 9:00pm	Rainbows, Brownies & Guides (Term-Time only)

## **Other Regular Church Activities**

<b><u>Day</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Activity</u></b>	<b><u>Where</u></b>
1st Saturday	8:00-9:00am	Prayer Breakfast	In the Shop

### **St. Paul's Fundraising Shop**

(Woodlands Road)

### **Opening Hours**

**Monday to Saturday  
10:00am until 4:30pm.**



***Volunteers are needed. If you can help in any way please contact the Volunteer Managers on 01253 732253.***

# **Ansdell and Fairhaven St. Paul**

## **Church Services**

### **Sunday**

8:30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
10:30am	Parish Eucharist (CW)
4:00pm	Evening Prayer (BCP)

### **Wednesday**

10:00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
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### **Thursday**

6:15pm	Family Service
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(A service for the younger members of our church, including songs, Bible Stories, prayers and activities.)



(BCP ~Book of Common Prayer; CW ~ Common Worship)



### **'Parish Surgery'**

*If you would like to discuss any matter with Paul, the Vicar, you are welcome to attend the following surgery:*

**Wednesday ~ 9:00-9:30am at the Parish Office**



### **Weddings, Thanksgiving, Baptisms etc.**

#### **Thanksgiving/Baptism**

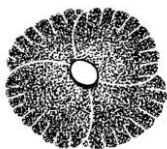
If you're interested in finding out about the possibility of having a thanksgiving service or baptism for your child or yourself, please contact Paul, the Vicar where he can explain the process more, or join us on a Sunday morning at 10.30am.

#### **Weddings**

If you wish to arrange a wedding, please contact Paul, the Vicar.

You can contact Paul about these, and other matters by:

- telephone on 01253 734562, or
- email at vicar.stpaulsaf@gmail.com



## Dates for Your Diary November 2016



Saturday 5th

### Men's Prayer Breakfast

8:00am ~ in the Shop

Tuesday 8th

### PCC Meeting

7:00pm ~ in the church Hall

Sunday 27th

### First Sunday of Advent

10:30am ~ Family Eucharist in Church

Monday 28th

### Mothers' Union Meeting

2:15pm ~ in the Church Hall

### Advance Notice for December 2016

Wednesday 7th

### Churches Together Advent Service

7:30pm ~ at Fairhaven Methodist Church



### ARTICLES FOR THE DECEMBER PNE

If you have an article for inclusion in the December PNE, please make sure that I have it by **Tuesday 15th November**.

Thank you.

*Janet Kimber*



*For more information about our  
Weekly Services and Activities  
please see pages 18 and 19*



Many of the articles and pictures in the Pews News Extra are sourced from the Parish Pump Website and the Association of Church Editors monthly edition of "Ideas Forum"

