## ST. JOHN'S CHURCH DONISTHORPE

# **GRAPEVINE**

**NOVEMBER 2025** 



#### **MONTH OF REMEMBERING**

November is an important month for remembering in the life of our church. We gather to remember with thanksgiving those who have died over the years and had a connection with the parish on the afternoon of 1<sup>st</sup> November at 2.00pm.

On 9<sup>th</sup> November at our morning service at 10am we remember those who lost their lives in 2 world wars and in conflicts since. It seems like a very poignant thing to do as we read of a fragile ceasefire where still potential violence and fighting in conflict zones in the Middle East and where war still persists in Ukraine and Russia and other parts of our world. So many lives are being lost and no matter who we feel we identify with ideologically, we cannot dispute the fact that heartbreak is felt and experienced the same on all sides as so many lives are needlessly lost.

Very often silence and reflection are the most appropriate responses and there is a strength to be gained from gathering together to remember.

Some people will take part in acts of remembrance in their parish churches, others will go to cenotaphs and war memorials up and down the land. For me the important thing is to go somewhere and stop for a few moments to reflect on all that is going on, all the discussions going on behind the scenes at this time and on all that people have done in the past to secure our freedom and to commit ourselves to doing all in our power to build a more peaceful future.

Very often it starts with the small things and seeking to be an influence for good in the areas where we have a presence and an opportunity. It might be in our families, in our schools and workplaces, in our neighbourhoods and churches.

Wherever we build connections and relationships, let us seek to be peace builders and hope bringers to a world that is in desperate need.

Derek Tomlin



#### **FELLOWSHIP GROUPS**

COFFEEANDCHAT@CHURCH will meet in church on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November between 9.30 and 11.00am.

**LUNCH LIGHT** our group that supports folk who are bereaved, plan to meet on **Friday 28**<sup>th</sup> **November between 12.30pm – 2.00pm.** So if you have lost a loved one and would like some company, a chat and a bite to eat, why not drop in or Telephone Janet 01283 215000, if you want to know more and would like to join us, or if you wish to help out. There is a charge of £5.

#### NOVEMBER SERVICES & EVENTS ACROSS THE WOODFIELD TEAM. (all starting at 10am unless otherwise stated). Saturday November 1st St Johns Prayer Group meeting at Winnie Meadows home at 10am Lights of Love Service in Church at 2.00pm Sunday November 2<sup>nd</sup> Donisthorpe (MP), Measham, Swepstone & Snarestone (HC), Packington (Breakfast Church), Normanton (MP), Appleby (Lights of Love) Tuesday November 4<sup>th</sup> Coffee & Chat at St. John's Donisthorpe at 9.30am Donisthorpe (Remembrance 10am. **Barry Dryden)** Sunday November 9<sup>th</sup> (Remembrance 9.30am. Brenda Jones) Measham (REMEMBRANCE DAY) Packington (Remembrance 10.45am. David Harrison) Appleby (Remembrance 10.45am. Leslie Birtwistle) (Remembrance 10.30am. Chris Boulton) Swepstone (Remembrance at War Memorial 10.55am. Debbie Kent) Snarestone Norton (Remembrance 10.45am. Rick Tett) Sunday November 16<sup>th</sup> Donisthorpe (Lay Led Worship), Normanton, Swepstone & Norton (HC), Measham (Breakfast Church), Appleby (Lay Led Worship) Sunday November 23<sup>rd</sup> **Donisthorpe (HC),** Measham (MP), Packington (HC), Appleby (MP). Wednesday November 26<sup>th</sup> **Donisthorpe Midweek Holy Communion 10am** Friday November 28<sup>th</sup> Lunch Light at St. John's Donisthorpe (12- 30 - 14.00)

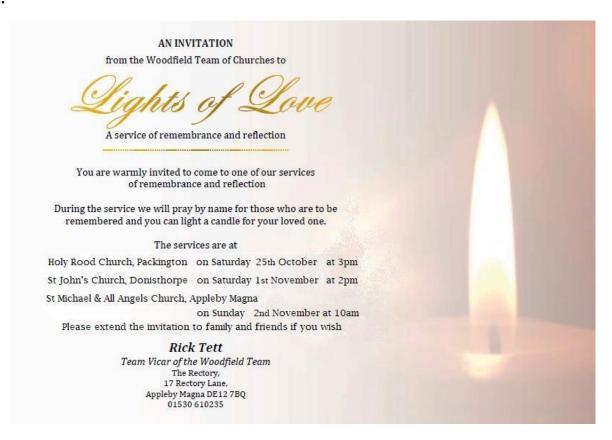
(all services start at 10am unless otherwise stated).

#### **LIGHTS OF LOVE - SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE:**

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 2pm St. Johns Donisthorpe

This is a simple service of hymns, prayers and readings, during which we can remember those whom we've lost and to whom we still want to say 'We love you'.

There's a chance to light a candle and say a prayer for your loved one. You are welcome and invited to come along if this would be helpful to you. As always we are offering a choice of services across our Team of churches.



### POPPY DAY SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY NOVEMBER 10<sup>th</sup> 10.00am at St John's

You are invited to our traditional Service of Remembrance when we remember those who gave their lives in war. The Roll of Honour will be called, the 'Last Post and Reveille' will be sounded to mark the beginning and end of our 2 minute's silence and at 11.00am and we will lay our poppy wreaths at the War Memorial Gates. This is an important service in our community as we remember and seek to work for peace for the future.





## PACKINGTON & NORMANTON CHURCH LADIES GROUP

2025 Open Charity Afternoon Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30pm Holy Rood Church, Measham Road, Packington, LE65 1WP EVERYONE WELCOME

# Antiques with Irita Marriott

Irita is based in Melbourne and has appeared several television programmes including Bargain Hunt and Antiques Road Trip.

Tickets £10 includes light refreshments from *Doreen Gasson,* 13 Babelake Street, PACKINGTON LE65 1WD Tel. (01530) 412012

E mail gasson123@btinternet.com

Mobile No 0789 185 82 83 or pay at the door.

For Headway and Rainbows

### **REFLECTION - Money and Soul**

Richard Rohr articulates an opportunity for each of us to rediscover a "soulful" relationship with money.

I'm convinced that money and soul are united on a deep level. This truth is reappearing from the deep stream of wisdom traditions after centuries of almost total splitting and separation at the conscious level.

There is un río mas profundo, a river beneath the river. The upper stream has always been money in all its forms, beginning with trading and bartering. The deeper stream is the spiritual meaning such exchanges must have for our lives. Money and soul have never been separate in our unconscious because they are both about human exchanges, and therefore, divine exchange, too.

From my perspective, when money and soul are separated, religion is the major loser. Without a vision of wholeness that puts money in its soulful place, religion "sells out." Religion has allowed itself to lose the only ground on which awe and transcendence stand—the foundation of totally gratuitous and "amazing grace."

\*Lynne Twist, founder of the Soul of Money Institute, understands the impact that our culture's disintegrated

view of money has made:

For most of us, this relationship with money is a deeply conflicted one and our behaviour with and around money is often at odds with our most deeply held values, commitments, and ideals—what I call our soul.... I believe that under it all, when you get right down to it and uncover all the things we're told to believe in, ... what deeply matters to human beings, our most universal soulful commitments and core values, is the well-being of the people we love, ourselves, and the world in which we live.

We really do want a world that works for everyone. We don't want children to go hungry. We don't want violence and war to plague the planet.... We don't want torture and revenge and retribution to be instruments of government and leadership. Everyone wants a safe, secure, loving, nourishing life for themselves and the ones they love and really for everyone....

Each of us experiences a lifelong tug-of-war between our money interests and the calling of our soul. When we're in the domain of soul, we act with integrity. We are thoughtful and generous, allowing, courageous, and committed. We recognize the value of love and friendship....

In the grip of money, those wonderful qualities of soul seem to be less available. We become smaller.... We often grow selfish, greedy, petty, fearful, or controlling.... We see ourselves as winners or losers, powerful or helpless, and we let those labels deeply define us in ways that are inaccurate....

In a world that seems to revolve around money, it is vital that we deepen our relationship with our soul and bring it to bear on our relationship with money.... We can have our money culture both balanced and nourished by soul.

This article by Richard Rohr was sent to me by my friend and regular reader of Grapevine, Joyce Culwell from Denver Colorado; she has visited St. Johns on a few occasions and most recently on a special visit last September to celebrate with us at our grand reopening following our transformation.

She, like me had never made the connection between money and soul outlined by the author and had forwarded it for interest. She will be surprised to see it reproduced in our magazine this month. I have done so because I felt that it deserved a wider audience and that you too would be interested in the connection between money and our core values that is made and the perceived results on both us as individuals and as church that occur when the balance is lost.

\*Lynne Smith in her book 'The Soul of Money' proposes transformation of our relationship with money by examining our attitudes and shifting from a mind-set of scarcity to one of "sufficiency".

Cultivate if you will, a sense of gratitude and contentment with what one has.

So that money should be a tool to express our values and intentions, not just a means to accumulate more and more. She suggests that by aligning our financial practices with our core values, we can achieve a deeper sense of purpose, freedom, and fulfilment.

How we earn, spend, and give money reflects our deepest values.

She encourages us to align our financial life with what is truly important to us.

So what do you think?
Over to you. Blessings Derek