



**Diocese
of Salisbury**
Making
Jesus Known

The Wylde and Till Valley Benefice



***Berwick St James, Great Wishford, Little Langford,
South Newton and Stoford, Stapleford, Steeple Langford, Stockton,
Winterbourne Stoke and Wylde with Fisherton de la Mere***

<https://www.wyldeandtillvalleybenefice.org/>

<https://www.wyldeandtillvalleybenefice.org/sermons>

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18; Ephesians 1:11-23; Luke 6:20-31
Sunday 2nd November – All Saints' and All Souls' Day

09:30am	Stockton	Holy Communion (BCP)	
09:30am	Berwick St James	Holy Communion (CW)	
11:00am	South Newton	Holy Communion (CW)	
11:00am	Stapleford	Sunday Worship	
11:00am	Wylde	Sunday Worship	
3:00pm	Great Wishford	All Souls' Service	
3:00pm	Steeple Langford	All Souls' Service	
4:00pm	Little Langford	Evensong (BCP)	CHANGE OF TIME

Dear Friends,

'The Saints' come in all varieties. In Luke's 'Sermon on the Plain', Jesus first 'blesses' those who receive His particular attention ~ the poor, the hungry, the ostracized, where 'blessed' means perhaps "unburdened" or "satisfied", and then addresses an opposite group, the wealthy and the comfortable, to whom Jesus cries out, "Woe!" Jesus is distinguishing between those who experience a tough and easier path through life, and to the latter, He cries, "Look out!" Why should those comfortable people should look out?

Jesus is making a serious distinction, rather than a simple statement, about rewards and punishments. If the Kingdom is in the present, then Jesus is describing existing not future realities. We know Jesus focused on the excluded and the powerless rather than the privileged, those who in the Kingdom will overcome their pain to experience joy. This is Jesus' good news. Here Jesus is calling us *in this life* to reassess our lives in light of God's unfolding reign. We must realise that the things we assume are advantages are actually illusory, that we mistake our advantages for the benefits given by God.

Jesus is teaching about love, nonretaliation and self-giving as a present-day virtues and realities. Jesus is not criticising those with advantages per se. Jesus is demonstrating the mercy of God, a mercy so extravagant, so beyond all human expectations, whilst continuing to emphasising our obligation to conform to God's commitment to see the poor and unprivileged raised up.

For Jesus this teaching about a challenging new virtue of community: who typically experiences happiness and how, where God's generosity benefits the downtrodden, who are sustained by the mercy of God. Woe to those who then miss opportunities to experience the giving and receiving of that mercy. The rich and the comfortable are not excluded; they too can share in this new community, BUT, only through demonstrating true solidarity with those who find themselves destitute, underfed, and vilified. WOW! to those who refuse to risk that solidarity. LOOK OUT! What blessedness we are missing. Amen.

Please pray for

The long-term need for prayer	David Baldwin (South Newton), Joyce Binder (Steeple Langford), Thea Chalke; Pat Considine (Steeple Langford), Biddy Cox (Wyllye), Anton Funnell; Louisa Halliday (Great Wishford); Andrew and June Howes (Wyllye), Delia Napier (Wyllye); Valerie Palmer (Wyllye), Sheena Pratt (Stapleford),
The urgent sick	
The Departed	Jean Hibberd (BSJ)
Those being baptized	
Weddings	

From the Benefice Prayer Sheet

1	All Saints Day Father, All-Powerful and ever-living God, today we rejoice in the holy men and women of every time and place. May their prayers bring us your forgiveness and love. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
2	All Souls' Day ~ 4th Sunday before Advent For all our departed brothers and sisters; Merciful Father, hear our prayer and console us. As we renew our faith in Your Son, whom You raised from the dead, strengthen our hope that all our departed brothers and sisters will share in His resurrection, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen
3	We pray for the church and village community of Stapleford, Churchwarden Natalia Rowley and the Local Church Committee
4	Compassionate God, we pray this day for our local NHS providers and community care home workers. We remember the staff of Codford and Wilton surgeries and those in the A&E Department at Odstock Hospital. Amen.
5	We pray for the children, teachers, staff, parents and governors of Great Wishford Primary School, the Wyllye Valley School at Codford and the Farley School at Steeple Langford. We pray for the Open the Book Team who share the Word of God with the school community on a regular basis.
6	Eternal loving God, full of justice and peace, we pray that your justice becomes more visible in our communities and in the wider world, to dismantle wars and the powers that fan its flames. We pray that your Holy Spirit will possess our human governments and fallible justice systems and transform it into your perfect reign that caters for peace and extends loving kindness to all Your creation. Amen
7	We remember with gratitude the members and work of the local emergency services, the police, ambulance and fire services. Amen.
8	We pray for the church and village community of Berwick St James. We pray for Bill Hiscocks and James Douse Churchwardens of Berwick St James and for members of the PCC
9	Remembrance Sunday ~ 3rd Sunday before Advent O Almighty God, grant we beseech thee, that we, who here do honour to the memory of those who have died in the service of their country and of the crown, may be so inspired by the spirit of their love and fortitude that, forgetting all selfish and unworthy motives, we may live only to thy glory and to the service of mankind through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Sunday 9th November – Remembrance Sunday

09:30am	Winterbourne Stoke	Holy Communion (CW)
11:00am	Berwick St James	Remembrance Service
11:00am	Wyllye	Remembrance Service

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*All
Souls
Day*

Monday is Jonathan's day off