Holy Trinity Today

November 2026

As autumn moves closer towards the shorter, darker days of winter, so we approach Advent and the festive season. Before we get there though we enter the November period of reflection, remembrance and thanksgiving. As we hold close in our prayers the memories of those we knew and loved, we also honour those who have paid the supreme sacrifice in service to their nation and their communities. We also live with the daily news of the hardship and stress experienced by those still fighting for our freedom on the battlefields, and in the towns and cities, of Ukraine. As we pray for them and for everyone affected by the horrors of war, there is something practical we can do to demonstrate our support. We encourage everyone to support the Shoebox for Ukraine appeal. Details are overleaf.

Please join us at Holy Trinity and at the Bembridge War Memorial for our Remembrance Day services on Sunday 8th November. There will also be a short service at the War Memorial at 10.45 on Armistice Day itself, Wednesday 11th November, as we mark the moment the guns fell silent at 11:00am on 11th November 1918, ending hostilities on the Western Front.

Following this period of solemn remembrance, we will lift our heads and join together in the countdown to Christmas. Mark your diaries for Stir-Up Sunday on 22nd November. Stir-up Sunday is the day, by tradition, when Christmas puddings are made so they have a few weeks to mature before the big day. The name comes from the opening words of the prayer set for that Sunday in the Book of Common Prayer: 'Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people'. Over time the words became linked with the practical job of stirring the pudding mixture. Custom says everyone in the household should take a turn to stir the pudding, stirring from east to west in honour of the journey of the three kings, and make a secret wish as they do. We wish you a peaceful, thoughtful November.

With love from your churchwardens
Toni and Andrew





A Carpet of Poppies

Church Mice

A nose poked out of a cornstalk house
It was the nose of a little field mouse
His home in the field was warm and snug
Like the feeling you get from a friendly hug.
"Is it safe to come out?" he wondered aloud
As a plane zoomed out from behind a cloud.
A great big bang and flashes of light
Sent him scurrying back in a terrible fright.
His field in Flanders was all a muddle
Dark trenches dug where soldiers huddled
Trying their best to follow the orders
In a world rocked and shaken with disorder.
Trucks and tanks groaned and toiled
Soldiers' boots trampled the soil
Planes flew low and planes flew high
Parachutes fell like seeds from the sky.
Would his cornfield ever recover, he wondered
As the machines of war continued to thunder.
And the world was broken and feeling bad
When everything was sad, sad, sad.
Until one day when he opened his door
And looked across the field of war
Where men had fallen and lost their lives
Where planes had crashed and dipped and dived.
A carpet of poppies danced in the sun
"Oh look" said the mouse, "Peace has come."
We will always think of those who fell
When we wear red poppies and memories tell
Of courage and bravery, we will remember
The fallen ones, every November

Triangle Bereavement Group – Fran Weil

November is the month when the country unites in remembrance of those who lost their lives in military conflicts. In the Triangle Bereavement Group 'Remembrance' is part of our everyday makeup. Remembrance of our loved ones is constant and, on significant dates like birthdays, anniversaries and the day they left, very intense. We meet in The Cloisters every Thursday morning at 10.30 and learn, in our own time, to reshape our lives with the friendship and support that the Group offers one another.

All Souls Service : 2nd November

A gentle, reflective service of prayer and thanksgiving for anyone who is bereaved, whether recently or long ago. Everyone is welcome, regardless of background. If you would like your loved one's name read out during the service, please complete a card at the back of the church.

November Services at Holy Trinity Church & St Luke's Chapel

Sunday 1st November	8:00am	Holy Communion, BCP at St Luke's
	10.30am	Morning Worship at Holy Trinity
	4.00pm	Praise & Worship
Monday 2nd November	5.00pm	All Souls Service at Holy Trinity
Sunday 8th November	9.30am	Remembrance Service with Holy Communion at Holy Trinity
Sunday 15th November	8:00am	Holy Communion, BCP at St Luke's
	10.30am	Morning Worship at Holy Trinity
	4.00pm	Praise & Worship
Sunday 22nd November	8:00am	Holy Communion, BCP at St Luke's
	10.30am	Morning Worship at Holy Trinity
Sunday 29th November	8.00am	Holy Communion, BCP at St Luke's
	10.30am	Morning Worship at Holy Trinity

We run activities for children every week at our 10.30am service and every 3rd Sunday is Church Mice Sunday.

Hope for Ukraine: Christmas Shoebox Appeal

This winter, Ukrainian frontline soldiers face freezing conditions while caring for elderly civilians who can't leave their towns. Fill a shoebox (spare boxes at the back of Holy Trinity Church) with hats, thermal socks, handwarmers, unfragranced soap, toothpaste, wet wipes, non-perishable snacks, a torch and an encouraging note. Mark it M or F for a male or female soldier and add £2 towards transport. Wrap the box and lid separately so it still opens, then return it to church by 29 November. Volunteers drive every box straight into soldiers' hands, a sign that Ukraine is not forgotten.



Gingerbread House Workshop

Saturday 5 December
Sessions at 10.00am & 2.00pm
Cost: £16.00

Everyone is welcome! Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Spaces fill quickly,
so be sure secure your spot by emailing

churchmice@bembridgeholytrinity.org.uk

The One True Gift

This Advent,
lets read it together.

24 short daily readings
from Philippians 2
by Tim Chester.

Find out more:
www.bembridgeholytrinity.org.uk/onetruegift

A Book I Love

Wrap up a book you treasure. Give it with love. Take home someone else's.

This Advent, we are inviting everyone in our church family to give away a book they truly love, and to receive one in return.

Find out more:
www.bembridgeholytrinity.org.uk/BookIlove

Key dates for your Diary

Saturday 5th December	5:30pm	Lights Of Love
Friday 11th December	6.00pm	Advent Drinks hosted by The Friends
Saturday 12th December	4.00pm	Christingle Service
Sunday 20th December	3.30pm	HTB Christmas Celebration
Sunday 20th December	6.30pm	HTB Traditional Carol Service
Thursday 24th December	4.00pm	Crib Service
Thursday 24th December	11.00pm	Midnight Mass
Friday 25th December	10.00am	Christmas Day Service
Sunday 27th December	9.00am	Holy Communion BCP at St Luke's

Gifts & Talents

Our church relies on volunteers.
Tell us about your talents and how you'd like to help.
Complete the questionnaire here:

www.bembridgeholytrinity.org.uk/giftsandtalents

CONTACTS

Church Office:
office@bembridgeholytrinity.org.uk

Tel:01983 874455
Website: www.bembridgeholytrinity.org.uk

Bookings:
Bookings@bembridgeholytrinity.org.uk

Flourish: Flourish@bembridgeholytrinity.org.uk

Churchwardens:
churchwardens@bembridgeholytrinity.org.uk

HTB