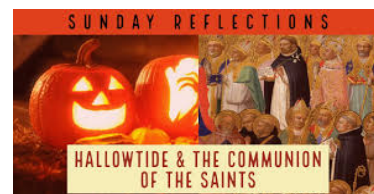




26th October 2025
We extend a warm welcome to
all our members, friends and
visitors



For meditation: *Grant us the grace, O God, to surrender the grievance that separates and the forgiveness that is withheld. Assure us that no sin is so great that it cannot be confessed, no wound so deep it cannot be healed, and no sinner so lost that grace cannot bring them home. William Booth (1829 – 1912)*

NEWS AND VIEWS

This week brings the start of the season of All Hallows or Hallowtide on Friday – the period of three days when Christians remember the dead. The days involve All Hallows Eve (or Hallowe'en), All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. The word 'hallow' is an old English word meaning to 'make holy' and All Hallows refers to all the saints – the holy ones. Many of the traditions of Hallowtide predate the Christian era. In the Celtic countries, especially in Scotland and Ireland, a day approximately halfway between the autumn equinox and the winter solstice (31 October) was celebrated as Samhain, which literally means 'summer's end'. It marked the time when the cattle and sheep were brought down off the hills. Sacrifices were offered up in thanksgiving for harvest and bonfires were lit. It was a spiritual time – a time for communion with departed spirits.

FOR PRAYER

Loving God,
as we work for peace – give us wisdom,
as we strive for justice – give us courage,
as we tear down the walls that divide us – give us strength,
as we care for those in need – give us compassion,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
We remember in prayer today the congregation at Midsomer Norton .

LECTIONARY READINGS – 2 November

Habukkuk 1: 1-4, 2: 1-4
Psalm 119: 137 - 144
2 Thessalonians 1: 1-4, 11-12
Luke 19: 1-10

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

But as for me (Paul), the hour has come for me to be sacrificed; the time is here for me to leave this life. I have done my best in the race. I have run the full distance and I have kept the faith. And now there is waiting for me the prize of victory awarded for a righteous life, the prize which the Lord, the righteous judge will give me on that Day – and not only to me, but to all those who wait with love for him to appear.
2 Timothy 4: 6-8

DIARY

Thursday 30th October

Café 9.30 – 12 noon
All welcome

Friday 31st October

Halloween drop-in 6.00 – 8.00pm
Helpers to assist with 'crowd management and serving drinks very welcome. Set up from around 5pm.

Sunday 2nd November

There will be NO service at Box Methodist. Alternate services available at St Thomas's and St Christopher's.

PSALM 65 – paraphrased by L. Brandt

You well deserve the praises of men, O God:
and they should fulfil their pledges to You.

Everyone must eventually face up to You,
and it must be with all
his/her sins and shortcomings.

But anyone who comes in sorrow and
repentance shall find You merciful and
gracious.

You shall forgive his/her sins,
and you shall reconcile him/her to Your
Kingdom and fill his/her heart with Your
love and joy.

O God, You reach out to save us.
You are the single, eternal Hope of all
mankind.

You make Your power known to us
in the majestic grandeur of the mountains,
in the thunderous roar of the ocean waves.
Your abundance is poured out upon us
in the grain-laden fields,
the flocks in the meadows,
the gentle rain that caresses the green
hills.

Your love for us is manifested in Your great
acts of deliverance on our behalf.

You well deserve the praises of men, O God.

*Belief is a truth held in the mind. Faith is a
fire in the heart.* *Joseph Newton*