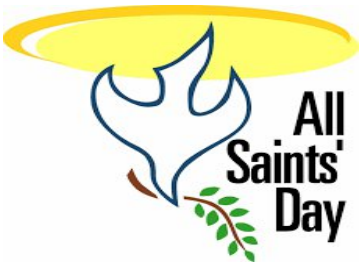
Box Methodist Church
www.boxmethodist.org

1st November 2026.



For meditation: *Let our souls rejoice in your power, O God, and our hearts in your love.*
As our mouths are filled with your praise, may our lives testify to your grace.
Sarah Crosby, Methodist preacher (1729 -1804)

NEWS AND VIEWS

Today is All Saint's Day – the second day in Hallowtide. The feast dates back to 5th century Antioch in Syria where the church dedicated a day to the memory of all the Christian martyrs who had been killed for their faith. Originally the feast day was part of the joyful celebrations of the Easter cycle but in 844 Pope Gregory IV moved the day to 1 November for the Western church. This was a change that turned a celebration in the bright early summer to a dark autumnal feast!

Thursday this week brings Guy Fawkes and fireworks- remembering a potentially devastating protest at the Houses of Parliament. Seeing the many protests across Europe and further afield this last week or so we realise that while many things change many also stay the same.

A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

May our heartfelt praises ring out and make your light, O God, shine brighter amid the hypocrisy and negativity in this world. You are like an eternal firework lighting up the inky sky. Unlike an earthly firework, you never fizzle out. Your love makes life sparkle with joy. Thank you for the myriad blessings that explode and colour our lives as we follow you. Thank you for working in us, highlighting our blind spots and growing us in faith.

We are remembering the congregation at Trinity Radstock in our prayers this week.

LECTIONARY READINGS – 8th November

Joshua 24: 1 -3a, 14 -2
Psalm 78: 1 -7
1 Thessalonians 4: 13 -18
Matthew 25: 1 -13

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is at work in you who believe. 1 Thessalonians 2: 13

A saint is someone who lets the light shine through.

DIARY

Thursday 5th November
Café + Soup 9.30 –1.30pm
All welcome.

Sunday 8th November
Remembrance Sunday 10.45am
at the War Memorial. Refreshments will be served at Box Methodist after the service.

Most Holy Lord,
Receive our evening prayers,
And grant us
Forgiveness of our sins.
None else but you
Has shown within this world,
The Resurrection.

'Go around Sion, you peoples,
And encircle her,'
Give glory in her
To him who rose from the dead,
Who is himself our very God;
For from the midst of our sins,
He has redeemed us all.

Come, my people
Let us sing a hymn,
Venerating Christ,
To glorify his Resurrection
From the dead.
He is our very God
And he has redeemed the world
From all the Enemy's deceit.

A hymn from St John of Damascus – he is believed to have been born around 652AD and died in Palestine in either 749 or 750. Having worked in an Islamic environment he was tireless in his defence of Christian orthodoxy and was keen to promote understanding without fuelling any fires of extremism