Welcome to all the information from The Parish of the Resurrection for this Sunday, 8th November. This week sees Armistice Day (11th November) and tomorrow is Remembrance Sunday. It is always poignant and significant to spend time reflecting on the sacrifices that have been made in conflict over many years, in many places of the world and by many people.

Worship
As you will be aware church buildings are again closed for public worship. Our online worship for Remembrance Sunday can be found with this link and I encourage you to watch
<https://youtu.be/NlTNT1DeXLk>

For children and families the Holybourne Teddies Toddler group leaders have put together a short Remebrance video. Here is the link: <https://youtu.be/YCaYnvZSbOQ>

For Remembrance Sunday in Alton there will be no parade or public participation and no laying of wreaths by group representatives due to social distancing and COVID restrictions. With the public not able to attend the traditional Sunday Remembrance Service at the Cairn this year you will be able to watch the live streaming of the service from 10.45am on Sunday 8th November by logging into Facebook. We would like to thank former Mayor Dean-Paul Phillips and his colleagues at Wey Valley Radio for making this happen. The stream with be live via @WeyValleyRadio and @AltonTownCouncil facebook pages. If you don’t have access to the internet you can listen to the service on Wey Valley Radio 101.1 FM. Wreaths will be laid on behalf of organisations in Alton by the Town Council in advance of the service.
If you wish to spend some quiet time the outside grounds of St Peter’s Church Beech will be available all day on Sunday and The Church of the Holy Rood will be open for private prayer on Sunday afternoon, 2-4pm

On Sunday at 6pm there will be an Informal Evening Service on Zoom. The Theme is Psalm 118 and Remembrance. Everyone is welcome and the Zoom invitation is:

Topic: POTR Informal Evening Service
Time: Nov 8, 2020 18:00 London

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88447413874?pwd=L3dKSmtHQ0JweEJDVXB0dXI0V3BaUT09>

Meeting ID: 884 4741 3874
Passcode: 873321

Remembrance Cairn
We continue to add stones with the names of loved ones lost to death onto the cairn in St Lawrence Churchyard. Stones are available in the churchyard or in the passageway at St Lawrence Vicarage. It is very moving to see the number of people who have contributed to the cairn and to think of those being remembered. Please do go along and add a stone for those who you remember and mourn. Perhaps there is a special person who has recently died and you haven’t been to go to the funeral.

Attachments
I attach this week’s Parish Matters; the Methodist Service sheet; the Town Council edition of The Altonian and the Order of Service for the Informal Evening Service on Sunday at 6pm.

Encouragement
The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have asked us to take time each day to pray intentionally for our nation saying “We know that we are in the faithful hands of the risen Christ who knows our weaknesses, tiredness and struggles and whose steadfast love endures forever.” They continue in a letter they published together “There is a story in the Bible where Jesus and his disciples are caught in a storm. The disciples are understandably terrified as the wind and waves threaten to overpower them. ‘Why are you so afraid?’, Jesus asks. This year, we too have been caught in a storm which often feels overwhelming. And yet we can look to Jesus, in the boat with us, who calms the storm and comforts us in our fear.”
We are urged to be calm, courageous and compassionate knowing that the light of Jesus always and everywhere shines in the darkness and that the everlasting promise is that the darkness will never overcome His light. Let us hold firm to Jesus, the Light of the World.

With love and prayers
Andrew