

All Saints Church – article in December 2016 Village Views

It was a busy day at All Saints Church on 16th October. In the afternoon, family and friends brought Madeleine Rose Furneaux for her baptism. This was a happy occasion as it was our opportunity to welcome her into the family of the church. In the evening, the Lambourn church choir came to lead us in a celebration of Choral Evensong. Unfortunately, on this occasion the attendance was disappointing which was a shame as it was one of the few times in the year when there is an Evensong service in the Benefice.

However, the choir returned on 30th October for our Patronal Festival and the attendance was much better. The church was beautifully decorated with flowers, so thanks to all the flower arrangers for their hard work. During the service, the congregation placed lighted candles in the Sanctuary in memory of their loved ones that had passed away. It was also one of the services at which we use our 14th and 15th Century chalices which were withdrawn from the Christ Church Treasury for the occasion. Many of the congregation stayed on after the service for a chat over a cup of coffee or tea and biscuits

On Saturday 12th November, East Garston held its Remembrance Service starting with a service in church followed by the Act of Remembrance at the village war memorial. The Wantage Academy Brass played for the service and then led the Vicar and over 50 villagers from the church to the war memorial to the march "Loyal and True". The Last Post signalled the start of the Silence and Reveille, the end. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Royal British Legion, All Saints Church and East Garston Parish Council. Many of the band and congregation then retired to the Queens Arms who had very kindly invited us for coffee and biscuits.

Many thanks to all those who sponsored my walk in September in aid of the Berkshire Churches Trust. The sum donated was £300 and the trust will be able to reclaim tax of a further £75 under the Gift Aid scheme. All Saints Church has already received £150 from the trust which is our share of the sponsored amount.

**Bob Briant
Churchwarden**