



Opportunities

Autumn Thoughts

Listen to this [reflection](#) on the autumn season by Harriet Johnson from St Augustine's College, UK. Click [here](#) for the handout.



A Poem for Every Autumn Day

Watch as this variety of [poems](#) are performed. Listen for what strikes you; what might be the reason for this? Is God trying to catch your attention?



Celebrating Christmas 18 November

Take some time out to slow down, unwind and make room to reflect before the Christmas season, with music from Lou Fellingham, crafts with Katie Norman, and thought-provoking talks from Amy Boucher Pye and Jo Swinney. [Link](#)



Advent Quiet Day Christmas Revisited 27 November 2021

Join this quiet day at home led by Daniel Munoz from Los Olivos Retreats, Spain. For more details and to register click [here](#).

Seasonal Living

It is hard to believe we are in the season of autumn as our temperatures remain high during the day. But if you have taken time out to gaze at nature you may have noticed new colours appearing and the light changing. Leaves on some trees are turning colour and the sunsets are more red and orange.

We read in Genesis 1 that God put the lights in the sky to help us mark the seasons. And Ecclesiastes 3 tells us there is a season for everything. God did not intend for us to always live in the season of summer with its life, energy and abundance.



**“When I
give myself over
to the endless interplay
of darkness and light,
falling and rising,
the life I am given
is as real and colorful,
fruitful and whole.”**
(Parker Palmer)

So why do we struggle when the days seem to become shorter? What gifts could God be wanting to give us in the darker cooler days?

David Runcorn asks “Does autumn look at spring and feel it is failing by dying...?”

I wonder if autumn welcomes the opportunity to show off all the beauty that is there but which has remained hidden by the vibrant colours of the other seasons?

Consider these comments:

**“Autumn
is a second spring
when every leaf
is a flower.”**
(Albert Camus)

Autumn will move into winter and once more the colours will change. Will we allow ourselves to slow the pace a little as nature goes to sleep and prepares itself for spring?

And on 28 November we will move into the season of Advent. Again, colours that have been hidden will be brought out and we will be led on a familiar but new journey.

Let's keep moving on as colourful people.

An Exercise

SEASONS in the sand

Watch this [video](#)

What are your favourite and least favourite seasons?

- Why is this?
- What colours would you give them?

What season are you living in at the moment?

- How comfortable does that feel?
- What colour would you give it?

Where do you see God bringing beauty in this season?

- How is this happening?
- Where is the light?



SAND PRAYER

Some time soon you may like to go to the beach and pray in the sand.

- Draw your name with a stone, stick, shoe.
- Next draw a symbol or shape around or near your name.
- Imagine Jesus joining you. What would he write in the sand? Add this to your picture.