

## Weekly Prayer Notes

- For those in the parish and further afield who are sick or in need that they receive peace and healing, including: Irene Foord, Mary Mines, Helena Oecken, Ian Wilson, Ron Goodearl, Ian Goodearl, Phillipa King and Barnaby Woods.
- For the recently departed, may their souls rest in peace. Also, we pray for their families at this difficult time.
- We pray for all parts of the world affected by Coronavirus (Covid-19), those who are ill with the virus and the souls of those who have died. We pray for those working in the NHS, Care Homes and Social Services who are working with the sick, the elderly and the disabled.
- We pray for those in our parish who are isolating themselves due to age or infirmity and those supporting them.
- We pray at this time for the country of South Africa, for the people of Cape Town and Diocese of Kimberly and Kuruman, which have been badly affected by Covid-19. For our Linked Parish of St. Mary's Kuruman.
- For Peace and Resolution for the peoples of those countries where there is conflict or tension and for the peacekeeping and aid agencies bringing relief.
- We pray for Lebanon and the City of Beirut following the recent devastating explosion at the port.
- For our Government and Parliament at this time of uncertainty, that MP's of all parties will come together in the National Interest.
- For migrants that they may receive justice and mercy.
- Safety for Christians and peoples of all faiths in danger that there may be a spirit of peace and understanding.
- For our church family and our mission and ministry in this community.



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## PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing  
SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup> August 2020  
**9<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

### WELCOME TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

You are warmly welcomed to St. John's Church, particularly if you are new to our congregation or are a visitor. St. John's is a member Church of the Risborough Team Ministry, serving the parish of Lacey Green, Loosely Row and Speen. We aim to be a family church, welcoming to people of all ages and backgrounds and we actively support our two Parish Schools. St. John's Church dates from 1825 and was originally a "Chapel of Ease" attached to the Parish of Princes Risborough. The chancel and sanctuary at the East end date from 1851, when the chapel was converted into a parish church. Our Samuel Green organ dates from 1792 and is older than the church building. It was originally a parlour organ in a large country house before being brought to St. John's and modified in stages between around 1860 and 1920. It is located in the former Vicar's Vestry, off the chancel.

### UPDATE – WORSHIP IN ST JOHN'S CHURCH

After over three months of not having services at St. John's, limited services have resumed, with the Said Communion services being held on Tuesdays at 9:30 am and on Sundays at 10:00 am (BST) for those wishing to attend. The regular Sunday on-line service on Zoom will now be held at 11:00 am (BST). Unfortunately, 8:00 am Services on Sundays remain suspended for the present.

As you may have seen in the press, currently singing in Church or playing wind instruments is not allowed. Holy Communion will be in one kind only and the 2-metre social distancing requirement will apply. Contact details of those attending will need to be recorded in a suitable notebook and details kept for 3 weeks. A guidance sheet of "Do's and Don'ts" based on information from the Diocese of Oxford is available. Current guidance is that wearing a face mask within the church building is now mandatory apart from the celebrant, those reading lessons / leading intercessions and during receipt of Holy Communion.

### Weekly Services:

SUNDAY	
10:00 am	Said Communion (Common Worship)
11:00 am	On-line Morning Worship on Zoom
TUESDAY	
9:30 am	Said Communion (Common Worship)

## FOCUS ON... TRUSTING IN JESUS

This week's Gospel reading from Matthew Chapter 14 is essentially about having faith in Jesus and continuing to trust in him even when the storms of life threaten to overpower us. Peter has faith in Jesus and so he invites Jesus to call him to walk to him across the water. But when Peter realises just how strong the wind is, his confidence evaporates, and he starts to sink. He cries out "Lord, save me". Jesus takes his hand and catches him saying "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" Jesus and Peter clamber into the boat, the wind ceases, and all those in the boat fall down in worship, saying to Jesus "Truly, you are the Son of God". This episode, then, is in the manner of an "epiphany", an event by which the divinity of Jesus becomes apparent. Because for the ancient people of Israel, only God truly has power over the wind and the waves, only God has power over the sea. And so, the story is about trusting in the light of Christ even when we feel we are walking on in faith in what the mediaeval mystic St. John of the Cross called the "Dark Night of the Soul".

St. Cyprian, the Third Century Bishop Cyprian of Carthage, wrote these words in a treatise after a virulent outbreak of plague in the city; "the difference between us and those who do not know God is that when misfortune occurs, others complain and murmur, but we are not distracted by adversity from the true path of virtue and faith; indeed, in the midst of suffering we are made strong."

And so the message for us from this week's Gospel reading is that, if we persevere in our love and trust in Jesus, even when times are rough and fierce winds blow, we can know true redemption. We can embrace that true joy that earthly concerns cannot tarnish, and even in the darkest of nights we can feel as if we are walking on water!

Tony Bundock

### COLLECT FOR 9<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct,  
sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies  
in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments;  
that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever,  
we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and  
Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever, *Amen.*

### ZOOM SERVICE FOR THE 9<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

This Sunday's Online Morning Worship service on Zoom will be led by Canon Tony and starts at the new time of **11:00 am** BST. The hymns will be led by Cher and Gavin Mole. Other members of the congregation will be taking part. Details are being supplied in the email sending out this Pew sheet, and are as follows:

Topic: My Meeting  
Time: Aug 9, 2020 **11:00** AM London

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73177379733?pwd=c2FXK2dlK3RNRSt2dDBY3B2YVlqdz09>

Meeting ID: 731 7737 9733  
Passcode: 18Ep5P

*(if copying the above into your internet browser window, you need to type in all of the text in blue as a single entry without a space – it has been split into two for formatting purposes.)*



### READINGS FOR 9<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (Proper 14)

1 Kings Ch. 19 VV. 9 – 18  
Romans Ch. 10 VV. 5 – 15

Matthew Ch. 14 VV. 22 – 33

### PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

*(Intercessions during the services will be led by James Nisbet)*

Lord, we pray for resilience and tolerance during these troubled times. Give us the power to strengthen our minds and bodies so that we can not only protect ourselves but those around us. Let us keep the hope of our saviour Jesus Christ close to our hearts and see beyond the sufferings of this world.

May we be tolerant of others not knowing what troubles lie hidden behind closed doors. Let us not judge those we see following the wrong paths but offer support and comfort where we can. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with us all evermore. Amen

