

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 and Phillipa King.
- 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 the 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 this country that the recent increase in Covid-19 infection rates will be reversed. 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 the people of the parish of St. Peters, Kampala in Uganda following the destruction of the church they had built.



HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Harvest Thanksgiving at St. Johns' will be celebrated on Sunday 4th October at the 10:00 service in church. Things will be a little different this year due to Covid-19 guidance, but Harvest gifts in the form of tinned produce will be very gratefully received for local food banks. Further details from Pat and Margaret. Thank You.

SPONSORED WALKS

Several members of the congregation will be taking part in sponsored walks on Saturday 26th September (or around that date) to raise funds for the Church. This is particularly important this year due to us not being able to hold several planned fundraising events including our Summer Fete. Please support those taking part. Further details from Vince Stothard.

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Key Contacts:

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www.stjohnschurchlaceygreen.co.uk

PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing
SUNDAY 20th September 2020
15th 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. Both our Sunday services will be led by our Vicar, Canon Tony.

WORSHIP IN ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Although government guidance over group meetings has changed during the past fortnight with new rules coming into force from Monday 14th September, currently there are still no changes to regular worship in churches because places of worship are considered to be "Covid-secure venues" so they are exempt from the 6 people limit for services of public worship and private prayer. However, groups inside church should not be more than 6 persons, groups should not combine and there must be social distancing between groups. So, in other words we continue to follow existing procedures.

So, the limited services at St. John's will continue, with the Said Communion services being held on Tuesdays at 9:30 am and on Sundays at 10:00 am (BST) only for those wishing to attend. The regular Sunday on-line service on Zoom will continue be held at 11:00 am (BST). Unfortunately, 8:00 am Services on Sundays continue to remain suspended.

Holy Communion will continue to 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. When attending worship in church you must continue to wear a face mask within the church building 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... LABOURING IN THE VINEYARD

As we read the Gospels, we discover that Jesus is constantly turning conventional ideas on their heads. The parable of the labourers in the vineyard in Matthew Chapter 20 ends with the words: "So the last will be first, and the first will be last." No doubt, we accept this message in principle. We know that this is how it is in the kingdom of heaven. But how will we respond when confronted with a real-life example? Will we try to hold onto power or money or status? Or can we have the courage to let go of it? How could we advance God's kingdom without the power or money or status we have come to expect? But our truest responsibility is to fulfil our own God-given role and not be resentful of others. And to use what we do have wisely and responsibly.

Our role in life, and in serving the kingdom, may change many times throughout our lives. Sometimes it may not be all that clear. So often, we may feel as if we have to spend long days "labouring in the vineyard" without seeing the true reward, too busy to think about what God wants for us. Or we may spend many days "standing in the marketplace" waiting to be hired, feeling we will never find our true niche. At times the ways of God may seem unfathomable to human patterns of thinking, but we can choose as an act of faith to trust in the deeper purposes of our generous God, to meet our true needs according to his own perfect plan. In the final analysis, it is God alone who can decide when we should work or when we should wait, when we should have power and when we should be powerless, when we should be comfortable and when we should be uncomfortable. God alone can judge the true worth of what we do, and monetary reward, power, worldly status, or even our limited perception of fairness, these passing things are not the ultimate goals if our lives are truly to have meaning and purpose.

Tony Bundock

COLLECT FOR 15TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:
grant that your people may be fervent
in the fellowship of the gospel
that, always abiding in you,
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
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 15TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

This Sunday's Online Morning Worship service on Zoom will be led by Canon Tony, with assistance this week from the Editor and start at 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: Morning Prayer
Time: Sep 20, 2020 11:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74715011698?pwd=SWVmWVVxNkhocXFNYll1clprM01MZz09>

Meeting ID: 747 1501 1698

Passcode: 26ixKp

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READINGS FOR 15TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (Proper 20)

Jonah Ch. 3 V. 10 – Ch. 4 V. 11
Philippians Ch. 1 VV. 21 – 30

Matthew Ch. 20 VV. 1 – 16

PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

(Intercessions during the services will be led by Mark Roberts)

Lord, we pray for all our brothers and sisters who are struggling with anxiety and fear during these uncertain times. We pray that You will surround them with Your unfailing love and give them peace to look to You in the midst of their struggles.

Please cover them with strength to persevere in times of trial, and faith to stand strong on Your Word. We thank you Lord for always being near us and ask that you will help us to put out trust in You. 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.

