

NOTICES / DIARY DATES

Event	Date and time	Venue
Team Bereavement "Drop In"	2 nd Mon of the Month (3:00 to 4:00 pm)	St. Mary's Church, Princes Risborough
Team "Tea for All" for anyone who is feeling lonely and wants to drop in for tea, cake and a chat.	Last Sunday of the Month (2:30 to 4:30 pm)	St. Mary's Church, Princes Risborough
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 25 th October (8:45 am)	St. Mary's Princes Risborough
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 1 st November (8:45 am)	St. John's Church
PCC Meeting	Tues. 7 th November (7:30 pm)	St. John's Church
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 8 th November (8:45 am)	St. Dunstan's Monks Risborough
Team Morning Prayer	Wed. 15 th November (8:45 am)	St. Mary's Princes Risborough
Team Morning Prayer	Wed 22 nd November (8:45 am)	St. John's Church

EASY FUNDRAISING

Did you know that when you make on-line purchases from many retailers at no cost to yourself the retailer will make a donation to St. John's Church on your behalf? This is done by accessing the retailer's web site via the Easy Fundraising web site and selecting St. John's Church, Lacey Green as your nominated charity. (www.easyfundraising.org.uk). For further details, please contact the Treasurer, Caroline Gulliver.

ONE CAN TRUST

One Can Trust are trying to create bags that enable families to make a nutritious meal. Soup is not needed, but all donations for the food cupboard are welcome, including tinned meat, tinned fish, lentils, pasta, tinned tomatoes and cook-in sauces. We are being told that donations to the Trust have been down recently, but demand remains high. We have a donations box outside the Church Porch. Thank you.

Key Contacts:

Vicar:	Rev. Canon Tony Bundock	01844 347741
Team Rector:	Rev. David Williams	01844 346984
Licensed Lay Minister:	Mr Graham King	01844 343910
Churchwardens:	Mrs Margaret Gray	01844 347094
	Vacancy	-
PCC Secretary & Pew Sheet editor:	Mr Mark Roberts mark.roberts975@btinternet.com	01296 437345

www.stjohnschurchlaceygreen.co.uk

PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing
SUNDAY 22ND OCTOBER 2023
20TH 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.

WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S

Wearing masks in church is now optional except for the Lady Chapel where we request that masks are still worn in this part of the Church. The Lady Chapel area will continue to be set aside as a mandatory social distancing area for those who feel they need to socially distance themselves from others. Please respect this. A bottle of sanitiser is available in the Chancel in front of the Chancel Screen for people to use, if they wish, before receiving Communion. We have now re-introduced the Common Cup with a separate chalice for those who wish to receive by Intinction. We will generally be serving coffee after the 10:00 am Service on Sundays.

We have a card reader available, so we are able to take cashless offerings during services / donations. Linked to this we also have a QR code for members of the congregation to donate via their Smartphone, which can be used as of now. You will need a QR reader App to use this. Thank you for however you choose to make your offering.



Weekly Services:

SUNDAY

8:00 am In-church Said BCP Communion Service (1st & 3rd Sun)

10:00 am In-church Parish Communion Service with Hymns

TUESDAY

9:30 am In-church Said Parish Communion Service

FOCUS ON ... THE DIVINE OBLIGATION

In the closing stages of his earthly ministry, when he had reached Jerusalem, Jesus was closely questioned by the religious authorities on a number of occasions. The episode which appears in Matthew Chapter 22 Verses 1 to 22 describes the first of these encounters; one which involves an unusual allegiance between the Pharisees, who sought to preserve Jewish integrity outside Roman rule, and the Herodians, who recognised the legitimacy of Roman government as mediated through the puppet-ruler Herod Antipas. The Pharisees hated the Roman taxation, whereas the Herodians accepted it as part of the deal that allowed them to retain their dynasty. Jesus would have been all too aware of this when he asked to be shown the coin used to pay tax. He knows that, if he answers for or against the tax, he risks offending one of the parties, as well as the Roman authorities and the Jewish onlookers. The transaction takes place in the Temple precincts. When the coin is produced it bears the likeness of an emperor who, blasphemously according to Judaism, declares himself divine. As the Pharisees accept this imperial currency for Temple transactions, they are already compromised. Jesus highlights this before responding to the conundrum that they present. His assertion that the emperor's property should be rendered to the emperor and God's to God is not intended to set up a dichotomy between state and faith. Rather, Jesus simply shows that he will not be trapped by trick questions. Individual Christians and our Churches are called to live distinctively, authentically and freely. We cannot compartmentalise our allegiances in ways that compromise our obligation to God. That means testing everything we say or do against the teaching and actions of Jesus – everything we “render” – from the taxes we pay, the holidays we take, the food we eat, how we argue our views, to the openness and authenticity of our worship and hospitality.

Canon Tony Bundock

COLLECT FOR 20TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; 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*.



THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah Ch. 45 VV. 1 – 7
1 Thessalonians Ch. 1 VV. 1 – 10

Matthew Ch. 22 VV. 15 – 22

PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER



O God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear in the Holy Land. Be with those who need you in these days of suffering; we pray for people of all faiths- Jews, Muslims and Christians, for all the people of the land. We call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children, for to all of us, you are our Heavenly Father, Amen.

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER FOR 20TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

God our Father, whose Son, the light unfailing, has come from heaven to deliver the world from the darkness of ignorance: let these holy mysteries open the eyes of our understanding that we may know the way of life, and walk in it without stumbling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, *Amen*

This Week you are Asked to Pray for:

- Those in the parish and further afield who are sick or in need that they receive peace and healing, including; Mary Mines, Rita Probert, Roger Hussey, Martin Moore, Graham King, Dick Field, Helena Oecken, Kelly Safaris Silva, Marcus Barthropp, John Thomas-Davies, Frances Thomas-Davies, Richard Thomas-Davies, Jay Edmondson, Ursula Glynn-Jones, Tony Scott and Sheila Wright.
- The recently departed. May their souls rest in peace. We pray for their families and friends at this difficult time.
- We pray for our government, that they will lead wisely and fairly for all.
- We pray for countries where there have been natural disasters, for their peoples and for the various aid organisations bringing relief. We particularly pray for the countries of Libya and Morocco, where there have been recent natural disasters.
- We pray for Peace in the Ukraine, the Sudan, Israel and The Gaza Strip. That there will be a rapid end to the fighting and the suffering for their Peoples.
- We pray for our National Health Service and the Doctors, Nurses and Support Staff.
- For the country of South Africa, for the people of Cape Town and Diocese of Kimberly and Kuruman including our linked parish of St. Mary's Kuruman.