

# NOTICES / DIARY DATES

Event	Date and time	Venue
Team Bereavement "Drop In"	2 <sup>nd</sup> 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
Baptism of Miles James Johnston during the Parish Communion Service	Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> November (10:00 am)	St. John's Church
Team Morning Prayer	Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> November (8:45 am)	St. John's Church
Team Morning Prayer	Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> November (8:45 am)	St. Peter's Ilmer
Organ Recital (Fund Raising for the Organ)	Sat. 2 <sup>nd</sup> December (4:00 pm)	St. John's Church
Toy Service	Sun. 3 <sup>rd</sup> December (10:00 am)	St. John's Church
Advent Carol Service	Sun. 3 <sup>rd</sup> December (TBC)	St. John's Church
Team Morning Prayer	Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> December (8:45 am)	St. Dunstan's Monks Risborough

## ORGAN RECITAL

In honour of the restoration of our Samuel Green Organ, we will be holding a celebration concert on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December starting at 4:00 p.m. Performing will be two of Gavin's friends - Alastair Ross (organ) and Gillian Ross (soprano). Alastair is principal keyboard player of the Academy of Ancient Music and the Sixteen, with whom he played a Handel Organ Concerto at the BBC proms. Gillian works with major Baroque groups with whom she has appeared as a soloist on a number of recordings. Tickets can be bought in advance from Tony, Margaret, Cher, Gavin and Rosemary and include refreshments provided by the choir.

## 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 <a href="mailto:mark.roberts975@btinternet.com">mark.roberts975@btinternet.com</a>	01296 437345

[www.stjohnschurchlaceygreen.co.uk](http://www.stjohnschurchlaceygreen.co.uk)

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



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing  
**SUNDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

### 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. The Common Cup is being used during our Communion services 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 (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun)  
10:00 am In-church Parish Communion Service with Hymns

#### TUESDAY

9:30 am In-church Said Parish Communion Service

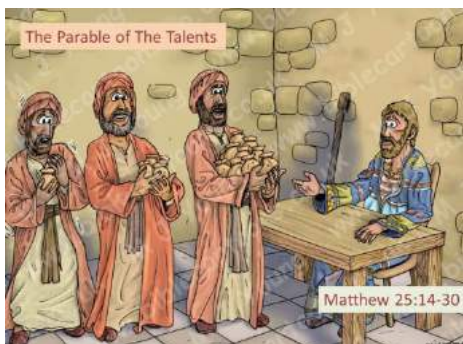
## FOCUS ON ... THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

The Parable of the Talents in Matthew Chapter 25 Verses 14 to 30 is part of a series of Parables at the end of Matthew's Gospel, all with the theme of judgement. It affirms that our talents are given to us on trust and that we are each held responsible for full and faithful use of these gifts. The reward for good service may very well be a larger responsibility in the work of God's kingdom, but we are told that inaction and timidity will bring judgement and greater loss. The Gospel story therefore devotes more space to the exchange between the master and the "wicked" slave – and to his fate – than anything else. "Of him to whom much is given, much will be expected." The mother of the billionaire founder of Microsoft, Bill Gates, said these words to her son shortly after he was married and just before she died. Our gifts are indeed unique to us in both nature and quantity; and we are therefore dutybound to use them in ways that will help and enrich others, and not just for our own benefit. We will have varying opportunities presented to us in the course of our lives. Opportunities to influence others, or to help shape a course of events. Also relevant to this whole matter is our availability. So often in the Bible, when there is a particular task to be accomplished, it seems that God does not necessarily look at the ability or inability of a person, but their availability. Some people, perhaps blessed with more devotion to God than any obvious talents, make themselves available by their willingness to serve. Whatever our talents, we must never let them wither from lack of use. We are to do what we do, to the best of our ability, and with as much focus and attention as we can muster. Like the servants in the Parable of the Talents, we are stewards of what we have been given and, as St Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy". If we are truly faithful and trustworthy stewards for God, serving him should never be for us a chore.

Canon Tony Bundock

## COLLECT FOR 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever, *Amen*.



## THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Zephaniah Ch. 1 V. 7 & VV. 12 – 18  
1 Thessalonians Ch. 5 VV. 1 – 11

Matthew Ch. 25 VV. 14 – 30

## PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER



Almighty and awesome Father, we thank you for making yourself known to us. Thank you that we are your children and that you love us. We pray that your love will flow through us to our family, friends, neighbours and colleagues. Please help us, by the power of your Holy Spirit to understand the gifts that you have given to us and help us to use them to serve you, to be your good and faithful servants. In the name of Jesus, *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 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, *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, Marcus Barthropp, 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.
- For Miles James Johnston who is being baptised today and for his family and friends.
- For those who serve in this country's armed forces, for those who have given their lives serving this country and those who have been wounded during service. For the Royal British Legion and the work it does.
- 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 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.