

# Weekly Pewsheet

*Service Details and Notices*

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## Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

### Sunday 20 September 2020

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*“So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”*

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*Please contact one of the Ministry Team if you would like a chat or a visit.*



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# From the Team Rector

Dear friends,

Our gospel reading today (Matthew 20:1-16) exposes how surprising the generosity of God often feels to us. It is a Sunday evening at the end of the summer and the farmer is checking his grape vines. It has been a good summer. The clusters of grapes are ripe. He cannot delay a moment longer. At 6am the next day he goes down to the 1st century equivalent of the job centre. And a group of likely looking grape pickers are hired. They agree terms and are contracted for a fixed amount for the day. They are to receive a denarius as their pay, a fair sum for a long day's labour, about £100.

Just before noon the farmer switches on the weather forecast and he discovers that the weather is going to take a turn for the worse. He goes down again to the town and takes on more workers. 'I will give you a fair wage', he promises them. At 3pm he realises that tomorrow is going to be a complete washout. Desperate to get the grape harvest in he rushes into town to get yet more workers. At 5pm – the 11th hour – he goes down one last time, but the job centre is closed. All that is left is a group of hopeful workers lingering about. The people no one else wanted. The rejects. He invites them to come and pick some grapes for an hour.

At 6pm as the light fades the farmer lines up the workers, with the latecomers the first in line and the 6am crew last. The latecomers open their manila envelope and find to their delight 5 crisp £20 notes. £100. The 6am crew begin to imagine what they will receive £400, £500, £1000? But as they open up their pay packets they find they have £100 as promised. The agreed terms. The complaining begins.

Why does Jesus tell this parable about God's generosity?

Firstly, because God's grace is measured out to us all equally. Christianity is not a religion of earned rewards. There is one perfect gift of salvation which we are all offered without regard to our performance in life or church. The crucified criminal who hung next to Jesus was promised a place in the kingdom of heaven on the terms that the chief apostles were: trust in Jesus. The test of whether we have grasped this is how we use our longstanding membership of the church to gain influence and power. If we feel we deserve more rights than the newcomer we begrudge God's generosity.

Secondly, to emphasise that God is in charge of his church and kingdom and not us. Those who made an early start want to change the farmer's mind. Instead of seeing his equal pay scheme as an act of kindness, they see it as mismanagement. Like the older brother in the parable of the Prodigal Son, they mistake generosity for incompetence. What would the kingdom of heaven be like if it ran by our standards?

It would surely become exclusive, and judgemental and monochrome. When we try to run the church on our terms, everyone loses – especially those grasping for control and power.

Thirdly, to remind us who we are. The brilliance of Jesus' parable is that we automatically see ourselves as the 6am crew: hard-working, reliable, and good value for money. We silently nod along with their grumbling. But the fact is that we are all 5pm people: latecomers to the promises of God, the least attractive labourers, those most in need of God's kindness.

People who have humbly received God's bountiful grace are easy to spot. As are those who are trying to run God's kingdom by their own standards. The farmer gently reminds his entire workforce, 'Friends, I am doing you no wrong.' So too Jesus corrects us with love and generosity in his heart.

With love in Christ,

*Stephen*

Revised service pattern from October. A new pattern of services has been introduced at Langham, at 10.30am each Sunday (Holy Communion on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays). In order to accommodate this the Oakham service pattern will be:

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays: 10.30am Holy Communion and 6pm Evening Prayer

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays: 8am Holy Communion and 10.30am Morning Prayer

27 <sup>th</sup> September	Oakham		10.30am Holy Communion	6pm Evening Prayer
4 <sup>th</sup> October	Oakham		10.30am Holy Communion	6pm Evening Prayer
	Langham		10.30am Harvest	
11 <sup>th</sup> October	Oakham	8am Holy Communion	10.30am Morning Prayer	
	Langham		10.30am Holy Communion	
18 <sup>th</sup> October	Oakham		10.30am Holy Communion	6pm Evening Prayer
	Langham		10.30am Morning Prayer	
25 <sup>th</sup> October	Oakham	8am Holy Communion	10.30am Morning Prayer	
	Langham		10.30am Holy Communion	

## From the Team Vicar (Northern Villages)

Dear Friends in Christ,

Yes, my greeting has changed deliberately this week. Why?

In the older translations of the Bible (of which my old faithful Jerusalem Bible, 1974 edition, is one) it often says 'brothers' whereas in the more recent inclusive translations it will say 'brothers and sisters'. I was echoing this previously in my greeting 'Brothers & Sisters in Christ' and to ensure that there was no question of all being equal sometimes reversed to 'Sisters & Brothers in Christ'!

Equality is something that Jesus addresses in today's gospel reading, the familiar story of the workers who, regardless of the length of their shifts, are all payed equally. There have been many interpretations of this story over the centuries, and a common initial response is that equal pay for unequal work is just not fair. But I wonder, are we missing the point? The point is not how much is paid but how each person is treated fairly, there is no hierarchy.

This has made me think about what Jesus says to his disciples on that last Passover night, he says 'You are my friends, if you do what I tell you.' John 15:14. And Jesus goes on to explain that servants don't know what the master is doing whereas they, as friends, know everything that the Father has shared with Jesus. As friends they are chosen and appointed to do good things, to 'bear fruit that will last'.

The dictionary describes a friend as 'a person with whom one has a bond of mutual affection' and 'someone who has your back, no matter what', which I think brings us back to the workers in the vineyard, they are not employees tasked with a job, they are friends. Friends being welcomed into the 'kingdom of heaven' and being appointed to good things, things that will bless them and their friends.

The kingdom of heaven is a place for friends, for those who have each other's back. To have someone's back involves going behind them... is this what Jesus is referring to when he says 'the first will be last and the last will be first'? And of course, if this pattern repeats there is a constant changing of position leading to a cycle of equality.

It sounds so simple yet in reality why do we find it so difficult...?

I wonder if our struggle is linked to the heart of last week's story – forgiveness. The slave who had been forgiven much, struggled to forgive another, even of a smaller amount, why? Is it because they see themselves as slaves and masters, a hierarchical structure that has no room for friends?

I have been reflecting further on forgiveness this week and the church's sacrament of reconciliation. On one level this is practised regularly in our services when we say together words of repentance and confession and receive absolution. This is a comfort and a blessing but for many it is not enough, more is sometimes needed to help us to be relieved of our heaviest and long-carried burdens, to receive the

affirmation of God's love, to know God's acceptance and forgiveness, and it is for this that the church offers the sacrament of reconciliation, a precious moment with priest and penitent coming together into the illuminating presence of God.

This week I sat with a friend who is nearing the end of his life. He is 65 years old. In his 20s, following a very painful and troubled childhood, he committed numerous crimes and the final one resulted in him spending 25 years in prison. He struggles to forgive himself and consequently is unable to receive God's forgiveness, acceptance, and love. Sadly, he will not allow himself to be reconciled and knows no peace. I pray that he will find peace, if not in this world then the next.

The sacrament of reconciliation is a gift that brings a peace and an acceptance of knowing we are a friend of God. It is a gift that, echoing the old Heineken advert, truly refreshes the parts that nothing else can, and if you would like to know more please get in touch.

Love & blessings,

*Deborah*

## **Church service times during September -**

Following the recent PCC meetings, the services will continue as follows –

### **St Andrew's, Whissendine**

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 11am Morning Prayer

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 4pm Evening Prayer

### **St Peter & St Paul's, Market Overton**

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 10am Morning Prayer

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 10am Holy Communion

### **Holy Trinity, Teigh**

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 5pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 9am Morning Prayer

### **St Mary's, Ashwell**

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 10am Holy Communion

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September No service

### **Compline on Wednesdays at 5pm**

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September at Ashwell

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at Market Overton

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September at Whissendine

**ALL the services will use resources that are in the current  
pewsheet  
please remember to bring it with you**

## **Opening of church buildings outside of service times**

During September, following risk assessments and the implementation of the measures indicated, the churches are beginning to again for unsupervised times. We aim to continue having a period of time every week of 72/48hrs break, to stop any build-up of virus and to simplify cleaning.

**Holy Trinity, Teigh** is now open daily Sunday – Thursday.

**St Andrew's, Whissendine** is now open daily Sunday – Wednesday.

## **Harvest Thanksgiving Services**

Church services are not affected by the new legislation regarding 6 people only to gather, except that people will be asked not to gather/sit in groups of more than 6 people. So we are continuing with our plans for Harvest Thanksgiving services this year which are as follows –

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October

11am St Andrew's, Whissendine – in church with Harvest hymns

12.30pm Holy Trinity, Teigh – in the churchyard with Harvest hymns

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October

12noon St Mary's, Ashwell – in the churchyard with Harvest hymns

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October

10am St Peter & St Paul, Market Overton – in church with Harvest hymns

## **From the Team Vicar (Southern Villages)**

Dear Friends,

On Sunday we celebrate Harvest Services at Egleton, Hambleton and Brooke. Next Sunday we shall do the same at Braunston. Is harvest still relevant in the twenty first century?

Harvest is fundamentally about thankfulness; we thank God for what he has given to us in the past and we praise him for sustaining our lives in the present. It is important to cultivate an attitude of thankfulness. St Paul urges us to "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances". How can we do this? One help is to build thanksgiving into our pattern of prayer – for instance in giving thanks before a meal. We praise and thank God as well as asking for things. And as a church family we celebrate the festival of harvest.

In these difficult and restricted times we will still hear harvest hymns and songs (though mostly in recorded versions) and there will be Bible and other readings, with a talk and prayers. Services will be shorter! Please remember to bring a face covering to wear.

Giving thanks though isn't just a box to tick before we move on to other concerns and priorities. How else are we responding to God's generous provision? We sometimes use the word 'stewardship' to talk about the way that we look after all that God has given us. Are we being good stewards as well as thankful people? So, how much do I recycle? How much energy do I waste? How much meat do I consume? Do I shop locally as much as I can? Do I try and buy items that I know are ethically produced or sourced? Do I try to avoid companies known to treat their workers poorly?

This year has brought illness, bereavement, isolation, and work and financial worries. Yet we have also seen air pollution levels fall and wildlife begin to recover and even flourish. There is a sense of creation being restored as humanity steps away from some of its more damaging activities. All of this to reflect on as we gather once again to celebrate the harvest. God's good gifts to us celebrated in thanksgiving and praise – and a determination to live as good stewards of those gifts.

Come, ye thankful people, come  
Raise the song of harvest home  
All is safely gathered in  
Ere the winter storms begin  
God our Maker doth provide  
For our wants to be supplied  
Come to God's own temple, come  
Raise the song of harvest home





## A favourite hymn and why...

chosen this week by Hilda Townsend from St Andrews Church Whissendine.

My favourite hymn since I was about 10 years of age has been. My song is Love unknown, My Saviour's love to me,

The words, all of them, speak for themselves, especially to me.

### My Saviour's love to me



1. My song is love unknown,  
my Saviour's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown,  
that they might lovely be.  
O, who am I,  
that for my sake  
my Lord should take  
frail flesh and die?

2. He came from his blest throne,  
salvation to bestow;  
but men made strange, and none  
the longed-for Christ would know.  
But O, my Friend,  
my Friend indeed,  
who at my need  
his life did spend!

3. Sometimes they strew his way,  
and His sweet praises sing;  
resounding all the day  
hosannas to their King.  
Then 'Crucify!'  
is all their breath,  
and for his death  
they thirst and cry.

\*4. Why, what hath my Lord done?  
What makes this rage and spite?  
He made the lame to run,  
he gave the blind their sight.  
Sweet injuries!  
yet they at these  
themselves displease,  
and against him rise.

5. They rise, and needs will have  
my dear Lord made away;  
a murderer they save,  
the Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet cheerful he  
to suffering goes,  
that he his foes  
from thence might free.

\*6. In life, no house, no home  
my Lord on earth might have;  
in death, no friendly tomb  
but what a stranger gave.  
What may I say?  
Heaven was his home;  
but mine the tomb  
wherein he lay.

7. Here might I stay and sing,  
no story so divine;  
never was love, dear King,  
never was grief like thine!  
This is my Friend,  
in whose sweet praise  
I all my days  
could gladly spend.

*Words: Samuel Crossman (c1624-1683)*

*Music: Love Unknown, John Nicholson Ireland (1879-1962)*

*(Ancient & Modern – 147)*

If you have a favourite hymn to share please send the title, and up to 200 words saying what makes it special, to Liz - [ps0@oakhamteam.org.uk](mailto:ps0@oakhamteam.org.uk)

## 8am - Holy Communion

*The Order of Service is contained in the separate Service Book. Please refer to the 10.30am service for readings and collect.*

## 10.30am – Morning Prayer

*All Saints Oakham and Facebook Live*

### Organ

Chorale partita 'Werde munter , mein Gemute' (Wake up my soul )  
(Johann Pachelbel)

### ¶ Preparation

God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us. *Romans 5.5*

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. *Psalm 119:105*

### Preparation

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you  
**and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

### Jubilate - a Song of Joy

*Psalm 100*

**1 O be joyful in the Lord, all the earth; \*  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.**

**2 Know that the Lord is God; \*  
it is he that has made us and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

**3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and bless his name.**

**4 For the Lord is gracious; his steadfast love is everlasting \*  
and his faithfulness endures from generation to generation.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

### **Prayers of Penitence**

The gospel calls us to turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.  
As we offer ourselves to him in penitence and faith,  
we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy.

**Lord God,  
we have sinned against you;  
we have done evil in your sight.  
We are sorry and repent.  
Have mercy on us according to your love.  
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.  
Renew a right spirit within us  
and restore to us the joy of your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies  
cleanse us from our sins,  
and restore us in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **Gloria in Excelcis**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

## ¶ *The Liturgy of the Word*

### **Psalm 145.1-8**

1 I will exalt you, O God my King, \*  
and bless your name for ever and ever.

2 Every day will I bless you \*  
and praise your name for ever and ever.

3 Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; \*  
his greatness is beyond all searching out.

4 One generation shall praise your works to another \*  
and declare your mighty acts.

5 They shall speak of the majesty of your glory, \*  
and I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

6 They shall speak of the might of your marvellous acts, \*  
and I will also tell of your greatness.

7 They shall pour forth the story of your abundant kindness \*  
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

8 The Lord is gracious and merciful, \*  
long-suffering and of great goodness.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be  
for ever. Amen.**

### **First Reading – *Jonah 3.10-4.11***

A reading from the Prophet Jonah

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, 'O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew

that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' And the LORD said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.' But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the LORD said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Second Reading – *Philippians 1.21-30***

A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well – since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading – Matthew 20.1-16

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Reflection by Vyv Wainwright - Reader

Once upon a time Mr Very Angry arrived in a car park in a small historic market town somewhere in the centre of England. He loved to drive around in his very angry red fast car and would rev his engine hard to scare the dear ladies of the parish. He parked his car where he was not allowed to, as was his custom, and went to pay for his ticket. But then he got very very angry indeed and shouted out very loudly that the horrid car park company did not accept hard earned cash anymore in the parking ticket machines. So, he just went absolutely berserk to the point of seething with rage and utterly losing the plot. Even the Angry App on his phone started getting worried.

Meanwhile God heard how angry Mr Very Angry was up in heaven and wondered what on earth all this anger was about? God therefore decided to dispatched an angel called Timid Tina. Timid Tina begged not to go but God said just be yourself and all will be well. Have faith.

Timid Tina was very pleased with her little electric car that the car department had given her and so she parked it nicely in a nice little parking space especially for nice little electric cars and plug it in all for free. She saw how very angry Mr Very Angry was. She decided to tip-toe up to the ticket machine whilst Mr Very Angry was about to bust a blood vessel. She got out her phone and held it against the ticket machine. Out came a nice little ticket and Mr Very Angry was silent. Timid Tina now reached into the pocket of Mr Very Angry's suit and took out his phone and held it against the ticket machine and behold out came a ticket.

Mr Very Angry remembered who he was and would have none of this nice and kind behaviour! He was angry, so he snatched the ticket from Timid Tina, shouted at her for interfering and stabbed a telephone number into his phone. Within seconds he was answered and he shouted that he wanted to speak to his MP now. Timid Tina would not have this though. She took the phone out his hand and gave him a right good dressing down about all the nasty things he had done throughout his life by being so horrid and angry. And to cap it all she had been in touch with his Mum who was on her way right now to sort him out. Mr Very Angry now looked more like Mr Very Terrified, oh dear!

Jonah was seriously angry in our Old Testament reading. He had a ticket for the football match in Spain to see Liverpool versus Barcelona but oh no, in came a text from God asking him to go to Nineveh. Pardon me, says Jonah, but are Liverpool playing there? I think not. And so, to cut a long story short, having been delivered back from Spain, courtesy of a whale, Jonah has done as he has asked.

Jonah is not happy. Surely, he should be happy we all say. Have not the people of Nineveh heard the message that Jonah has given from God? Have they not responded? Indeed, they have. Well done surely Jonah? Well actually no, Jonah is well and truly cross. The thing is he thought that God was really going to sort out the city of Nineveh big time. He thought that the missiles would fly in and that zillions of tanks would flood across the plains into the city and there would be loads of street fighting and explosions. Instead the citizens and the cattle of Nineveh, all said sorry. Now we find Jonah in our reading having a good old-fashioned sulk. He is sulking so much that he totally ignores the fact that God is actually thankful for what he has done and is looking after him. Gosh look at this large leaf plant which just happened to sprout right next to you to provide who with lovely shelter. But Jonah is still sulking and angry. God decided the best thing to do is to ring Jonah and just tell him that actually really deep-down God loves Jonah and God also loves Nineveh and thank you for what you have done but hey don't get angry – please!

Meanwhile, in the New Testament reading the shop stewards meeting has been held and the workers have been consulted and they are disgusted with the way in which the brothers and sisters' workers have been treated. Thus, there is anger and upset and a cause for a ballot and industrial action. Mrs Vineyard owner is sad. She points



out that actually she was only trying to help folk who had no work. She made an offer to each potential employee of one silver coin for working in her vineyard that day. Each person who was approached agreed to these terms and conditions and well they went to work. She therefore feels that she has been made an offer which has been duly accepted by each person and so they should not be angry but surely happy.

Just recently I noted a title on a book called *The Right to Anger*. On the cover was someone who was angry with their fist up in anger. Anger is a real emotion and a real emotion which often comes from the heart. And yet it can damage the heart and our lives as a consequence, as we know. Even Jesus got angry the day he went into the temple and kicked over the tables of the money changers.

As we see and know anger does occur in life. Over the last few years anger seems to have come out of the woodwork somehow with road rage, riots, violence against the police, ambulance crews, medical staff in hospitals and the fire service all when these very people are trying to help out. Anger against MPs, councillors and many professionals, teachers, workers and just about everyone. And where does it get us? Blood pressure, heart attacks, stress.

Surely as Christians we are people of peace? People who will listen to genuine concerns and upsets of others and do our best to understand. But surely, we are peace makers, are we not? Does not Jesus say that Blessed are the peace makers?

Cry out about injustice, cry out about the way in which the creation is being treated, cry out for peace on the planet, cry out about abuse and torture, march, protest and email your MP or councillor. Yet let us not forget that we are people of peace.

If you are feeling angry then count to 10, talk to someone (not shout) and get help if you feel you need it or you might like to say this prayer from the Northumbrian Community –

*Calm me O Lord as you stilled the storm  
Still me O Lord  
Keep me from harm  
Let al, the tumult within in me cease  
Enfold me Lord in your peace.  
Amen*

## **Organ**

Vesper Voluntary no 3 (Edward Elgar)

## **Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

born of the **Virgin Mary**,  
suffered under **Pontius Pilate**,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
**On the third day** he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the **Father**,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit**,  
the **holy catholic Church**,  
the **communion of saints**,  
the **forgiveness of sins**,  
the **resurrection of the body**,  
and the **life everlasting**.  
**Amen.**

¶ *Prayers*

## **The Collect for Trinity 15**

Almighty God,  
whose only Son has opened for us  
a new and living way into your presence:  
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills  
to worship you in spirit and in truth;  
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.**

### **Prayers of Intercession** *by Nat Stiles, Trainee Youth Minister*

Your kingdom come; **your will be done.**

Father, we pray for your Holy Spirit to guide us, as we follow your will in our lives.  
Forgive us when we have turned a blind eye or a deaf ear to your call,  
help us to be willing to answer, and not run the other way,  
strengthened by the power of your message.  
Your kingdom come; **your will be done.**

Father, you are slow to anger and rich in love,  
let us delight in sharing your good news to each generation.

We pray they will know your mighty and wonderful works,  
and praise our God of endless love, power, and glorious splendour,  
as we praise your name for ever and ever.

Your kingdom come; **your will be done.**

Father, we thank you for your gift of grace, in our lives.

Help us to remember that your gift of heaven is through your grace alone, and not a reward for our good behaviour or position, but a sign of your generosity and forgiveness.

Help us to think less of ourselves and more of others, never looking down on our neighbours unless we are helping them up, seeing your image in those around us. We praise the reassurance of your grace.

Your kingdom come; **your will be done.**

Father, as we stand firm in the Lord and rejoice in you always, we pray for the God of peace to be with all who need our prayers.

All who are ill, in hospitals, home or wherever they may be,

We pray for the recently departed, and all those whose hearts have been saddened by death, surround them with your tenderness and support them in your everlasting arms.

Calming God bring courage, tender Spirit bring peace, and gentle Jesus, be close to all.

Your kingdom come; **your will be done.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory, now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

## ¶ Conclusion

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil,  
and keep us in eternal life.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## Blessing

### Organ

Voluntary no 1 in D (William Boyce)

# Wednesday 23 September 8.30pm – Compline

## *Live on Facebook and the Website*

### Preparation

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.  
**Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord  
**who made heaven and earth.**

*A period of silence for reflection on the past day may follow.  
The following or other suitable words of penitence may be used*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess to you,  
before the whole company of heaven and one another,  
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed  
and in what we have failed to do.  
Forgive us our sins,  
heal us by your Spirit  
and raise us to new life in Christ. Amen.**

○ God, make speed to save us.  
○ Lord, make haste to help us.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

*The following or another suitable hymn may be said or sung*

**Before the ending of the day,  
Creator of the world, we pray  
That you, with steadfast love, would keep  
Your watch around us while we sleep.**

**From evil dreams defend our sight,  
From fears and terrors of the night;  
Tread underfoot our deadly foe  
That we no sinful thought may know.**

**○ Father, that we ask be done  
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son;  
And Holy Spirit, by whose breath  
Our souls are raised to life from death.**

1 Preserve me, O God, for in you have I taken refuge; \*  
I have said to the Lord, 'You are my lord,  
all my good depends on you.'

2 All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, \*  
upon those who are noble in heart.

3 Though the idols are legion that many run after, \*  
their drink offerings of blood I will not offer,  
neither make mention of their names upon my lips.

4 The Lord himself is my portion and my cup; \*  
in your hands alone is my fortune.

5 My share has fallen in a fair land; \*  
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

6 I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel, \*  
and in the night watches he instructs my heart.

7 I have set the Lord always before me; \*  
he is at my right hand; I shall not fall.

8 Wherefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; \*  
my flesh also shall rest secure.

9 For you will not abandon my soul to Death, \*  
nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.

10 You will show me the path of life;  
in your presence is the fullness of joy \*  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.\*

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Scripture Reading – 1 Peter 5.8-9**

Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil is prowling round like a roaring lion, seeking for someone to devour. Resist him, strong in the faith.

*The following responsory may be said*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.  
**Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**  
For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.  
**I commend my spirit.**  
Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit.  
**Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

## Gospel Canticle

*The Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is said or sung*

**Save us, O Lord, while waking,  
and guard us while sleeping,  
that awake we may watch with Christ  
and asleep may rest in peace.**

1 Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: \*  
**your word has been fulfilled.**

2 My own eyes have seen the salvation \*  
**which you have prepared in the sight of every people;**

3 A light to reveal you to the nations \*  
**and the glory of your people Israel.**

*Luke 2.29-32*

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Save us, O Lord, while waking,  
and guard us while sleeping,  
that awake we may watch with Christ  
and asleep may rest in peace.**

## Prayers

*Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.*

## The Collect

Keep watch, dear Lord,  
with those who wake, or watch, or weep this night,  
and give your angels charge over those who sleep.  
Tend the sick,  
give rest to the weary,  
sustain the dying,

calm the suffering,  
and pity the distressed;  
all for your love's sake, O Christ our Redeemer.

**Amen.**

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray,  
and drive far from it the snares of the enemy;  
may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace,  
and may your blessing be always upon us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## The Conclusion

In peace we will lie down and sleep;  
**for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.**

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,  
**for the night is at hand and the day is now past.**

As the night watch looks for the morning,  
**so do we look for you, O Christ.**

The Lord bless us and watch over us;  
the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us;  
the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace.

**Amen.**

## Next Sunday – 27 September (Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity)

Readings: Psalm 25.1-8; Ezekiel 18.1-4, 25-32; Philippians 2.1-13; Matthew 21.23-32

10.30am Holy Communion at All Saints Oakham and live on Facebook and the website.

6pm Evening Prayer at All Saints Oakham



# Praying Alone

## Praying Together

### *Daily Prayer This Week*

*Morning Prayer is streamed live on Facebook at 8.30am from Monday to Friday, and is available after that on Facebook and the website.*



### Readings

Readings & Collect Prayer for Daily Prayer in the coming week

Day	Morning Prayer	Evening Prayer
Monday 21 September <i>Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist</i>	Psalm 49 2 Timothy 3.14-end	Psalm 119.33-40, 89-96 1 Kings 19.15-end
Tuesday 22 September	Psalm 36 Acts 16.25-end	Psalm 33 1 Kings 8.63-9.9
Wednesday 23 September	Psalm 34 Acts 17.1-15	Psalm 119.33-56 1 Kings 10.1-25
Thursday 24 September	Psalm 37 Acts 17.16-end	Psalm 40 1 Kings 11.1-13
Friday 25 September	Psalm 31 Acts 18.1-21	Psalm 35 1 Kings 11.26-end
Saturday 26 September	Psalm 42 Acts 18.22-19.7	Psalm 46 1 Kings 12.1-24

### Collect

**Lord God,  
defend your church from all false teaching  
and give to your people knowledge of your truth  
that we may enjoy eternal life  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

# Resources for Worship

During this time when we cannot worship together in church, there are a number of alternatives available:

- The Oakham Team Facebook page, where one of the ministry team will lead a live stream of **Morning Prayer at 8.30am** on weekdays and **Holy Communion or Morning Prayer at 10.30am on Sundays**. These will also be available on the Team website, together with the service sheet and Weekly Pewsheets;
- **Compline**. David Perril continues a weekly service of Compline every Wednesday at 8.30pm on the Oakham Team Facebook page.
- The Church of England has an online resources page at <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>, including Easter Pilgrim and Time to Pray (see below).
- **Daily Hope Phone Line**. Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. A Church of England initiative in partnership with CONNECTIONS at Holy Trinity Claygate, and Faith in Later Life. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind. Options available include materials also available digitally by the Church of England’s Communications team such as Prayer During the Day and Night Prayer updated daily, from Common Worship, and a recording of the Church of England weekly national online service. A section called Hymn Line offers callers a small selection of hymns, updated daily. An option entitled ‘Hymns We Love’, provides a hymn and reflection and is based on an initiative by the Connections group.

## This Week

Tuesday 22 September - 8.30am Morning Prayer and 9am Holy Communion at All Saints Oakham

Wednesday 6pm Meditation Group in the Lady Chapel, All Saints Oakham

Thursday 24 September 8.30am Morning Prayer at All Saints Oakham

## Prayer for the Sick

We pray to you Lord Jesus Christ for those suffering in body, mind or spirit, amongst them: Mike, Ibrahim, Patsy and June Churchill

*Please phone the Team office or email notices@oakhamteam.org.uk to add names to this list.*

## Remembering the recently departed

We remember with thanksgiving those recently departed this life, and those bereaved, amongst them: Barry Collett, Violet Mapletoft, Antony Martin, Maisie Stabler

*Please phone the Team office or email notices@oakhamteam.org.uk to add names to this list.*

## 50th Anniversary of Ordination

Congratulations to Reverend Canon Michael Wilson who was ordained priest on 20th September 1970. Canon Michael was ordained at Southwell Minster by the Bishop of Sherwood, the Right Reverend Kenneth Thompson. Michael served a curacy at Worksop Priory before taking up positions in Worcester Diocese and Leicester Diocese. In Leicester Michael held the posts of Vicar of the Parish of St Anne, Team Rector of the Ascension Team, and Canon Treasurer of Leicester Cathedral. Michael and Beryl retired to Oakham but he remains active in ministry in the Dioceses of Peterborough and Leicester.

Congratulations on your special anniversary Michael, and thank you for

your continued support for the ministry here in the Oakham Team.  
*Stephen*

## Traidcraft

It is pleasing to report that as the stall is continuing to run in the background sales are still buoyant with August's amounting to £127.93 - slightly up on July's figure which is great. My thanks as ever to all of you who continue to support the amazing work Traidcraft are continuing to do. I will shortly have supplies of the new Autumn/Winter catalogue which if you are not aware of all the wonderful things Traidcraft has to offer would be a good introduction. Please do get in touch for one or indeed just to order some tea/coffee etc. [neecy.mcdonald@btinternet.com](mailto:neecy.mcdonald@btinternet.com)  
101572722729107981639649

*Denise*

## Summer Visitors to All Saints

Following interest expressed in the details of visitors in a recent pewsheet, here is the final update. This shows where visitors came from on nine Wednesday mornings from 10-12 noon between July and September.

### **FROM THE NORTH**

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Darlington, Stamford Bridge (N Yorkshire), Grimsby, Holmfirth, Manchester, York

### **FROM THE MIDLANDS**

Birmingham, Chesterfield, Derby, Hinkley, Leicester, Lincoln, Melbourne (Derbys). Nottingham, Repton

### **FROM THE SOUTH**

Aldeburgh (Suffolk), Bedfordshire, Bournemouth, Bristol, Canterbury,

Chichester, Epping, Hampshire,  
London, Newbury, Norwich, Surrey

**WALES** - Wrexham

**SCOTLAND** - Lanarkshire

ALSO, a few people from Rutland who called in to pray or light a candle, or on a task, eg flower arranging or collecting a pewsheet.

We hope to expand on this midweek welcome to visitors in the summer months of next year and will start to compile a rota in the springtime. If, however, you are interested in offering a couple of hours per week now to welcome visitors on days other than Sundays, please contact Janine to arrange a suitable day and time.

*Elaine and Graham Peel*

## **Garden Volunteers wanted**

Launde Abbey are seeking volunteers to work in the garden and grounds Can you spare one day a week? If you have gardening skills they will be welcome, if not they will be developed. You would be working outdoors in a marvellous, enjoyable environment with a small, dedicated team of staff and volunteers. For details and to apply contact Helen, on 01572 718803, or speak to Richard Plummer 01572 720505

## **Theatre Programmes**

Gordon Woods has a collection of over 60 London Theatre programmes dating from 1950 – 1999. Please contact Gordon on 755371 if they would be of interest to you in return for a donation to the church.

## **Ordination of Simon Aley**

Simon will be ordained Deacon by the Bishop of Brixworth, the Right Revd John Holbrook, at Peterborough Cathedral on 26 September at noon. The service will take place in private due to Covid restrictions. We look forward to Simon joining the team as assistant curate. Simon's first service at Oakham will be on the 27 September at 10.30am. His first service at Langham will be on 4 October at 10.30am

## **Team Walk**

September 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am

The six mile walk will start from Seaton Road Uppingham. A picnic will be required. To get to the start turn left at the traffic lights with the Harley Davidson garage/petrol station on the left. After 400 metres take the third exit at the roundabout on to Seaton Road. There is ample parking. Everyone welcome for further details contact Liz or Richard Plummer 01572 720506

## **Music at lunchtime**

Oakham School's series of weekly lunchtime recitals will resume in the School's Chapel every week from Wednesday 9 September onwards. For safety reasons, these will initially only be for an internal School audience, but video recordings of every recital will be uploaded 24 hours later to the School's website here: [bit.ly/oakhammusic](http://bit.ly/oakhammusic)

## Foodbank Update for Rutland Churches and Key Partners August 2020

I'm pleased to share another update from the Rutland Foodbank as we've been dealing with the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on those experiencing food poverty.

As many of you will know we are still unable to welcome back our over 70s volunteers. This is due to difficulties in ensuring we can provide them with safe working spaces as per the Government Guidance. We miss the experience and support they give but I'm sure you understand that the trustees have a duty of care to ensure we don't risk individual safety.

We continue our operations from the new Oakham premises (36 Melton Road) and we are still open on Monday and Friday mornings 10.30 - 12.00 to receive donations and enquiries. At the present time we do not feel that we can re-start our drop-in sessions either at our premises in Oakham or at Uppingham Church.

Our links with Citizens Advice Rutland (CAR) are strong and we continue to have support from Rutland County Council (RCC). They have both helped by adopting the Trussell Trust electronic referral system as we are now operating with eVouchers. The CAR team (01572 723494) are also able to support and signpost to other services such as benefits and or debt management as needed. We encourage

new and returning clients to speak to them for advice and assessment.

Our referral numbers have increased, since April 1st we have received over 300 referrals. We anticipate they will continue to rise especially as the economic impact of the pandemic begins to emerge. We are looking to expand the number of electronic referrers – if your church or organisation is interested please contact us – our details are at the end of this letter.

The doorstep delivery service is currently supported by Oakham School volunteers but as the school begins its new term we are looking at ways we can continue deliveries. The delivery service has enabled us to reach more Rutland residents, particularly those in rural villages. We continue to provide 7-Day food packs and are including out more fresh foods. We also have the capability for ad-hoc rapid response food pack deliveries.

We are fortunate that our food and toiletries donations have held up well, our supermarket collection points are still available. Our warehouse is well stocked at the moment but please keep an eye on our Facebook page for our shortages (Did you know that you don't need to be a Facebook user to see our posts here's the link [https://www.facebook.com/pg/rutland.foodbank/posts/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/rutland.foodbank/posts/?ref=page_internal))

At the moment we would welcome crackers and rice cakes for lunches. We also need men's shaving foam and deodorant. We also need washing pods

(preferably non-bio which is more suitable for laundering children's clothing).

We are pleased to continue receiving financial donations from small to quite large. These have come from individuals, local and national business and from some amazing fundraising efforts.

The RCC /Voluntary Action Rutland Community Collection Scheme which brings in donations from local villages is working well and is a great example of partnership working. It is enabling village residents to make donations without travelling unnecessarily.

We continue to develop and strengthen our networks and connection via online meetings and the RCC Voluntary, Community & Faith (VCF) group sharing best practice, national and local initiatives and concerns. The group is looking at the next steps as the lockdown eases, in the next 3-9 months and the following year or two is unknown so this group is proving a vital forum for us to work together to maintain local services.

If you have any queries or need to signpost anyone please contact [info@rutland.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@rutland.foodbank.org.uk) or the foodbank mobile 07582 783363

*Ali Wainwright  
Chair Rutland Foodbank*

## **Oakham Christian Meditation Group**

We are an ecumenical group of Christians who meditate weekly throughout the year on Wednesday at

6.00/6.30 pm. The group met formerly at the chapel of St John & St Anne but Covid restrictions prohibit this at present so Stephen Griffiths has kindly agreed that the group may hold their meetings in The Lady Chapel, All Saints Church from Wednesday, 2nd September, 2020. All are welcome. Please wear a mask and follow social distancing. *Please contact Marjorie on [marjorieport46@gmail.com](mailto:marjorieport46@gmail.com) 07753870151 for more information.*

## **Planned Giving**

The diocese are making significant changes to the planned giving scheme that over 100 members of All Saints Oakham use. With bank transfers to Peterborough who remit the funds to All Saints and reclaim Gift aid where applicable. The Diocese will outsource this service to a third party by the end of 2020. The PCC reviewed this arrangement and decided that it was in All Saints and the givers best interest to bring this service in house. This has been successfully introduced in October 2019 with over 20 people using the in house service. All accounting systems and GDPR (data protection) processes are in place. If you are one of the 100 using the Peterborough system we would ask that you transfer from Peterborough to All Saints. To do this you need to stop the bank transfer to Peterborough and replace it with new standing order to Oakham All Saints PCC sort code 40-43-05 account number 01141171. We will be checking to ensure you do not double pay in one month. To help with the Gift Aid claim would you please confirm you are a UK tax payer and if

the money is transferred from a joint account under which name the tax can be reclaimed. Letting me know by email or phone. Also please use the contacts below if you would like a more detailed explanation for these changes. Richard Plummer (01572 720506 / richard@familyplummer.co.uk)

## Church Family News

If you have any news which you would like to share with the church family through the pewsheet please phone the office 724007 or email notices@oakhamteam.org.uk. The deadline each week for the pewsheet is Tuesday evening.

## Keeping in Touch

I am usually at home at my desk Wednesdays 2pm-4pm and happy to take calls if you would like to share news and chat. Please feel free to call 869483. *Stephen*

## Bereavement Support

If you would like ongoing support while the Bereavement Group is not meeting, please leave your name, phone number and email (if applicable) at one of the contacts below. We will endeavour to get in contact. Sian Cheverton (01572 755286); Madeleine Morris (07754 414437); Parish Office (01572 724007) or email bereavementsupport@oakhamteam.org.uk.

**SIMON ALEY**  
**to be ordained Deacon**  
**by the Bishop of Brixworth,**  
**the Right Reverend John Holbrook**  
**at Peterborough Cathedral**  
**at Noon 26.9.2020**  
**in Private due to Covid**

Please also pray for Revd. Stephen H. Griffiths  
and the Oakham Ministry Team  
with whom Simon will serve as Assistant Curate  
in the parishes of NW Rutland

# Langham Church is open

Tuesday morning 10 -12  
Saturday afternoon 3 -4.30



Covid guidelines being followed  
for your safety

Please bring your own mask