

St John's, Pevensey Road www.StJohnsPevenseyRoad.org.uk



Pewsheet for Sunday 13th September: 14th Sunday after Trinity

People for whom our prayers are asked:

Arlene, Ian, Amber, Mike, Sally, Tracy, Agatha, Clare & Luke & family, Shane, Clive, Henry, Marylyn, Fr Ken, Fr John, Alberta, Wendy, Tracey, and Marion

Please pray also for...

...the repose of the souls of the recently departed, especially Paul Cabban, John Clifford McConnell, and Diane,

... those whose Years Minds fall around this time, especially Pam Harper, Dinah Giddings, Rene Carter, Phyllis Simpson, Clive Frost, Jean Burgess, and Louis,

...and all who mourn.

The church is open for private prayer weekday mornings 9:30 - 12:30.

Carole C and family would like to express their thanks for the flowers, cards and messages received since the death of Paul.



Churches enjoy Zooming

Most churches who used digital channels during lockdown, in order to keep in touch with their congregations, found that their favourite platform was Zoom.

A recent survey by Ecclesiastical found that Zoom was used by 78 per cent; Skype by 12 per cent, and other platforms, including WhatsApp, by eight per cent. Nearly one third of

churches who used digital channels have also reported an increased attendance at their virtual services. That has led to some 38 per cent of churches saying that they would continue to use digital channels, even now that churches are physically open again.

Our "Zoom" service is at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays. Send Rev Jill or Deacon Michael an email and they will let you know how to join in.

DIOCESE OF THE CHURCH CHICHESTER OF ENGLAND

⁴⁴Today (Sunday 13th September) is a hugely important one in the life of the Diocese as we formally welcome Bishop Ruth and Bishop Will at special services to be held in the Cathedral. The two services of welcome (two because of social distancing) will be live streamed on the diocesan website,

www.chichester.anglican.org/liveservices so everyone further afield will be able to join in the celebrations.



+Will who is now the Bishop of Lewes and +Ruth, who is now Bishop of Horsham will be formally installed at 2 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. respectively.



At each service the new bishop will be supported by the presence of family and friends, and each will attend the others' service.

Together with Bishop Martin, the new bishops will launch their ministry by ordaining new deacons and priests individually in churches right across the Diocese in the weeks ahead (including our friend Lizzi Green).

We have been refurbishing the Church Open signs, and have some new perspex sheets to replace the ones in the old A board which got damaged in the recent windy weather. Is there a handyman or handywoman amongst us who might have an implement for cutting the perspex to size?! It is currently in the Tower Room if anyone would like to check it out.

Mass for the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *All* **Amen.**

The Lord be with you *All* and also with you.

Prayer of Confession

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments, and to live in love and peace with all.

All Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

The priest says the Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Gloria in Excelsis is said:

All 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 Collect

Let us pray:

Merciful God, your Son came to save us and bore our sins on the cross: may we trust in your mercy and know your love, rejoicing in the righteousness that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All* **Amen.**

A reading from the Book of Genesis

Genesis 50.15-21

Realizing that their father was dead. Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

For the Word of the Lord *All* **Thanks be to God**

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans

Romans 14.1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written,

'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,

and every tongue shall give praise to God.'

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

For the Word of the Lord *All* **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord. No one comes to the Father except through me. *All* **Alleluia**

The Lord be with you *All* **And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew *All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 18.21-35

Peter came and said to Jesus, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellowslave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellowslaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you. if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. *All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,

begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit

and the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you promised through your Son Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith.

Strengthen bishops Martin, Will and Ruth, and all your Church in the service of Christ, that those who confess your name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy *All* Hear our prayer

Bless and guide Elizabeth our Queen; give wisdom to all in authority; and direct this and every nation in the ways of justice and of peace; that we may honour one another, and seek the common good.

Lord, in your mercy *All* Hear our prayer

Give grace to us, our families and friends, and to all our neighbours, that we may serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy *All* Hear our prayer

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit ...; give them courage and hope in their troubles; and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy *All* Hear our prayer

Hear us as we remember those who have died in the faith of Christ ...; according to your promises, grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy *All* Hear our prayer

Rejoicing in the fellowship of [*N* and of] all your saints, we commend ourselves and the whole creation to your unfailing love.

Merciful Father,

All Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace is introduced

We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. *All* and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We may exchange a sign of peace

Preparation of the Table

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:

through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands.

It will become for us the cup of salvation.

All Blessed be God for ever.

The priest takes the bread and wine.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here *All* **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,

through whom you have created all things;

who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;

as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us;

he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;

he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection

by rising to new life;

so he fulfilled your will

and won for you a holy people.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name,

for ever praising you and saying:

All Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,

took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me

in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith: *All* Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again. And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,

we bring before you this bread and this cup

and we thank you for counting us worthy

to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup,

so that we, in the company of Saint John the Evangelist, Saint Peter, Saint John Chrysostom, Mary the Mother of God, and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All 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 those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

Agnus Dei is said:

All Jesus, Lamb of God, Have mercy on us Jesus, bearer of our sins, Have mercy on us Jesus, redeemer of the world, Grant us peace

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word,

and I shall be healed.

we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Communion is received

Notices

Music during Communion:

Improvisation on 'O for the wings of a dove' (Mendelssohn)

Prayer after Communion

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread,

and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off, you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; The Blessing and Dismissal

Priest The Lord be with you *All* **And also with you**

The peace of God,

which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Concluding voluntary: Two trumpet tunes (Charpentier/Purcell)



Today, 13th September, we celebrate St John Chrysostom - living a public faith

John Chrysostom (347 - 407) is the saint for anyone who applies their Christianity to public life, and also for anyone who hates travelling in bad weather.

Chrysostom did both, and had trouble both times. Born into a wealthy home in Antioch, John Chrysostom studied both oratory and law. In 373 he became a monk, where his talents were soon spotted by the bishop, who put him in charge

of the care of the many poor Christians in the city. Chrysostom's oratorical skills made him a popular preacher, even when he spoke out against the riots against the emperor's taxes. The emperor, in fact, liked him so much that he had him made Archbishop of Constantinople in 397. Then the trouble began, because Chrysostom had firm moral views, and wanted to reform the corrupt morals of the court.

Nobody at court liked that at all – especially the Empress, whose make-up, clothes and behaviour were all criticised by Chrysostom. When his enemies claimed that he had gone on to call her a 'Jezebel', the emperor had to exile him – until an earthquake scared everyone into recalling this strict Archbishop – just in case God was trying to tell them something. Even the Empress was shaken – for a while. A few years later, Chrysostom was exiled again over another false charge – and forced to travel for many miles in appalling weather. In the end, Chrysostom died on the road to Pontus, but over the ensuing centuries, the Church finally came to see him as having been a great church leader.

A prayer for healing

Heavenly Father,

We bring to you all those struggling with their mental health just now. We pray:

For everyone who is smiling, when inside they're in pain.

For everyone who is saying they're fine, when inside they feel drained and empty. For everyone struggling with fear and worry as the easing of the lockdown brings new anxieties.

Be with them in their suffering, as so much of their world has been stripped back and emptied.

When loved family and friends have been taken by illness,

Or made distant by lockdown.

Pour your healing balm into their pain and sadness.

May you walk with them besides still waters

May you speak to them in a still small voice.

May you heal them, and fill them, and bless them with your abundant love and fullness of life.

And may they know that they are loved by you for the beautiful unique person that they are, created in the image of their heavenly creator and loving Lord. In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Rev'd Peter Crumpler

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