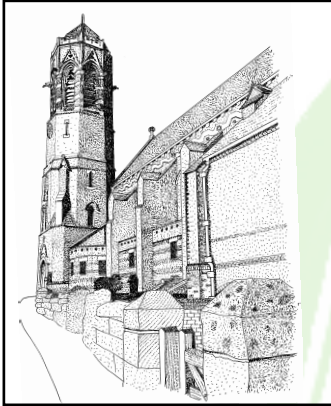




St John's, Pevensey Road



Pews News for Sunday 27th September: 16th Sunday after Trinity

People for whom our prayers are asked:

Arlene, Ian, Amber, Mike, Sally, Tracy, Agatha, Shane, Clive, Henry, Marylyn, Fr Ken, Fr John, Alberta, Wendy, Tracey, Marion, and Jackie.

Please pray also for...

...the repose of the souls of the departed,

... those whose Years Minds fall around this time,
especially Rose & Jim Connor, Brian Hanrahan, and Samantha Loweth,

...and all who mourn.

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

Morning Prayer: weekday mornings in Church at 9:00.

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.

Harvest Thanksgiving Mass is being held on Sunday 11th October, 10:30 a.m. As usual, donations of non-perishable food items for the Seaview Project will be welcome on the day, or may be dropped off at church on weekday mornings before then, if more convenient. The items most useful for Seaview are:

- Tinned meat items (e.g. Hot dogs, Chilli, Meatballs etc)
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned tuna
- Long life milk
- Cereal bars
- Baked beans

Thank you !

HARVEST
THANKSGIVING



Your opportunity to take part in the democratic processes of the Church...

Our Annual Meetings

The Annual Meeting for the Election of Churchwardens and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held this year on Sunday 11th October 2020 after the 10:30 Mass, and last about 45 minutes. Due to the COVID restrictions, the maximum number allowed to attend is 30. Please advise the Rector if you wish to attend.

Would you like to join us on the PCC?

The Parochial Church Council is the committee that looks after the running of St Johns. Each year we elect a third of the members, so we look for people of any age (over 16),

experience, or background to meet eight times a year to discuss the business of running the church. Please look at the notice board at the back of Church for more details, and/or speak to a Churchwarden or the PCC Secretary.



Would you like to represent St John's on the Hastings Deanery Synod?

The Deanery Synod is the Church of England committee for the local area, known as a Deanery, which has the role of fostering mutual support between its parishes, joint planning of key elements of pastoral life and mission and sharing of resources. It also elects members to the Diocesan Synod and the General (national) Synod. Please look at the notice board at the back of Church for more details and/or speak to Father David or one of the current Deanery Synod members.

Mass for the Sixteenth 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:

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.

All Amen.

A reading from the Book of the prophet Ezekiel

Ezekiel 18.1-4,25-32

The word of the LORD came to me:

What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no

pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Philippians 2.1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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 21.23-32

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven," he will say to us, "Why then did you not

believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin," we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today."

He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.'

Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.'

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 Martin, our bishop, and Will
and Ruth, our suffragan bishops,
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.

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,
Mary the Mother of God, and all the
saints,

may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

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.

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.**

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.**

Communion is received

Music during Communion:
Andante in F (Lefebure-Wely)

Prayer after Communion

Almighty God,
you have taught us through your Son
that love is the fulfilling of the law:
grant that we may love you with our
whole heart
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through 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;
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.

Notices

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: *Sortie in E flat*
(Lefebure-Wely). See the back page of this
pewsheet for a biography of the composer.

We are currently in **The Season of Creation, or Creationtide** - the period in the annual church calendar, from 1st September to 4th October, dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life.



This medieval stained glass 'Adam delving' dates to 1176 and is one of the oldest windows in Canterbury Cathedral. It depicts Adam diligently working the land - particularly relevant as we celebrate God's glory in the natural world.



29th September: Michael and All Angels

The Bible is full of angels, from the early chapters of Genesis to the last chapter of Revelation, and often they had a key role in crucial events. It seems, from just two instances, that Michael was their leader, an 'archangel'. In many stained glass windows he's seen with a sword, because in a vision in Revelation he led the angelic host who fought and defeated Satan and his army.

In Genesis 18:1-2, angels, divine messengers, appeared in the guise of three apparently ordinary men who visited Abraham and Sarah to tell them she would have a son.

In the Gospels, an angel of the Lord appeared to Zechariah in the Temple, to tell him that his elderly wife was to have a son, the forerunner of the Messiah - John the Baptist. An angel - Gabriel - appeared to Mary to tell her that she would be the mother of the Messiah, the Son of God. An angel appeared 'in a dream' to Joseph, the village carpenter in Nazareth, to tell him to go ahead and marry his fiancée, Mary, and later - also in a dream - warn him not to go back to Bethlehem. A 'young man', whom we take to have been an angel, was sitting in the empty tomb on Easter morning, waiting to tell the startled women that Jesus wasn't there - He had risen (Mark 16:5).

So the word 'angel' covers an enormous diversity of experience. The Letter to the Hebrews speaks of those who practice hospitality as sometimes 'entertaining angels unawares'. Sometimes people recognise angels for who they are, and sometimes they don't. Angels, quite simply, are God's agents or emissaries - messengers and ministers of God's will. Sometimes they are human; sometimes they seem to be spiritual beings. Perhaps we could even say that *anyone*, in any situation, who is at that moment God's 'messenger' to us, or serves us graciously, is an 'angel'. So, when we say, 'Oh, be an angel and pop up to the chemist for my prescription', we may be nearer the heart of the matter than we think!

Canon David Winter

Hymn of the Week – with Creation Season in mind:

*All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.*

It's a profoundly simple encapsulation of the essence of biblical creation theology – God made it all. Of course the hymn only focusses on the bright and the beautiful, so we must thank Monty Python for suggesting some additional verses to balance it out:

*All things dull and ugly, all creatures short and squat,
All things rude and nasty, the Lord God made the lot.*

It's easy to think of God as the creator of a beautiful flower, a starlit night, or a crashing waterfall, but God is the creator of all creation – the good, the bad and the ugly. And sadly the beauty and integrity of creation has been damaged by human action. Our starting point, however, must be that all life is good, be it meerkat or mosquito, wisteria or wasp, bluebell or bindweed. All life has value because all life comes from God. Bright and beautiful or dull and ugly – the Lord God made them all.

Notice the 'dull and ugly' parts of God's creation today – can you find beauty in them?

A note on the composer of today's organ music

Louis James Alfred Lefebure-Wely was born in Paris in 1817. He studied the organ at the Conservatoire with Francois Benoist, who also taught Cesar Franck. In 1831 he followed in his father's footsteps as Organist of Saint-Roch, later becoming Organist at Madeleine and then Saint-Sulpice. When he died in 1869, his position was filled by Charles-Marie Widor.

Lefebure-Wely was well-known in Paris as an outstanding, if somewhat eccentric, musician. His works were strongly influenced by the style of Parisian operetta!

The Small Print

for today's service

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