

St John's, Pevensey Road

www.StJohnsPevenseyRoad.org.uk



Pews News for Sunday 11th October: Harvest Thanksgiving

People for whom our prayers are asked:

Arlene, Ian, Amber, 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 recently departed, especially
Mike Heasman

... those whose Years Minds fall around this time,
especially Agnes Thomas, Jane Anderson,
Peter Storey, Jeremy Forty, and Clem Burgess,

...and all who mourn.



Welcome to our Harvest Thanksgiving Mass today - to those in Church in person, and also to those following the service on screen at home.

The Seaview shopping list items, in case anyone wishes to add to today's Harvest food collection: Tinned meat items, Tinned fruit, Tinned tuna, Long life milk, Cereal bars, Baked beans. Food items will be quarantined for Covid hygiene purposes before being forwarded to Seaview.

Today after the Mass:

The Annual Meeting for the Election of Churchwardens and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held.

This week:

Morning Prayer: weekday mornings in the main church at 09:00 a.m.


The church is open for private prayer: weekday mornings 09:30-12:30.

"Zoom" service: 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday. Send Rev Jill or Deacon Michael an email and they will let you know how to join in.

FRIENDS OF THE POOR IN SOUTH INDIA
Charity for the relief of the hungry, India - Christian Aid
Incorporated in England and Wales, 1218897

A Special Harvest Possibility

Many of you will already know us as Friends of the Poor in South India because Bishop Laurie set up the charity with his friends eleven years ago. With your help, things have been so successful in helping some of the poorest folk in South India that we need now to give all the programmes stability and sustainability. To do this we've started to build a training centre to pull all the work together and to give these poor people somewhere at last to call their own. Here's the artist's impression.



Trustees pay all costs ourselves so every penny you give goes where it counts! We know it works because we go there and know these poor people as our friends. So far, with your help, we've directly & indirectly assisted as many as 7,600 people. The need is so great.

Please help us build a Training Centre, to bring them sustainability and let the work go from strength to strength!
www.fpsi.org.uk

Available here today: you are invited to take a copy of Bishop Laurie's Harvest Appeal for his India charity

Covid-19 housekeeping

If you have a smartphone you may have downloaded the government's Test and Trace app, allowing you to "check in" to a venue by scanning a "QR code". We now have QR code signs for St John's, displayed as you come in. Just open the app, select "venue check in", and then hold your phone up to the QR code on the poster.

LET'S HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS

Scan this QR code with your NHS COVID-19 App to check-in



St John's Church, Upper St Leonards
St John's The Evangelical Church, Peasehay Road, Upper St

DOWNLOAD THE NHS COVID-19 APP



"The purpose of all the major religious traditions is not to construct big temples on the outside, but to create temples of goodness and compassion inside, in our hearts." - Dalai Lama XIV

Harvest is from the Anglo-Saxon word haerfest, "Autumn". It then came to refer to the season for reaping and gathering grain and other grown products. An early Harvest Festival used to be celebrated at the beginning of the Harvest season on 1st August, and was called Lammas, "Loaf Mass". Farmers made loaves of bread from the fresh wheat crop. These were given to the local church as the Communion bread during a special service thanking God for the harvest. The focus of this celebration has since shifted to the end of the harvest season, rather than the beginning.

Hymn of the Week: *To Thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise...*



Most British hymn writers in the nineteenth century were members of the clergy, but the two guys who provided the words and music for today's Gradual hymn certainly bucked that trend. Surgeon's son William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898) was a businessman, and manager of a marine insurance company in Glasgow. The composer of the tune, Golden Sheaves, Sir Arthur Seymour Sullivan (1842-1900) is best known for being half of the partnership "Gilbert and Sullivan", their 14 works including H.M.S. Pinafore, The Pirates of Penzance and The Mikado.

1 To Thee, O Lord, our hearts we raise
in hymns of adoration,
to Thee bring sacrifice of praise
with shouts of exultation.
Bright robes of gold the fields adorn,
the hills with joy are ringing,
the valleys stand so thick with corn
that even they are singing.

2 And now, on this our festal day,
Thy bounteous hand confessing,
upon Thine altar, Lord, we lay
the first-fruits of Thy blessing.
By Thee the hungry souls are fed
with gifts of grace supernal;
Thou who dost give us daily bread,
give us the bread eternal.

3 We bear the burden of the day,
and often toil seems dreary;
but labour ends with sunset ray,
and rest comes for the weary.
May we, the angel-reaping o'er,
stand at the last accepted,
Christ's golden sheaves for evermore
to garner bright elected.

4 O blessèd is that land of God,
where saints abide for ever;
where golden fields spread far and broad,
where flows the crystal river.
The strains of all its holy throng
with ours today are blending;
thrice blessèd is that harvest-song
which never hath an ending.

Theology Corner

This hymn opens by reflecting creation's joyful praise of God's goodness as extolled in Psalm 65 verses 9-13. The "fruit of lips" offering a "sacrifice of praise" is commended in the Letter to the Hebrews (Hebrews 13:15).

Verse 2 alludes to the Festival of Harvest instituted by God in Exodus 23:14-19, requiring the choicest of the first fruits of the ground to be brought into the LORD's House (see also Leviticus 23:10, Deuteronomy 26:1-11). The "daily bread" of the Lord's Prayer gets a mention, but God is also exhorted to give us the bread eternal, of Christ's body in Holy Communion (John 6:35).

Verse 3 reflects the sentiments of the workers in the vineyard, about whom we heard a few weeks back (Matthew chapter 20). But there's the promise of "rest for the weary" (Job 3:17) who bring home the harvest (Psalm 126:6). It then picks up the Parable of the Weeds as explained by Jesus in Matthew 13:36-43, where evildoers end up in the furnace, and the righteous in the kingdom of God.

The last verse reflects the vision of heaven, the experience of being in the nearer presence of God, as revealed to John. There the "crystal river" of the water of life supports the Tree of Life, which brings forth fruitfulness and healing (Revelation 22:1-2). And lastly we have a taste of the eternal worship of God (described in Revelation chapter 4), in which we may also graciously partake during our Eucharistic Prayer - "Holy Holy Holy Lord..." sung to God day and night. Worship which, as the hymn says, "never hath an ending".

Mass for Harvest Thanksgiving

The Greeting

The earth is the Lord's,
and the fullness thereof. *Psalm 24.1*

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

Let us confess our forgetfulness
of the needs of the poor,
and repent of the ways in which
we waste the resources of
the world..

God our Father, we are sorry
for the times when we have used your
gifts carelessly,
and acted ungratefully.
Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:
All forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest,
but sometimes forget that you have
given them to us.
Father, in your mercy:
All forgive us and help us.

We belong to a people who are full
and satisfied,
but ignore the cry of the hungry.
Father, in your mercy:
All forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless,
and do not care enough for the world
you have made.
Father, in your mercy:
All forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone,
as if there were no God and no heaven.
Father, in your mercy:
All forgive us and help us.

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:

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect
this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy

Deuteronomy 8.7-18

The LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you.

Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid waste-land with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water

flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, 'My power and the might of my own hand have gained me this wealth.' But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

A reading from the Second Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

2 Corinthians 9.6-15

The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written,

'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;
his righteousness endures for ever.'

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry

you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn:

To Thee O Lord our hearts we raise
Our Hymn of the week, for Harvest, sung by Fr David. Unfortunately we are still not allowed to join in.

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

Lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are ripe for harvesting.

Gather the fruit for eternal life.

All Alleluia

The Lord be with you

All And also with you

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 17:11-19

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!' When he saw them, he said to

them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, 'Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' Then he said to him, 'Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.'

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

Let us offer our prayers to God for the
life of the world, and for all God's
people in their daily life and work.

God, the beginning and end of all things,
in your providence and care
you watch unceasingly over all creation;
we offer our prayers
that in us and in all your people your
will may be done,
according to your wise and loving
purpose in Christ our Lord.
Lord of all life:
All hear our prayer.

We pray for all through whom we receive
sustenance and life;
for farmers and agricultural workers,
for packers, distributors and managers;
as you have so ordered our life that we
depend upon each other,
enable us by your grace to seek the
well-being of others before our own.
Lord of all creation:
All hear our prayer.

We pray for all engaged in research to
safeguard crops against disease,
and to produce abundant life among those
who hunger
and whose lives are at risk.
Prosper the work of their hands
and the searching of their minds,
that their labour may be for the welfare of all.
Lord of all wisdom:
All hear our prayer.

We pray for governments and aid
agencies,
and those areas of the world where
there is disaster, drought and starvation.
By the grace of your Spirit,
touch our hearts
and the hearts of all who live in
comfortable plenty,
and make us wise stewards of your gifts.
Lord of all justice:
All hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are ill,
remembering those in hospital and
nursing homes
and all who are known to us...
We pray for all who care for them.
Give skill and understanding
to all who work for their well-being.
Lord of all compassion:
All hear our prayer.

We remember those who have died,
whom we entrust to your eternal love
in the hope of resurrection to new life...

Lord of all peace:

All hear our prayer.

We offer ourselves to your service,
asking that by the Spirit at work in us
others may receive a rich harvest of love
and joy and peace.

Lord of all faithfulness:

All hear our prayer.

God of grace,
as you are ever at work in your creation,
so fulfil your wise and loving purpose in us
and in all for whom we pray,
that with them and in all that you have
made, your glory may be revealed
and the whole earth give praise to you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Peace is introduced

The harvest of the Spirit is love, joy,
peace, patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

cf Galatians 5.22,23

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;
you bring forth bread from the earth.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
you create the fruit of the vine.

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.

And now we give you thanks
because you make us stewards of your
creation,
to praise you day by day
for the marvels of your wisdom and
power.

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:
A selection of harvest hymns

Prayer after Communion

Lord of the harvest,
with joy we have offered thanksgiving for
your love in creation
and have shared in the bread and wine of
the kingdom:
by your grace plant within us a reverence for
all that you give us
and make us generous and wise stewards
of the good things we enjoy;
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

May God our creator,
who clothes the lilies and feeds the
birds of the air,
bestow on you his care
and increase the harvest of your
righteousness;
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 Freely you have received,
freely give.
Go in peace to love and serve
the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

**Concluding voluntary: Voluntary in
D major (William Boyce)**



Tomorrow, 12th October,
we remember **Edith Cavell** -
a good saint for NHS
workers this year, as she
also cared for the sick
despite the danger to her
own safety.

Edith was a vicar's daughter
from Swardeston in Norfolk,
where she was born in 1865. She became a
governess, but her heart was for nursing, so
she went to train at the London Hospital.

When Edith was 42, she decided to go abroad,
and was appointed matron of a large training
centre for nurses in Brussels. During the First
World War, Edith's nursing school became a
Red Cross hospital, and she and her nurses
tended wounded soldiers from both German
and Allied armies.

Sadly, in 1915, when the Germans began their
occupation of Brussels, they took a dim view of
Edith's work. But they would have been even
more unhappy had they known she was
helping to smuggle 200 British soldiers across
the border into the Netherlands! The Germans
arrested Edith in August 1915, and put her into
solitary confinement. They tricked her into
confessing to a charge which carried the death
penalty. But Edith refused to show either regret
at what she had done, or any fear or bitterness
towards her captors.

On 11th October 1915, the night before her
execution, she told the visiting chaplain: "I am
thankful to have had these ten weeks of quiet
to get ready. Now I have had them and have
been kindly treated here. I expected my
sentence and I believe it was just. Standing, as
I do, in view of God and eternity, I realise that
patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred
or bitterness to anyone."

Edith was shot by a firing squad next day, on
12th October 1915. After the war her body was
exhumed and buried in Norwich Cathedral. Her
memorial service in Westminster Abbey
attracted thousands. A commemorative statue
of her stands near Trafalgar Square.

The Small Print for today's service

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