

Sunday 17th August 2025

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

8.00 a.m. BCP Communion
10.00 a.m. Morning Worship
4.00 p.m. Tea Time Church

Collect for Today

Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy, strong and faithful, for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Service Readings

Jeremiah 23:23-29 (*p.737*), Hebrews 11:29-12:2 (*p.223*) and Luke 12:49-56 (*p.72*)

Please pray for

... Julie Banks, Sylvia Holdsworth, Mark Knott, Becki & Jonathan Salmon and Timothy Rayner (Julie Shaw's brother).

... the family and friends of Robin Nugent, our architect for the Big Build project, who died recently.

... Rachel Koci and family following the death of her Mum, Trixie.

... Marguerite and Dave following the death of Marguerite's brother.

... the family and friends of John Carter, Pat Williams, Kid Brookes, John Colson and Noel Hunter whose anniversary of death is at this time.

... those who live and work in Madrid Road and Manor Way.

... the Koens family in Papua New Guinea supporting the work of Bible translation through vehicle maintenance, teaching, missionary care.

Post Communion Prayer

Holy Father, who gathered us here around the table of your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God: in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Dear Friends

The gospel reading this week is a challenging one. On a first read, Jesus is telling his disciples he does not bring peace and harmony, but division and fire, splitting families apart. This is not the loving Christ I know. So what's happening here?

In Luke's gospel, this is just a remote passage. Nothing before it leads to a reason as to what Jesus has said and nothing after it either. Matthew's gospel too mentions Jesus' words. Again, quite remote, but with a little more explanation, as we expect from Matthew! (Matt 10:34-36)

Jesus is more preparing his disciples and, indeed, us. He is talking about his baptism of crucifixion yet to come and the fire of Good News that will sweep the earth's a result. There will be disagreement he says. Some will and some will not follow. But he urges us all to take up our cross.

There, I feel I'm left hanging. These passages aren't followed by this is what I need to do, how to behave, what following means, what is a good choice, how to handle the division that Jesus says will be there.

Then it dawns on me - of course there is. In every page of the Bible. That's all I need.

God bless,

Andy

Mission Focus for August: North Guildford Food Bank

The North Guildford Food Bank (NGFB) provides temporary help for individuals and families living in the Guildford area by supplying food parcels and signposting people to other helpful local services. Last year NGFB fed nearly 3500 adults and 2500 children – an increase of about 1500 adults and children on the previous year and nearly triple pre-pandemic levels. There will be a collection box in church in October for Harvest and also throughout November to contribute towards Christmas parcels. For more information please see the Mission Focus article in August's church magazine and their website: northguildfordfoodbank.co.uk

Notices

Children's Church over the summer: Over the summer holidays, the services will be accessible for children and there will be activities at the back of church for children to do so that they can enjoy being in the service.

Tea Time Church: Today we'll be looking at Luke 12:49-56, which faces up to the challenges we may face as Christians. We'll be doing this in an interactive way, and if you'd like to find out more, do come along! Beverly.

Pilgrim course books needed: Did you take part in the Pilgrim courses – and if so, do you still have 'The Beatitudes' book? The Women's Bible Study group are planning to work through this book in the autumn and would love to borrow the books if possible. If you have one to loan, please give to Trish. Thank you!

Hear Here Clinic: Our next clinic is TOMORROW, between 2pm and 3pm in the Reading Room. No need for an appointment, just call in for help and advice on your hearing aid.

Thank you from Angus Bentall: Angus turned 80 last weekend and several of people sent messages. Angus says this: "Please may I express my appreciation to all those at All Saints for their most surprising but so-much-appreciated birthday greetings. It was wonderful to hear from you all, and the video that James, my son, compiled evoked so many pleasant memories - and in some cases reminded me of things I'd rather forget! Watching and listening to it was, I suppose, like being at my own funeral. Thank you all SO much!"

Our love and prayers are with all the A level students in our church family who have received exam results. Please pray for them all as they consider their next steps, whether those are on the path they hoped for or not.

Special Events coming up:

- **Beverly's 10 Year Anniversary Celebration:** Sunday 7th September. After our Café-style Altogether Worship service, we'll celebrate with prosecco and cake. From midday, we'll enjoy a picnic lunch together on the field. We'll be inviting some 'old friends' back for the occasion!

There is now a sign-up sheet in the foyer, please add your name if you're able to come.

It's also **Backpack Sunday** on 7th, so do bring along your school bag, work bag or anything that signifies the work you do, for a special blessing. Key rings will be given to anyone who would like one!

- **Autumn Fair** Saturday 20th September, 2-5pm. Donation boxes are in the foyer and we'd love volunteers for the day. Please see Jo or Trish.
- **Harvest Supper & Quiz** Saturday 11th October, 5.30-7.30pm.
- **Harvest Festival** Sunday 12th October at 10am and 4pm.

Diary for the Coming Week

Morning prayer Mon, Tues and Weds 9.15am in the Reading Room and on Zoom. Thurs Holy Communion at 9.30am in the Reading Room.

Mon 18th Hear Here Clinic, Reading Room, 2.00pm-3.00pm

Weds 20th Dray Court Service, 2.30pm

Thurs 21st Holy Communion, Reading Room, 9.30am.

Revd Paul Fenner presiding

Men's Group "Exploring the Way", 6 Scillonian Road, 8.00pm

Sun 24th Church Family Communion, 10.00am

Revd Paul Fenner presiding

Tea Time Church, Reading Room, 4.00pm

Daily Readings for the coming week

Mon 18th Ps. 44, Ezekiel 37:1-14, Mark 1:1-13

Tues 19th Ps. 48, Ezekiel 37:15-end, Mark 1:14-20

Weds 20th Ps. 119:57-80, Ezekiel 39:21-end, Mark 1:21-28

Thurs 21st Ps. 57, Ezekiel 43:1-12, Mark 1:29-end

Fri 22nd Ps. 51, Ezekiel 44:4-16, Mark 2:1-12

Sat 23rd Ps. 68, Ezekiel 47:1-12, Mark 2:13-22

Service Readings for Sunday 24th August: Trinity 10

Isaiah 58:9b -end, Hebrews 12:18-end and Luke 13:10-17

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