

ITCHEN
VALLEY



CHURCHES

Church Matters...

25th July - Trinity 7
1st August - Trinity 8

Welcome

Welcome to this week's Church Matters, although we are not all able to congregate at this time (unless booked in for a service) we do hope you will enjoy taking part in our service either live or online.

Today's Service

25th July

**Ephesians 3.14-21 and
John 6.1-21**

Merciful God, whose holy apostle Saint James, leaving his father and all that he had, was obedient to the calling of your Son Jesus Christ and followed him even to death: help us, forsaking the false attractions of the world, to be ready at all times to answer your call without delay; 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.

1st August

Romans 12 1-2

Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; 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.

Notice Board

Praying for the Parish - We are committing to pray individually, but at the same time each week, during the vacancy, for all that this process involves, so that we are united as a community in doing so. We suggest that this time be at 11 am every Monday morning, for the duration of the vacancy (of course if this time on a Monday is not convenient for you please choose another one that suits your schedule). Some suggestions for areas on which to concentrate in prayer will be posted each week in advance of Monday morning on the Parish website. **John Barber, Ministry Team**

Covid Update - The decision was taken at this week's PCC meeting following advice from our Covid Committee that we do not plan to relax our Covid restrictions at this stage but will be reviewing them again at the end of August. The Church of England's advice is that it is for Churches to decide locally and we are very grateful for the amount of time that our advisors have taken to review the situation and decide on the safest route for us all at this time. Until the next review masks will still need to be worn inside the Church buildings, numbers will need to be limited and attendance booked in advance and although singing can not take place inside people can enjoy singing the hymns outside in the fresh air if they wish.

August Informal Services - You might have last week that we are intending to make our August informal services even more informal by holding them outside in gardens by kind permission of Nick and Lavinia Owen and Nicky and John Barber. This plan has lots of advantages as it gives the ministry team a bit of very much deserved time off as these really will be very relaxed events but we will still be hearing a talk and singing some great worship songs which leads me to the second advantage which is that as we will be outside we will be able to sing. Our All Age Worship will take place at 10am on Sunday 1st August in the garden of Nick and Lavinia at Southwood House, it would be great if you can let us know that you are attending and we can send you directions, parking instructions and the service book. As Beccy will be away please book your place with Julia in the usual way but using this email address j.c.wright@hotmail.co.uk Further details will be sent to you nearer the time. Our Valley Worship service will take place on the 15th August and more details will follow.

Everyone is very welcome and we do hope you will be able to attend, if you are not able to and would like to watch a live service from home - here is a link to services at Winchester Cathedral. <https://www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/worship-and-music/our-services/service-listings/>

For Your Prayers

Please Lord support those in our Parish, or who are known to us, who are ill and suffering at the moment - may they know your comfort at this time.

We pray for Frederike and Christopher as they are married this Saturday, we pray that the Lord blesses this marriage.

Please pray for Peter and Georgie and for all the details of their forthcoming move to the Valley in August. For the future of the Parish and for good, long-term fruit to be produced from a new season under Peter's leadership.

We pray for the Ministry Team and PCC for strength and guidance as they work so hard for the Parish at this time.

We pray for the lonely, anxious and confused people of our Parish, please Lord guide us to be the support that they need at this time.

We may not all be able to gather as we normally do, but we're still here if you need prayerful or practical support.

The Church Office

The Church Office will be closed from Thursday 22nd July until Thursday 5th August. If you have an urgent pastoral need please contact Gerry on gerry.Stacey@biblesociety.org.uk or 07554 438973. If you have any other matter that you need help with please contact one of these Church Wardens:

Robin Greenwood - robingreenwood1@btinternet.com

Chris Ellis - chrisellis99@googlemail.com

Sara Mason - splmason@hotmail.co.uk

Useful Information

Contacts:

Rector
Vacant

LLM

Mr Gerry Stacey
gerry.Stacey@biblesociety.org.uk
01962 620263
07554 438973

Parish Book-keeping - Janet Denyer, The Parish Office, St John's Church, Avington Lane, Itchen Abbas, Winchester, SO21 1BJ; accounts@itchenvalleychurches.org

The Hub and the Parish Office at St John's, Itchen Abbas. Office hours are generally 9am-1pm, weekdays; 01962 779845. Please call or email to make an appointment. At this time Beccy is working from home.

Church Matters - If you would like a notice to be put in Church Matters please send by email to Beccy Clark at admin@itchenvalleychurches.org by 1pm the previous Wednesday. If you wish to receive Church Matters weekly by email then please contact Beccy. You can also download it from the website www.itchenvalleychurches.org

Services

Sunday 25th July

10am Parish Communion live at St Mary's, Easton and via Zoom
With Revd. Alex Pease

Please book your place by emailing admin@itchenvalleychurches.org

Sunday 1st August

Please see details on page 2 for more information

Please book your place by emailing j.c.wright@hotmail.co.uk

Sunday 8th August

10am Parish Communion live at St Mary's, Easton and via Zoom

www.itchenvalleychurches.org

to receive regular updates from the Parish please follow us by
registering on the homepage