



# Church Matters...

**Sunday 29 October 2023**  
**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

## Welcome

We are so pleased to welcome you to our service. If you are new to the parish or worshipping with us for the first time, then please do make yourself known to the person leading the service.

## Parish Diary

### **Sunday 29 October**

8.30am – Holy Communion (1662) - St Mary's, Avington  
with Revd Peter

10am - Morning Worship - St John's, Itchen Abbas  
with Revd Peter  
*organist John Dover*

### **Monday 30 October**

9.30am – Little Rainbows - St John's, Itchen Abbas

### **Wednesday 1 November**

12.30pm - Praying David's Psalms - St John's, Itchen Abbas

7.30pm – Service of Prayer and Reflection - St John's, Itchen Abbas

### **Sunday 5 November**

10am - Parish Communion - St Mary's, Easton

4pm - Café Church - Itchen Abbas Village Hall

## Collect

Grant, we beseech you, merciful  
Lord,  
to your faithful people pardon  
and peace,  
that they may be cleansed from  
all their sins  
and serve you with a quiet mind;  
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.

## Psalm 119:9-16

How can young people keep their  
way pure?  
By guarding it according to your word.  
**With my whole heart I seek you;  
do not let me stray from your  
commandments.**  
I treasure your word in my heart,  
so that I may not sin against you.  
**Blessed are you, O Lord;  
teach me your statutes.**  
With my lips I declare  
all the ordinances of your mouth.  
**I delight in the way of your decrees  
as much as in all riches.**  
I will meditate on your precepts,  
and fix my eyes on your ways.  
**I will delight in your statutes;  
I will not forget your word.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now,  
and shall be for ever. Amen**

## **Colossians 3:12-17**

<sup>12</sup> As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

<sup>14</sup> Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup> And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. <sup>17</sup> And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

## **Matthew 24:30-35**

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see "the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven" with power and great glory. <sup>31</sup> And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

<sup>32</sup> 'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>33</sup> So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>34</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>35</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

# Notice Board

**Service of Prayer and Reflection** - on Wednesday 1 November at 7.30pm in St John's, Itchen Abbas. This is for all those who have been bereaved in recent years. Everyone is welcome.

**Café Church** - our next Café Church will be next Sunday (5 November) from 4-5pm in Itchen Abbas Village Hall. Everyone is welcome - come and meet new friends and old. There will be activities for all ages or just an opportunity to relax with tea and cake! (If you are able to make a cake, please let Beccy know).

**Martyr Worthy Lecture Series is back**- this begins on Tuesday 28 November 2023 when the award-winning author and historian, Jessie Childs (described by Hilary Mantel as a 'brilliant speaker as well as a writer') will be talking about her book, *The Siege of Loyalty House*; this is a new history of the English Civil War, focussed on the story of the siege of Basing House (1643-45). The lecture will be held in Itchen Abbas & Avington Village Hall, SO21 1BQ in aid of the four churches of the Itchen Valley Parish. 6.30pm for drinks and canapés, lecture 7.15pm. Tickets £25 available online with details of the three further lectures all at: see [www.buytickets.at/martyrworthylectures](http://www.buytickets.at/martyrworthylectures)

**'Praying David's Psalms'**: two remaining lunch-time meetings (12.30-1.30pm on Wednesdays 1 & 8 November) in which we will sit round over a cup of soup to explore one of David's Psalms.

## **A Prayer for the Holy Land**

Almighty God, the God and Father of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we come to you in our weakness, not knowing how to pray for the peoples living together in such tension within the Holy Land. We pray that you will bring your comfort to those who mourn, and a spirit of deep wisdom for all those in authority, that the ways of righteousness and peace might prevail. Especially we pray that the presence of the Risen Christ may guard the hearts of those who turn to Him at this time, and that they may be a powerful witness to His love, grace and peace: we pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

**Revd Peter**