



Church Matters...

Sunday 2 June 2024
First 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

Saturday 1 June

1pm - Wedding of Harry and Rachel - St Mary's, Easton

Sunday 2 June

10am - Parish Communion - St Mary's, Easton
with Revd Peter

4pm - Café Church - Itchen Abbas Village Hall
further details on page 4

Monday 3 June

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

Sunday 9 June

8.30am - Holy Communion (said) - St John's, Itchen Abbas
10am - All Age Worship - St John's, Itchen Abbas
5.30pm - UTX - St John's, Itchen Abbas

Beccy will be on annual leave from Thursday 6 - Friday 14 June (inc.) Messages and emails will be replied to on her return but if your message is of an urgent or pastoral nature please contact Revd Peter on 01962 588313
or revd.peter@itchenvalleychurches.org

Collect

O God,
the strength of all those who put
their trust in you,
mercifully accept our prayers
and, because through the
weakness of our mortal nature
we can do no good thing
without you,
grant us the help of your grace,
that in the keeping of your
commandments
we may please you both in will
and deed;
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 81:1-2, 8-14, 16

Sing aloud to God our strength;
shout for joy to the God
of Jacob.

**Raise a song, sound the
tambourine,
the sweet lyre with the harp.**

“Hear, O my people, while I
admonish you;
O Israel, if you would but listen
to me!

**There shall be no strange
god among you;
you shall not bow down to
a foreign god.**

I am the Lord your God,
who brought you up out of the
land of Egypt.

Open your mouth wide and
I will fill it.

**But my people did not listen
to my voice;
Israel would not submit
to me.**

So I gave them over to their
stubborn hearts,
to follow their own counsels.

**O that my people would listen
to me,
that Israel would walk in
my ways!**

Then I would quickly subdue
their enemies,
and turn my hand against
their foes.

**I would feed you with the
finest of the wheat,
and with honey from the
rock I would satisfy you.”**

**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 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, ² To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³ In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

⁴ for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵ because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel ⁶ that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God.

⁷ This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow-servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, ⁸ and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹ For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God.

¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Mark 2:1-12

When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. ² So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them. ³ Then some people came, bringing to him a paralysed man, carried by four of them. ⁴ And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. ⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, 'Son, your sins are forgiven.' ⁶ Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ⁷ 'Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?' ⁸ At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves; and he said to them, 'Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? ⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, "Your sins are forgiven", or to say, "Stand up and take your mat and walk"? ¹⁰ But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins'—he said to the paralytic— ¹¹ 'I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home.' ¹² And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, 'We have never seen anything like this!'

Notice Board

Café Church - our next Café Church will be this Sunday (2 June) from 4-5pm at 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!

Rectory Tea Party - We would love you to join us for afternoon tea at the Rectory this summer. Weather permitting, the dates will be Saturday 15 June and Saturday 13 July. Please join us between 4pm and 6pm. For an idea of numbers, please let Georgie know by Wednesday 12 June which date is in your diary! We look forward to seeing you. **Peter and Georgie** (georgie.2711@yahoo.co.uk or 01962 791160)

Parish Quiet Morning (Wed 12 June: 09.15am-12.30pm) – As previously mentioned, I hope you can clear a few hours in your diary in order to spend some time in Judy Bishop's garden (The Oak House, Church Lane, Easton SO21 1EH). Judy has worked hard in recent years to develop a wonderful area at the back of her house which combines garden, woodland and field. It could be the perfect place to go and find a chair somewhere—to read or pray, or simply to 'stop and stare'.

Coffee will be served on arrival. At both 09.30am and 11.00am I will offer a short time of and prayer (provisionally based on Psalms 16 and 23), but the rest of the time is yours to enjoy as you wish! (We are pencilling in the following Wednesday 19th as a back-up if the weather is against us on the 12th). And a big 'thank-you' to Judy for offering us this opportunity!

Pictures of the Four Worthys - The Worthys Local History Group are reprinting this popular 100-page book, which has great historic photos (especially of Martyr Worthy, of course) and also a contribution from Robin Greenwood. They will cost £15 per copy (£3 of which will go to our parish funds). I have a list of 9 people who have already registered interest in purchasing a copy. Please let me know by Monday 10 June if you would also like a copy.

'Summer Praise' (Sunday 23 June) – Building on what we launched as 'Easter Praise' in April, Tim Clapp and a small band will lead us in this afternoon act of Worship at St Mary's, Easton. Designed especially with younger families in mind, we will gather at 4.00pm for some refreshments and then enjoy an informal time of Praise and Prayer.

For Your Prayers

for the situations in Ukraine and the Holy Land

for those who are ill or suffering at the moment

for those recently bereaved

for Harry and Rachel on their wedding day