



Church Matters...

Sunday 30 June 2024
Fifth 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 30 June

8.30am - Holy Communion - St Mary's, Avington
with Revd David Mapes

10am - Morning Worship - St John's, Itchen Abbas
with LLM Gerry Stacey
organist John Dover

4pm - Church with a Splash - Martyr Worthy Manor Pool House
see details on page 4

Monday 1 July

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

Wednesday 3 July

8pm - Wednesday Night Worship - St John's, Itchen Abbas

Sunday 7 July

10am - Parish Communion - St John's, Itchen Abbas - **New Location**

Revd Peter will be on annual leave
from Monday 24 June - Friday 12 July (inc.)

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of
the Church
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for
all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness
and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour
Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Psalm 103:1-5, 8-12

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all his
benefits—**

who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
**who redeems your life from
the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast
love and mercy,**
who satisfies you with good as long
as you live
so that your youth is renewed like
the eagle's.

**The Lord is merciful and
gracious,
slow to anger and abounding
in steadfast love.**

He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger
for ever.

**He does not deal with us
according to our sins,
nor repay us according to
our iniquities.**

For as the heavens are high above
the earth,

so great is his steadfast love
towards those who fear him;

**as far as the east is from
the west,**

**so far he removes our
transgressions from us.**

As a father has compassion for
his children,
so the Lord has compassion for
those who fear him.

**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

2 Kings 5:1-14

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favour with his master, because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. ² Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, 'If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy.' ⁴ So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. ⁵ And the king of Aram said, 'Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel.'

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. ⁶ He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, 'When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy.'⁷ When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, 'Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me.'

⁸ But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, 'Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel.'⁹ So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, 'Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean.'¹¹ But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, 'I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! ¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?' He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³ But his servants approached and said to him, 'Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, "Wash, and be clean"?' ¹⁴ So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

Mark 5:21-43

When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him, and he was by the sea. ²² Then one of the leaders of the synagogue, named Jairus, came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet ²³ and pleaded with him repeatedly, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live."²⁴ So he went with him.

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. ²⁵ Now there was a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years. ²⁶ She had endured much under many physicians and had spent all that she had, and she was no better but rather grew worse. ²⁷ She had heard about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸ for she said, "If I but touch his cloak, I will be made well."²⁹ Immediately her flow of blood stopped, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. ³⁰ Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my cloak?"³¹ And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?'" ³² He looked all around to see who had done it. ³³ But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. ³⁴ He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

Notice Board

Rectory Tea Party - We would love you to join us for our second afternoon tea at the Rectory this summer. Weather permitting, the date will be Saturday 13 July. Please join us between 4pm and 6pm. For an idea of numbers, please let Georgie know if you are able to join us. We look forward to seeing you. **Peter and Georgie** (georgie.2711@yahoo.co.uk or 01962 791160)

Church with a Splash!— instead of Café Church next week, we have another fun event to enjoy **this Sunday (30 June)** at Martyr Worthy Manor Pool House. Everyone is welcome to join us between 4 - 5.30pm for a chance to catch up with friends old and new and enjoy a dip in the pool if you would like! We will be supplying hot dogs, strawberries and soft drinks, if you would like anything else please bring it along. If you fancy a dip in the pool, please remember your costumes and towels. Park on Church Lane, Martyr Worthy or the house drive and there will be signs showing the way to the pool. If you are able to drop us a line (admin@itchenvalleychurches.org) to say you are coming it would be great in helping us plan how many hot dogs but if you just fancy turning up on the day this is no problem at all.

Sunday 7 July - please make a note that the Parish Communion will now be at St John's, Itchen Abbas and there will be no Café Church this month (but see details above about Church with a Splash this Sunday).

Mid-Summer thought – As we enjoy the longer days of mid-summer, can I encourage you to think of ways to create more space in your day for prayer? Someone has said that, “as the mind is created for thinking, and the heart for loving, so is the soul made for praying—talking to our Heavenly Father”.

So, what time are we giving to our souls—to pray, to breathe in and out with the help of God's Spirit? And prayer can take many forms: it could be going for a solo-walk around the Valley; sitting down quietly with a Psalm or another biblical passage; listening to a Prayer App (such as the very helpful 'Lectio 365'); or sitting with a pen in your hand and scribbling down the many thoughts running through your busy mind.

It was great to have space on the Quiet Morning in Judy's Bishop's lovely garden. Perhaps we can find some more such space in the coming weeks (and I would value your prayers for my own 'clergy quiet retreat' from Monday 8 to Friday 12 July). May we all be refreshed in spirit as we converse with our Heavenly Father.

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 our summer events