



Church Matters...

Sunday 4 August 2024
Tenth 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 4 August

10am - Morning Worship - St Swithun's, Martyr Worthy
with LLM Gerry Stacey

Sunday 11 August

10am - Holy Communion - St John's, Itchen Abbas
details on page 4

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

Collect

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your
humble servants;
and that they may obtain their
petitions
make them to ask such things as
shall please you;
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 78:23-29

**Yet he commanded the skies
above and opened the doors
of heaven;**

he rained down on them manna to
eat and gave them the grain
of heaven.

**Mortals ate of the bread of
angels;
he sent them food in
abundance.**

He caused the east wind to blow
in the heavens,
and by his power he led out the
south wind;

**he rained flesh upon them
like dust,
winged birds like the sand of
the seas;**

he let them fall within their camp,
all around their dwellings.

**And they ate and were well filled,
for he gave them what
they craved.**

**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 3:5-14

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷ These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸ But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator.

¹¹ In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

John 6:24-35

²⁴ So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' ²⁶ Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷ Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' ²⁸ Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' ²⁹ Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' ³⁰ So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?' ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." ³² Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven.

³³ For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' ³⁴ They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.'

³⁵ Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

Notice Board

Holy Communion next Sunday 11th August – In this service we will use the booklets we have had for the last 18 months at our 08.30am services in St John's, Itchen Abbas (the 1662 service but in C21 English!). This will give more of us an opportunity to experience the simplicity and clarity of this service, which emphasises the love shown for us by Christ in dying on the Cross in our place. We plan to have a couple of hymns, but overall the service will have a more reflective feel. Please join us!

Another Church with a Splash!– while Café Church takes a break for the summer and following on from last week's fun event, we have another Church with a Splash planned for **Sunday 11th August** 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! Further details will follow nearer the time but please do put the date in your diary.

Summer Refreshment

Jesus said: "Come apart with me to a quiet place and get some rest" (Mark 6:31).

I've spoken in recent days to several people who sound so re-energised for having had a summer break: it's so good for us all during the summer season to have an opportunity to get away and be refreshed!

For myself, I am so grateful for some annual leave with Georgie in beautiful Northumbria (seeing the 'holy Island' of Lindisfarne for the first time) and also for being given time and space to have some 'compassionate leave'—spending 5 days at a beautiful Christian Retreat Centre on the edge of Dartmoor: a time for quiet reflection, reading and prayer.

During the school summer holidays, many of the children in our church family are going on summer holiday camps or house parties or attending Christian festivals (such as 'Creation Fest', going on this weekend in North Cornwall): let's be praying that they experience the Lord's goodness and refreshment!

And last weekend Georgie and I attended the 'New Wine Festival' in Somerset (Gerry too was able to be there for 3 days). It was so good to be surrounded by over 5,000 people as we heard Bishop Ruth Bushyager speak each morning on the various times in Mark's Gospel when Jesus takes his disciples off for a 'rural retreat' (including the time when he fed the 5,000).

In Mark 6:31 (above) we see how Jesus knows our need to get away, and especially to 'come apart' with him. As an old saying says, "if we refuse to 'come apart with Jesus', then in due course we may simply *come apart*". So let's pray we each make time this summer to renew our love and faith in Christ.

With love and prayers **Revd Peter**

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