

Weekly Prayer Notes

- For those in the parish and further afield who are sick or in need that they receive peace and healing, including: Irene Foord, Mary Mines, Helena Oecken, Ian Wilson, Ron Goodearl, Ian Goodearl, Phillipa King, Jill Baker and Sally Zeybek.
- For the recently departed, may their souls rest in peace. Also, we pray for their families at this difficult time.
- We pray for all parts of the world affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19), those who are ill with the virus and the souls of those who have died. We pray for those working in the NHS, Care Homes and Social Services who are working with the sick, the elderly and the disabled.
- We pray for this country that the recent increase in Covid-19 infection rates will be reversed. We pray for those in our parish who are isolating themselves due to age or infirmity and those supporting them.
- We pray at this time for the country of South Africa, for the people of Cape Town and Diocese of Kimberly and Kuruman, which have been badly affected by Covid-19.
- For the people of the parish of St. Peters, Kampala in Uganda following the destruction of the church they had built.



HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Harvest Thanksgiving at St. Johns' will be celebrated on Sunday 4th October at the 10:00 service in church. Things will be a little different this year due to Covid-19 guidance, but Harvest gifts in the form of tinned produce will be very gratefully received for local food banks. Further details from Pat and Margaret. Thank You.

SPONSORED WALKS

Several members of the congregation will be taking part in sponsored walks on Saturday 26th September (or around that date) to raise funds for the Church. This is particularly important this year due to us not being able to hold several planned fundraising events including our Summer Fete. Please support those taking part. Further details from Vince Stothard.

vincestothard@hotmail.co.uk

Key Contacts:

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www.stjohnschurchlaceygreen.co.uk

PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing
Sunday 27th September 2020
16TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

WELCOME TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

You are warmly welcomed to St. John's Church, particularly if you are new to our congregation or are a visitor. St. John's is a member Church of the Risborough Team Ministry, serving the parish of Lacey Green, Loosely Row and Speen. Both our Sunday services will be led by our Vicar, Canon Tony.

WORSHIP IN CHURCH – COVID-19 MEASURES

Although government guidance over group meetings has changed during recent weeks with new rules coming into force from Monday 14th September, currently there are still no changes to regular worship in churches because places of worship are considered to be "Covid-secure venues" so they are exempt from the 6 people limit for services of public worship and private prayer. However, groups inside church should not be more than 6 persons, groups should not combine and there must be social distancing between groups. So, in other words we continue to follow existing procedures.

So, the limited services at St. John's will continue, with the Said Communion services being held on Tuesdays at 9:30 am and on Sundays at 10:00 am (BST) only for those wishing to attend. The regular Sunday on-line service on Zoom will continue be held at 11:00 am (BST). Unfortunately, 8:00 am Services on Sundays continue to remain suspended.

Holy Communion will continue to be in one kind only and the 2-metre social distancing requirement will apply. Contact details of those attending will need to be recorded in a suitable notebook and details kept for 3 weeks. When attending worship in church **you must continue to wear a face mask within the church building** apart from the celebrant, those reading lessons / leading intercessions and during receipt of Holy Communion.

Weekly Services:

SUNDAY	
10:00 am	Said Communion (Common Worship)
11:00 am	On-line Morning Worship on Zoom
TUESDAY	
9:30 am	Said Communion (Common Worship)

FOCUS ON... THE TWO SONS

In St. Matthew's Gospel Chapter 21, Jesus tells his listeners of two sons. To both of his sons their Father says "Son, go and work in the vineyard today". One of them says, in effect, "no way" but then he has a change of heart and gets the job done. Whereas the other son says "yes way" but then he doesn't do it. And we are left to wonder if he really did not mean to intend to get the job done in the first place, or changed his mind, or simply got distracted and forgot.

Whatever else is going on here, what is clear is that Jesus was challenging the religious authorities of his own time to recognise that they were not fulfilling God's will as they should whilst many of those on the fringes of society were closer to God than those who were supposed to be his faithful servants. John the Baptist came, said Jesus, showing the way to righteousness but the so-called religious experts rejected him. They were paying lip service to what was expected of them but not actually carrying it out. Whereas those who were so often looked down upon by others were getting the point.

And what was this point being made? That all of us need to turn away from selfishness and embrace the loving ways of God who sent his Son to be a channel of divine grace, to bless, to heal, to forgive, to restore, to set free. And to do this not just for our own sake but that rather more that we might ourselves become channels to others of God's grace and forgiveness and love. There is a plentiful harvest of souls to be garnered into the family of God and we are to be the labourers in the vineyard who bring this harvest in. And, as my late departed Father-in-Law was fond of saying; a job worth doing is worth doing well.

So may the Lord God Almighty fill our hearts with a spirit of grace and generosity and service that we may ever seek to love the Lord in every fibre of our being; and truly to love our neighbour as our very own selves.

Tony Bundock

COLLECT FOR 16TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them, 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, *Amen*.

ZOOM SERVICE FOR THE 16TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

This Sunday's Online Morning Worship service on Zoom will be led by Canon Tony with assistance from Graham King and start at 11:00 am BST. The hymns will be led by Cher and Gavin Mole. Other members of the congregation will be taking part. Details are being supplied in the email sending out this Pew Sheet, and are as follows:

Topic: Morning Prayer

Time: Sep 27, 2020 11:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74715011698?pwd=SWVmWVYxNkhocXFNYll1clprM01MZz09>

Meeting ID: 747 1501 1698

Passcode: 26ixKp

(if copying the above into your internet browser window, you need to type in all of the text in blue as a single entry without a space – it has been split into two for formatting purposes.)



READINGS FOR 16TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (Proper 21)

Ezekiel Ch. 18 VV. 1 – 4 & VV. 25 – 32

Philippians Ch. 2 VV. 1 – 13

Matthew Ch. 21 VV. 23 – 32

**INTERCESSIONS DURING THE SERVICES
WILL BE LED BY PAT RUSHMERE**

PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

Dear Lord Jesus, You are our Prince of Peace and You prayed for unity in the body of Christ, that we may be united in love just as You are united with the Father in love. Give Your children the desire to love one another as You have loved us, and let the world know that we are Your disciples by our love for one another. Give us a hunger to live in union with each other, and may we be united as one, in the bond of peace and fellowship, in the Spirit. This we ask in Jesus' name, Amen.

Source: <https://prayer.knowing-jesus.com/Prayers-for-Unity-in-the-Church>

