



St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

Confidently sharing the love of Christ

Readings and Notice Sheet Sunday 13th September 2020 14th Sunday after Trinity

Many of us are now returning to worship—and this Sunday marks the beginning of the new academic term. We will continue to keep Notice sheet in a format that provides resources for those who are still worshipping at home. I hope that this is useful.

The Collect

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
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.**

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

This week we turn to the Book of Genesis and join the story of Joseph just as his Father dies. It may seem like a strange point to join to this story but in a week when we are invited to contemplate the power of forgiveness is it a powerful moment for us to consider the power of family dynamics, trust and of course forgiveness.

Genesis 50:15-21

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' 16 So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, 17 "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' 19 But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? 20 Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is

doing today. 21 So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.’ In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Our Second reading

The clarion call of Romans 14:1-12 is captured in a single concept, “hospitality” (14:1a). The Apostle Paul observes that the human condition, in all its form and nature, is marked by wickedness. Consciously, intentionally, and with a clear mind, the human family dehumanizes and pulls down those who do not belong to the tribe. The Apostle’s world had become tribal in nature, with the church caught in an intricate web of tribalism and racism between Jews and Gentiles. The Apostle Paul is thus quick to alert Christians in Rome (and consequently, in every place) about the dangers of failing to live as a family. Whether one is weak or strong in faith, the main denominator is that we are all human.

Romans 14:1-12

1 Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. 4 Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. 5 Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6 Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God. 7 We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8 If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s. 9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. 10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. 11 For it is written, ‘As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.’ 12 So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Gospel reading is Matthew 18: 15-20

Forgive somebody seven times? Peter's proposal (or is it his wishful thinking?) suggests that forgiveness might be as simple as taking a pill: once a day for a week and you are good to go. It is no problem to keep track of the number seven, as if that were all the effort required to forgive a brother or sister who "sins against me." Jesus' response to Peter's question (including the parable) takes forgiveness out of the "countable" category and places it into the realm of the incalculable. The forgiveness to which Jesus points is beyond one's capacity to keep tabs, beyond one's capacity to offer on their own strength or ability. It is God's compassion and abundant mercy that make forgiveness possible, whether transgressions are large or small.

'Matthew 18:21-35

21 Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. 23 "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; 25 and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe.' 29 Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. 31 When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. 32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. 35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

This is the Gospel of our Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Take some time to reflect on the readings set for today—what might they be saying to you? What might they be saying to us as a community?

Intercessions

We come with our prayers for all the world, for our community and for those who are on our hearts at this time.

Holy God who calls us to forgive ourselves and each other;
we come to you in hope and trust
as we pray for your Church,
that it may be a place that nurtures us to live by grace
We prayer especially for Bishop's Sarah and Pete
and all who offer us examples to forgive...

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

God you remind us of the importance of love
in all our thoughts and actions.

Help us as we pray for the world,
for its nations and governments especially those struggling with injustice
and conflict; and all who seek forgiveness and wholeness.

We pray for those situations we have heard about in the news.

May we truly see each other as made in your image.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Holy God, help us to see each other as you see us.

We pray for all who are in need at this time.

For those who struggle with pain and grief;

for those working in Education and Health Care;

For all who are fearful for their future.

Bring them your mercy and grace.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

Nurturing God,

Help us as we pray for those who are on our hearts and minds, and

those who have asked for our prayers. Amongst them we remember

before you Peter, Edgerton, Yvonne, John, Rute, Patience, Ron, Evelyn,

Linda, John, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth. We pray for all who are

in need of your love and grace.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer

God who at the last welcomes us into your eternal Kingdom. We give thanks for your promise as we pray for all who have died recently and those whose anniversaries fall at this time including Betty Dass and Roy Dunford.

Rest Eternal Grant unto them O Lord
And let light perpetual shine upon them

May they rest in peace
And rise in glory

In this time of stillness we take a moment to prayer for those we love and those we find it hard to love...

Merciful God,
**accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

The post communion prayer sums up many of the themes in the readings of the day.

Merciful God,
your Son came to save us
and bore our sins on the cross:
may we trust in your mercy
and know your love,
rejoicing in the righteousness
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Notices

Moving Forward

During September we embrace another change for St Anne's. Mo. Natasha has now been licensed and Mo Christine will no longer have responsibilities at Christ Church; though she will remain the Priest relating to Christ Church School. We have begun being a single parish, not in an ecumenical partnership and all that went with this. We have many things to discern as we listen for where God is leading us next. With this in mind from the 1st September we are going to 'revert to factory settings' - so to speak; or revert

to some of our service patterns pre-pandemic. In the coming months we will consider things like service times and styles. We will have the freedom to explore options. One of the positive outcomes from being lockdown is that we have had to learn how to do things differently, and to be more flexible. I hope we can continue to embrace this attitude as we move forward.

What all this means in practice is that from **Sunday 6th September** we will return to a Sunday pattern of Morning Prayer at 8.30am; and **Eucharist with Sunday School at 9.30am**. We will continue to have a 'Thought for the Day' on Facebook on Sunday morning, as well as a Zoom Service at 5pm. During the week we will have morning prayer at 8.30am on Tuesday and Thursday which will continue to be available on Zoom.

I ask that you are flexible with all of this as we learn what these things look like within the current guidance; and also what will work for us now and what God might be asking of us. We may also need to make more changes as the guidance adapts over time.

Also, please pray for all involved in our work in the building during the week. There are lots of things to manage to ensure we are Covid Safe, and that groups can start to return. **We are also looking for a couple of people who might be able practically help us on a Monday and Thursday.**

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

We have planned to have our Annual Meeting in March; but it needed to be postponed due to the Pandemic. We now need to hold our APCM during September. This will take place on **Sunday 20th September** immediately after the service. It will take less than 1 hour. We will need to redo any nomination forms previously completed. We need people willing to be on the PCC, as well as Deanery Synod Representatives and Church Wardens. Forms are available. We are also revising the Electoral Roll, if you are not on it, please can you complete a form.



Harvest Festival

This year we will keep Harvest Festival on Sunday 4th October. We will have a more interactive service on this day with opportunities for people of all ages to participate! With the need to be Covid Friendly, please bring your Harvest Goods on the Day, preferable in a Paper Bag or box. Some paper bags

will be available from church in the coming weeks. As always we loved tinned fish—but also tea bags, coffee, toiletries, meal-in-a-can, things that need no or minimal cooking. Tinned fruit and vegetables are also useful. Our Harvest goods will be shared between Laurence's Larder which is re-opening on the 17th September and Sufra who have been receiving our donations since the start of lock down. Both are supporting local individuals and families in need.

Daily Hope 24hour phonenumber

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044**.



For our prayers Peter, Edgerton, Yvonne, John, Rute, Patience, Ron, Evelyn, Linda, John, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth and for those who have died recently; and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including Betty Dass and Roy Dunford.

***When you come to church remember to stay close to God
and a safe distance from each other!***

Services this coming week starting 13th September

Tuesday 15th September **8.30am** Morning Prayer in Chapel and on Zoom

Thursday 17th September **8.30am** Morning Prayer in Chapel and on Zoom

Sunday 20th September

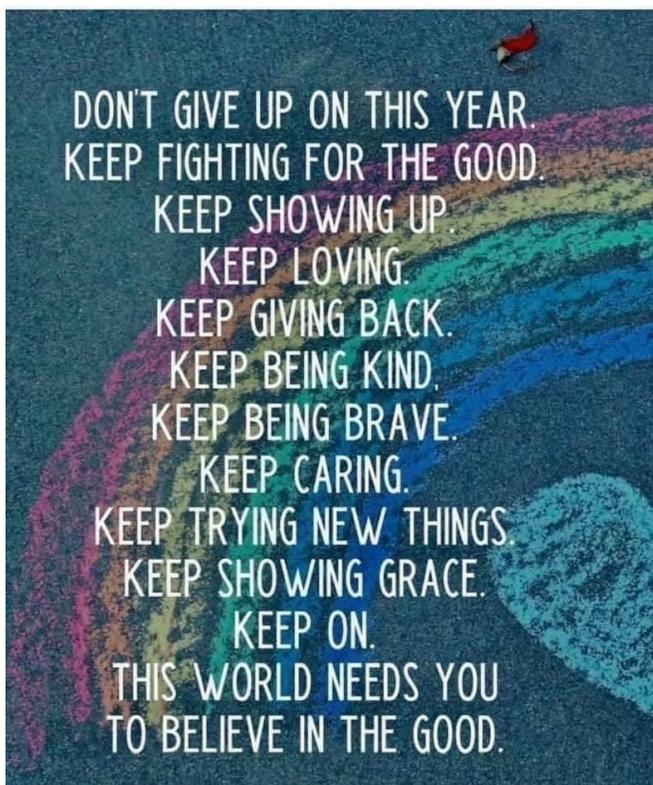
8.30am—Morning Prayer in the Chapel and on Zoom

9am—Thought for the Day on Facebook

9.30am—Eucharist with Sunday School

11am -ish—Annual Congregational Meeting

5pm Zoom Service for the day



As we return to church, we are now asked to wear a mask and to keep a safe distance. You will be asked to wash your hands, or use hand sanitiser as you arrive! The Priest will do the same! But we do ask that you maintain a safe distance and follow the guidance of the stewards. Please do not come to church if you have any symptoms.

***Stay close to God and a safe distance
from everyone else!
Please keep believing
and praying for us all!***