



# St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

*Confidently sharing the love of Christ*

## Readings and Notice Sheet Creation Season 2021 2nd September 2021

**From September 1 to October 4, much of the Christian family celebrates the gift of creation. This global celebration began in 1989 with the Ecumenical Patriarchate's recognition of the Day of Prayer for Creation and is now embraced by the wide ecumenical community. Prayer is a powerful**

**experience and tool to raise awareness and foster transformational relations and ministry. This year the theme is A Home for All? Renewing the oikos of God. It is our**

**hope to work together to acknowledge the wisdom from countless sisters and brothers helping all to renew our world as an interconnected and interdependent global beloved community. You can read more at [www.seasonofcreation.org](http://www.seasonofcreation.org)**

**On this Sunday we are invited to reflect on creating a Just Home for All People – how are we caring each other and our natural environment in a way that reflects the whole of creation**



SEASON OF  
CREATION

**A Home for All?**

Renewing the *Oikos* of God



### **The Collect**

Almighty God,  
give us reverence for all creation  
and respect for every person,  
that we may mirror your likeness  
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**

### **Old Testament reading—**

*Proverbs 22 and James 2 make clear that God will champion the cause of the oppressed, and that poverty and injustice are deeply linked to our economic behaviour and systems. The book of Proverbs includes a collection of folk wisdom sayings of various lengths so that in some chapters the individual verses are not actually related to each other. Therefore Proverbs is the one biblical book where the lectionary practice of skipping verses is easily justified. Today's lesson is a collection of verses that speak about the poor. The passage does not reject the wealthy, but it does highlight the need for justice and equity.*

A reading from the book of **Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23**

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,  
and favour is better than silver or gold.

The rich and the poor have this in common:  
the Lord is the maker of them all.

Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity,  
and the rod of anger will fail.

Those who are generous are blessed,  
for they share their bread with the poor.

Do not rob the poor because they are poor,  
or crush the afflicted at the gate;

for the Lord pleads their cause  
and despoils of life those who despoil them.

### **New Testament Reading**

*Proverbs 22 and James 2 make clear that God will champion the cause of the oppressed, and that poverty and injustice are deeply linked to our economic behaviour and systems.*

*We may know in our minds that God loves everyone, especially the marginalized. But actions speak louder than words.*

*Once again, James names the critical gap between the head and the heart, between knowledge and wisdom (see my post from last week). James, the observer, is calling out particular actions which betray his community's devotion to God. He sees how they show favour to the privileged, wealthy folk with high standing in society. Showing partiality to the rich is idol worship and a tear in the fabric of the Christian community, according to James.*

A reading from the letter of **James 2:1-10, 14-17**

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

## **The Gospel reading from Mark**

*Mark has juxtaposed stories in 7:24-30 and 7:31-37 as mirror images of each other. Both focus on unfortunate people suffering infirmities that isolate them from society (verses 25a, 32a). Something from within the daughter and the deaf man incapacitates them: a demon (verse 30), ear-stoppage (verse 33b), or speech-blockage (verse 35). Proxies intercede on their behalf, kneeling before (verse 25) or begging (verse 32) Jesus. The tale of the Syro-Phoenician woman begins with Jesus' failed attempt to escape notice (7:24b); the tale of the deaf man ends with Jesus' defeated order to tell no one (7:36a). The harder secrecy is pressed, the more widely the good news is broadcast (verse 36b): a contradiction pervading Mark (1:44-2:2; 6:31-33) and triply ironic for an account that ends with defiance of a gag order against reporting Jesus' removal of a speech impediment (7:35b-36).*

*In Mark 7:28-29, Jesus commends the Syro-Phoenician (a woman and a Gentile) for arguing with him, and heals her daughter! Are there issues of injustice, where God seems silent, that drive us to wrestle with God in prayer?*

### **Mark 7:24-37**

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syro-Phoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

## **Intercessions**

Let us come before the God of all Creation with our prayers for the world – a home for us all...

We thank you for the vastness of the universe and the mysteries of space.

As we contemplate the wonder of the heavens, confirm us in the truth that every human being is known and loved by you; and there is a home for all living things within your creation.

We pray for your church that is may be an advocate for all your creation. We pray for Archbishop Justin, Bishop's Sarah and Pete. We pray also for the Willesden Episcopal area as it discerns who might be our new Bishop....*(allow a time of silence)*

God of life,  
**Hear our Prayer.**

We thank you for the beauty of the earth,  
for the diversity of land and sea,  
for the resources of the earth.  
Give us the will to cherish this planet  
and to use its riches for the good and welfare of all;  
That all may have a place to call home. ....*(allow a time of silence)*

God of life,  
**Hear our Prayer.**

We thank you for the warmth of the sun,  
the light of the moon, the glory of the stars.  
Save us from wasting or abusing the energy  
on which all life depends.  
Open our eyes to behold your beauty,  
and our lips to praise your name.  
We thank you for the teeming life of the seas,  
and the flight of the birds.  
Help us to protect the environment  
so that all life may flourish....*(allow a time of silence)*

God of life,  
**Hear our Prayer.**

We rejoice in the variety of animal life.  
Grant us grace to treat all animals with respect and care;  
to protect endangered species,  
to preserve the variety of habitats,  
and to honour the delicate balance of nature. ....*(allow a time of silence)*

God of life,  
**Hear our Prayer.**

We pray for the human family.  
We exult in its diversity and giftedness,  
we repent of its sins, divisions and violence.  
Help us to love one another in your example.  
We pray for the start of the new academic year, and for all facing change at this time.  
We pray for all who on our hearts including amongst them we pray for Michael Ngo,  
Kay, Michael, Comfort, Joyce, Megan, Fr Robert, Jean, Isobel, Peter, Pearl, Rute,  
Ron, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth. Nurture in each of us life and hope. ...*(allow a time of silence)*

God of life,  
**Hear our Prayer.**

Heavenly Father, you have filled the world with beauty:  
open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation we may praise you eternally.

We pray for all who have left us and now rest with you in eternity. We give thanks for their lives and the mark they have left on ours. Amongst them we remember Takashi Kitahara, Charles Cory and Betty Dass ...(*allow a time of silence*)

In the stillness of this moment we lift our owns before God. ...(*allow a time of silence*)

Lord of all Creation,  
as we have received the bread and wine,  
Fruits of the earth and tokens of salvation,  
so with joy we celebrate your goodness  
And commit ourselves to serve you on your earth,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
who taught us to prayer saying:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

### **Notices**

#### **Thank you**

Thank you for all who have sent photo's or postcards from places that have inspired you this Summer. We have been showing them in Church on a Sunday morning to encourage us all. Thank you too, for those who have assisted by praying here at St Anne's during this period.

#### **Welcome a new Deacon—Rev Nicki Sudworth**

Nicki joins us today as part of her training as a Deacon.  
Nicki is a Chaplain for the YMCA and will join us about once a month over the next year.  
Please make Nicki welcome!

#### **Gardening Day**

On **Saturday 18th September from 10am—12noon** we will be a having BIG GARDENING WORKING BEE—to get the carpark and garden reading for Autumn and for the Bishop's visit on Sunday 19th. Your help would be very much appreciated as there are lots of little jobs to do!

## **Confirmation**

Bishop Pete will be with us at **9.30am on Sunday 19th September** for a service of confirmation. At present we have three candidates. If anyone else would like a chance to confirm their faith, or would like more details please speak to Mo C. On Sunday 19th there will be a reception after church.

## **Bishop Peter's Farewells**

As I am sure you know Bishop Pete will be moving on after 20 years as Bishop of Willesden and at the end of September. There will be a number of ways to farewell the Bishop:

**Area Service for Bishop Pete** on Saturday **25th September at 7:00pm** at St John West Ealing.

**Brent Deanery Farewell** - Thursday **9th September 7.30pm** at St Mary's Willesden—all welcome to attend.

Also Bishop Pete will be with us on the 19th and we can say farewell then too!

If you would like to contribute to a collection for +Pete and Sarah, email Mo C and she can provide bank details—alternatively you can place cash in an envelop and mark it collection for Bishop Pete.

**David Till Concert** - David will be performing on a Concert—***Lost in the Stars—Sunday 12th September at 4pm***. You are all welcome.

**Creation Season**— will be celebrated each Sunday in September in the lead up to **Harvest Festival on 3rd October**. Creation Season is a time when we focus on the gift of God creation and our need to care for it.

From September 1 to October 4, the Christian family celebrates the good gift of creation. This global celebration began in 1989 with the Ecumenical Patriarchate's recognition of the Day of Prayer for Creation and is now embraced by the wide ecumenical community. Prayer is a powerful experience and tool to raise awareness and foster transformational relations and ministry. ***This year our theme is A Home for All? Renewing the oikos of God.*** This year this will also include contributing to a visual display of prayers for our environment. (see <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/season-creation>).

(The PCC also agreed earlier this year that to complete the paperwork to allow us to be part of the **Eco-Church movement**. As a congregation we have always been committed to this, but we wanted to make this more formal). If you would like to see more now—<https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>

## **As part of Creation Season we are inviting the congregation to participate in the Prayer Boat for Climate Change**

This project being organised by Young Christian Climate Network (YCCN) and Christian Aid. Environmental change impacts most often on the most poor and vulnerable in the world. This project invites us to join together in prayer, folding prayer boats and adding our prayers. We will display our pray boats in the rotunda from Harvest. You can read more here—and more details will be in church. <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/get-involved/rise-moment-activity-pack>

Instructions for folding origami boats can also be collected from the back of church. Please use old paper that needs recycling if you can!

## **Harvest Supper and Harvest Festival.**

Saturday 2nd October starting at 6pm there will be Harvest Supper and Quiz night. There

is a sign up sheet at the back up church or you can email Mo C if you would like to come. To allow for catering we need to know final numbers by the 28th September.

**Harvest Festival** will then be celebrated at 9.30am on Sunday 3rd October; you can start bringing in Harvest goods now and leaving them in the basket at the back of church so we can use them for our display.

### **Other dates for your diary!**

**Advent** will begin this year with a Social event on either the 26th or 27th November—we are still confirming details but we are hoping to host an event to mark the start of the new season.

Wreath making workshop will take place on Saturday 11th December.

### **Mo Christine away**

Next Saturday Mo C will be in Norfolk to bless the marriage of Francesca and Danny. She is using this as an opportunity to go for a few days retreat. Mo C will be away from the Parish from Wednesday 8th— Monday 13th September. If you need something during this time, ask one of the Wardens. Please pray too for Francesca and Danny.

Rev'd David Brammer, Chaplain at the Twyford Schools will be leading our service next Sunday. There will be no Morning Prayer or 5pm Service on Sunday 12th.

### **Covid Guidance for Coming to worship**

- ⇒ As soon as you enter the building **please continue to either wash your hands or use the sanitizer provided.**
- ⇒ We would ask, that if you can **please wear a face mask** until you are upstairs and seated in your chair. It is then your choice if you remove your mask, but please do respect those close to you or keep a distance from them.
- ⇒ Chairs are in rows but spaced more widely. There are signs you can use to place of a chair if you feel you would like more space.
- ⇒ **We can now sing!**
- ⇒ **Hymn books** will now be available to those who want them, but the screens will also be used. Individuals can choose. Please do return your book to the stand when you leave, please, so no one else has to touch it!  
This will also be the case with service sheets.
- ⇒ The peace may take place. As it is hard to know who would welcome a handshake; the suggestion is that we continue as we are – smiling, waving or bowing.
- ⇒ Similarly, the offertory bowl will remain at the door rather than being passed around.
- ⇒ **Communion** will continue to be administered in the same way, with members of the congregation coming forward, and then everyone receiving together once we have returned to our seats. Mother Christine will continue to wear a mask for distribution, and we would ask you to do the same. However, this is your choice.

### **Laurence's Larder**

You can still leave your donations, tinned fish or any non perishable food in the basket at the top of the stairs. You can see updates on this work at <https://www.laurenceslarder.org.uk>

### **PCC meeting**

The PCC have a short meeting on Monday 6th September to prepare for things in the coming weeks. Please pray for them in their leadership of the parish.



**For our prayers**— for the start of the new academic year, for Francesca and Danny as they prepare to for their marriage blessing; and for Michael Ngo, Kay, Michael, Comfort, Joyce, Megan, Fr Robert, Jean, Isobel, Peter, Pearl, Rute, Ron, Josephine, John, Cecilia and Ruth. . We remember those who have died including Takashi Kitahara and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time including Charles Cory and Betty Dass .

**Service this week**

**Monday 6th September at 2pm** - Christian Contemplation on Zoom

**Tuesday 7th September at 8.30am**—Morning Prayer in Chapel and on Zoom

(No Morning Prayer on Thursday as Mo C away)

**Sunday 12th September 2021- Creation 2**

**9.30am** — Eucharist in Church

**PRUNING**  
IN THE CHURCHYARD



BEFORE



AFTER

MY SECATEURS WERE BLUNT AND MY HEART WAS NOT REALLY IN IT

CartoonChurch.com



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