

Cycle of Prayer
Sunday, 15 August to Saturday, 11 September 2021

Sunday, 15 August 2021

Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

The Blessed Virgin Mary

Summer Reading

As we are now in the middle of August many of us will be planning leave or a holiday, most probably in the U.K. with thoughts of going overseas on hold until 2022.

So, as we prepare to take time off either at home or a little further afield, the usual question comes - what I am going to read on holiday? In the weekend papers recently we have seen the latest recommendations with someone famous suggesting a particular title or two. We also get lists of suggestions from the *Church Times* or Church House Bookshop. It may be the case that you do some browsing at the book sellers, to see what the buy one - get one half price offer is.

Well, this year I have abandoned the lists, suggestions and recommendations and gone back to something basic. This is a year when things are very different, and I have decided to read a book or two of the Bible instead. I have gathered a variety of commentaries over the years and, having chosen my favourite commentary, have decided to read 1 and 2 Samuel. If time allows I may venture further into other books of the Bible.

As you ponder your reading this summer, why not take the stress out of what to take and choose a book of the Bible and commentary to read and ask God to speak through these words.

Happy reading,

Jonathon Green – Director of Foxhill

The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

Monday, 16 August 2021

1320 Smallwood

C: Anne-Marie Naylor.
Smallwood CofE School.

Easton, The Episcopal Church, USA

Tuesday, 17 August 2021

1323 Swettenham

C: Ian Arch. LM: Howard Lawton.

Eau Claire, The Episcopal Church, USA

Wednesday, 18 August 2021

1324 Siddington with Capesthorpe

C: Ian Arch. LM: Howard Lawton, Diane Wisener, Douglas Wisener.

Central Ecuador, The Episcopal Church, USA

Thursday, 19 August 2021

1325 Marton

C: Ian Arch. LM: Howard Lawton, Diane Wisener, Douglas Wisener.

Edinburgh, The Scottish Episcopal Church

Friday, 20 August 2021

Marton & District CofE School

Edmonton, The Anglican Church of Canada

Saturday, 21 August 2021

Malpas Deanery

Saint Edmundsbury & Ipswich, The Church of England

Sunday, 22 August 2021

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

St Bartholomew

Unless you have a Holiday Club, this could be one of the quietest weeks in the summer at church: the children are off school, so no assemblies. Some may be on holiday, others may be hosting families on visits.

A quiet week is a good week for remembering the Saint and Apostle whose Festival is on Tuesday: Bartholomew. Bartholomew, or Nathaniel? By either name he was a friend of Philip, and that is one of the very few things we know about him. Like Philip he may have come from Galilee, and initially he was prejudiced against anything from Nazareth!

But Jesus had a place for him, and Bartholomew immediately recognised the Kingship of Christ and threw aside his prejudice.

We don't know what role he played in that small company: he wasn't one of the trio who were taken to witness the Transfiguration, nor was he the keeper of the purse. Was he just one of the "helpers", one of those with no title, no place in the hierarchy, just someone who looked after people, loved them? Always there, being useful? He was a friend; he worshipped the Son of God in humility; he travelled and preached the Gospel as he went.

We don't know much about him; and nor do we know much about those who have encountered Jesus during the pandemic, and crept into worship, unrecognisable behind their masks, or those who served secretly. In the quiet may we start to know them more clearly and love them more dearly as together we follow Christ more nearly.

Lesley Young, Committee for Ministry Member

The Anglican Church of South America

Monday, 23 August 2021

0501 Aldford

C: Julian Beauchamp, Karl Jones. LM: Kath Wentel.

Egba, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Tuesday, 24 August 2021

St Bartholomew

0502 Bickerton

C: Vacant.

We give grateful thanks for all who are helping us during our period of interregnum and ask for your prayers as we await the support and leadership that a new priest will bring to our benefice. Please pray that we may continue to work patiently and fruitfully for the good of our community at this time, and for the Spirit to guide us through these challenging times.

Bickerton Holy Trinity CofE School.

Egba West, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Wednesday, 25 August 2021

0503 Bickley

C: Richard Diggle.

Egbu, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Thursday, 26 August 2021

0504 Bruera

C: Julian Beauchamp, Karl Jones. LM: Kath Wentel.

Saighton CofE School.

Egypt, The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria

Friday, 27 August 2021

0505 Bunbury

C: Tim Hayward, Claire Wilson. LM: Tom Crotty, Joy Parker, Michael Verity, Kathy Collinge, Peter Collinge, Pat Edgley, Amber Middlemiss, Nick Sanders.

Bunbury Aldersey CofE School.

Eha - Amufu, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Saturday, 28 August 2021

0506 Burwardsley

C: Lameck Mutete.

Ekiti, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Sunday, 29 August 2021

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Foundations for Ministry

Over 1180 individuals have successfully completed the Foundations for Ministry (FfM) course since its inception. FfM's unique blend of vocational discernment alongside theological study aims to help people examine what God is calling them to do.

Many people use the course as a step towards authorised ministry within the Church – and over 300 currently serving ministers, lay and ordained – began with FfM. Others

have used the course to advance their sense of vocation in many other walks of life. Having a developed sense of God's calling in occupational, family or voluntary roles is often a real encouragement.

Many on the course choose to follow the assessed pathway which leads to a Church Universities Certificate in Ministry (CUCM), validated by the University of Chester. The modules of the CUCM are part of the subsequent awards used in both Pastoral Worker and Reader training. More information on the diocesan website, click 'Foundations for Ministry' under the Ministry tab.

Pray for those about to embark on this year's FfM course and for those considering it for the future.

Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

Monday, 30 August 2021

0507 Coddington

C: David Scurr. LM: Raymond Moulton.

Clutton CofE School.

Ekiti Kwara, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Tuesday, 31 August 2021

0508 Farndon

C: David Scurr. LM: Raymond Moulton.

Ekiti Oke, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Wednesday, 1 September 2021

0509 Handley

C: Lameck Mutete.

Ekiti West, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Thursday, 2 September 2021

0510 Hargrave

C: Vacant.

Huxley CoE School.

Eldoret, The Anglican Church of Kenya

Friday, 3 September 2021

0512 Malpas and Threapwood

C: Vacant.

Heavenly Father, we pray for Malpas and Threapwood during this time of interregnum and for the priest who, by your spirit, is called to lead us. Bless this and all your churches that they may journey safely through pandemic to fully worship you again. This we ask through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Port Elizabeth, The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

Saturday, 4 September 2021

0513 Marbury

C: Karen Andrews. LM: Jane Lunt, Diana Thomas.

Please pray for us as we seek to serve our community and further God's kingdom in Marbury. We give thanks for our Storytime group and pray for them as they begin a new term together. Pray for our soon-to-be-licensed Reader, Ali and for her growing ministry among us.

Ely, The Church of England

Sunday, 5 September 2021

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Having failed to find space on the bookshelves for a recent purchase, I decided it was perhaps time for a pruning session. But as often happens during a decluttering exercise it was inevitable that several items seemed worthy of another browse. I began leafing through one book in particular, bought several years ago after hearing an especially inspiring sermon by its author. In *Genius, Grief and Grace: A Doctor looks at Suffering and Success*, Gaius Davies has selected eleven people he describes as 'heroic figures' to study from his perspective as psychiatrist and Christian. Each of his subjects is defined as being in some way gifted to the point of genius, none of them exempt from suffering, either through life experience or illness, but all blessed with divine grace. In each biographical sketch he attempts to discover the impact of these factors on their lives of faith and how adversity may lead to achievement. He reflects, too, on the question of

how temperament and faith are connected and the relation between personality and the way God's grace works in the heart.

His subjects include Luther and Bunyan, Frances Ridley Havergal, Amy Carmichael, J.B. Phillips. Davies acknowledges that there has had to be some conjecture on his part. For example, we cannot know if William Cowper was inspired to write his hymn *Sometimes a light surprises...* in a period of calm or anguish, though the beauty of the words and the hope contained within them may well suggest the former.

There is much encouragement to be taken from these sketches and as John Stott reminds the reader in his foreword, the message in the end is Christ's word to Paul: "My grace is sufficient for you, my power is made perfect in weakness." 2 Cor.12:9.

Esme Hammer, Committee for Ministry Member

Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

Monday, 6 September 2021

0514 Shocklach

C: Tim Robinson, Norma Robinson. LM: Chris Gilbert, Trisha Swift.

Shocklach Oviatt CofE School.

Embu, The Anglican Church of Kenya

Tuesday, 7 September 2021

0515 Tarporley

C: Jim Bridgman, Julian Osborne.

We pray for the three church communities of Tarporley, Eaton and Cotebrook as we continue to share God's love with those we live and work among. We pray for the staff and pupils, for the parents and governors of all the local schools as they begin a new school year and particularly those at Tarporley Church of England Primary School and Utkinton St. Paul's Church of England Primary School. Help us all to have generous and welcoming hearts.

Utkinton St Paul's CofE School.

Tarporley CofE School.

Enugu, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Wednesday, 8 September 2021
Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary
0516 Tattenhall

C: Lameck Mutete.

Enugu North, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Thursday, 9 September 2021
0517 Tilstone Fearnall

C: Tim Hayward, Claire Wilson.

Esan, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Friday, 10 September 2021
0518 Tilston

C: Tim Robinson, Norma Robinson. LM: Chris Gilbert, Trisha Swift.
Tilston Parochial CofE School.

Etche, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Saturday, 11 September 2021
0519 Tushingham

C: Karen Andrews. LM: Carolyn Wort.

Please pray for our lovely rural community in Tushingham. We give thanks that our pop-up shop will run in September and pray for those who will use it. Please pray for the staff and pupils of Tushingham-with-Grindley CofE primary school as they begin their new term.

Tushingham-with-Grindley CofE School.

Etsako, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)