

Tyndale Benefice



Wotton-under-Edge with Ozleworth
North Nibley, Alderley (including Tresham)

Sunday, 28th June 2020
Third Sunday after Trinity

Collect:

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts
whereby we call you Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;
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.

or

God our saviour,
look on this wounded world
in pity and in power;
hold us fast to your promises of peace
won for us by your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Principal Readings:

1st Reading: Jeremiah 28: 5-9

Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord; and the prophet Jeremiah said, ‘Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord fulfil the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord, and all the exiles. But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet.

2nd Reading: Romans 6: 12-end

Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 10: 40-end

‘Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.’

Reflection from Sue

During lock-down I think many of us realise we had lost the power of contemplation – of really seeing the beauty of nature, the poverty of others around us, the unfairness we have ignored. We were used to taking our mapped out path and making our decisions to suit ourselves.

Decisions are not neutral; they generally involve an element of self interest and they have consequences. Many of us are familiar with the latest child behaviour check when children are told to reflect upon the fact that they have made poor choices. We often experience a tension of holding our way and God’s way in balance.

In today’s Gospel Jesus tells us plainly that we are his representatives in the world. Living for God allows us great freedom, but it also brings purpose and responsibilities we cannot shrug off. We are required to set aside our self-interest and to be hospitable.

Hospitality was very important in the ancient world. It meant receiving people as equals and ministering to their needs. I would argue that being able to extend hospitality to friend or stranger is the mark of a secure, grown-up society. It is a political necessity in order to achieve a just society.

We have had time over lock-down to think about what we want to happen now. Is it enough to go back to that normal we may have come to question during this period? I hope we can welcome Jesus through the decisions we make and the hospitality we extend to others in our thoughts, our actions and our prayers. I hope we can embrace this statement of blessing from the Hebrides to inform our lives:

I saw a stranger at yester'en.
I put food in the eating place,
drink in the drinking place,
music in the listening place,
and in the sacred name of the Triune
he blessed myself and my house,
my cattle and my dear ones,
and the lark said in her song,
'Often, often, often, goes the Christ in a stranger's
guise.'

Love and God bless, Sue

For your prayers:

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

Daily Prayer continues to be said at 9.00 every morning in individual homes.

We pray for:

- The World and its needs
- The Church and her life
- Those who are ill in body, mind or spirit
- Ourselves

If you wish to join us, you will find a choice of three services on the website - Midweek Prayer (from the Church of England), Morning Prayer, and Reflective Service. <http://wottonparishchurch.org.uk/resources-for-prayers-services-at-home/>

Year of Mind – where we remember those that have died during this week in previous years.

Wotton

2nd: Keith Robert Barker (2016)
Ellen "Joan" Spencer (2017)
4th: Leonard John Musty (2002)

Nibley

2nd: Jean Champion (2010)

In June we remember in our prayers the congregation of Holy Cross Catholic Church, and of Christ the King in Thornbury

In 'normal' times, the pew sheet has a list of people who are ill. These people are included in prayer at Sunday services, & at Morning Prayer every day. To continue this prayer - please email the Parish Office or leave a message on the Parish mobile if you would like prayer for yourself or a family member. There is a group of people who will pray.

Spiritual Crisis? Prayer Ministry?

Has this time of isolation raised concerns or fears of a spiritual nature & you want to talk about them? Would you like prayer ministry, such as has been offered after Eucharist & at Healing and Wholeness Services? There is a small group of people who are trained & who are able to listen to you and offer help. Please ring the Parish mobile on 07483 146531, with your name and phone number, to request a phone call. This offer is for those who live in the Parishes of Wotton under Edge, North Nibley, Alderley and Tresham.

*******Notices*******

Latest Reopening Update

St. Mary's - Although we are past the date when our Bishops have advised us that it's now possible to open church buildings for individual prayer, at St. Mary's we still have our contractors working on site. Under strict Government and C of E safety guidelines, it is not yet possible to open St Mary's. We continue to review this as work is progressing to a point where opening up will be possible.

St. Martin's - We are sad that the church building will remain closed until further notice. **We are unable to provide the requirements to be able to reopen, even for private prayer.** The churchyard, however, is open and provides a place for quiet reflection and prayer – with benches. Please do make use of it.

St. Kenelm's & The Chapel of Ease, Tresham - In line with the current Church of England guidance on reopening churches, Alderley and Tresham PCC has agreed that **Tresham** will be open on **Mondays** from **10am to 5pm** and **St. Kenelm's** on **Fridays** from **10am to 5pm**. The churches will not be supervised during these times.

Congratulations - On 29th June (*St Peter's Day*) John Evans will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. He would like to thank you all for your support and asks for your prayers as he seeks to discern his future ministry

Know someone without online access or prefers not to use the internet? Daily Hope Phone Lines – The Church of England have a FREE OF CHARGE phone line available 24 hours a day offering comforting hymns, reflections and prayers. **Ring 0800 804 8044**

Diocese of Gloucester Podcasts – an ongoing fortnightly audio series finding out about different projects, organisations and inspirational stories. The seventh podcast is from Bishop Rachel who is in conversation about Black Lives Matter. You can play the podcast by going to:

<https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/2020/sermons-podcasts-and-gospel-readings-communications-june-28/>

On here are also sermons for the upcoming Sunday, and a short video for children and families based on the upcoming Gospel reading – all worth a look and listen!

St. Martin's - Revd Peter Marsh, from his woodwork shed – Each week during church closure, a recorded 'St Martin's Morning Service' or 'Ramblings', produced by the congregation & David Moss, is available on the church website www.northnibleychurch.uk

This week: 3rd Sunday after Trinity Morning Service

Services from the BBC

- BBC Radio 4's daily service is live at 9.45am on BBC Radio 4 LW (long wave) or on the DAB side channel.
- Live on Sunday is streamed at 8.10am each Sunday.
- Sunday Worship is shown on BBC1 at 10.45am every Sunday. They are from empty cathedrals (so far Bangor, St. David's, Hereford). Hymns are taken from a previous recording of Songs of Praise.
- Songs of Praise is aired on BBC1 on Sunday at 1.15pm

Prayer and digital resources available – if you would like any sent to you email wotvicsec@btconnect.com or visit the website wottonparishchurch.org.uk

Reverend Morag is unavailable from 22nd June until 28th June.

Clergy:

Revd Peter Marsh – 01453 547 521 (not after 6.00pm)

Revd Morag Langley – 01453 845 147

Licensed Reader:

Sue Plant - 01453 845 157

Wotton Churchwardens:

Jackie Excell – 07863 121613

Douglas Hinton – 07415 541359

(Assistant) Lynda Durrant – 01453 521873

North Nibley Churchwarden:

Wynne Holcombe - 01453 542 091

Alderley Churchwarden:

Kay Pettifer - 01453 843838

Tresham Churchwarden:

Susan Whitfield –01666 890 338

Benefice/Parish Office:

07483 146531 or wotvicsec@btconnect.com