

In & around the Benefice....

14th June | First Sunday after Trinity

Our Acting Rector is The Reverend Janet Tebby

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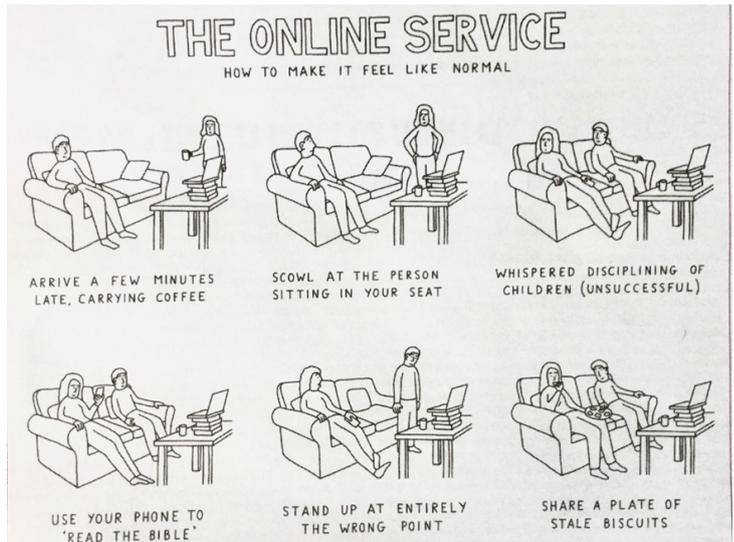
Please visit our website for information on worship during the lockdown

<http://www.yardleyhastingsbenefice.co.uk/worship/worship-during-the-lockdown>



Are you watching our online services?

Our benefice service for this Sunday can be found here: <https://youtu.be/rbAwa4eNjgU>



GOOD NEWS!

The latest news is that church buildings may begin to open for individual private prayer from 15th June. However we must be cautious in our desire to get back to “normal” life. We have our instructions for what has to be done to prepare for the re-opening of our churches to make them Covid-secure; the risk assessments and measures to be taken are rightly rigorous and will take some time to implement.

So we have decided the churches in our Benefice *won't* be opening on June 15th. We have discussed how we can work towards opening later on and will be actively preparing and looking for help and support to do this safely. However, our beautiful churchyards are areas of peace & tranquillity where people are always welcome to sit and pray and we will continue our virtual get togethers on zoom:

Tuesday at 3.30pm, Wednesday at 10.30am, Friday at 10.30am and Sunday at 11.00am

Contact Janet or Amanda for details on how to join in.

Do visit our website to read the complete letter on church reopening from the Clergy and Churchwardens

Please hold in your prayers this week:

- ◇ All involved in the process of finding our new Rector
- ◇ Those suffering from, affected by or working to prevent the spread of Coronavirus, including the NHS, council workers, teachers
- ◇ NHS staff caring for Covid-19 patients, that they may have strength and resilience for their task, and be kept safe
- ◇ Persecuted Christians across the world, especially in North Korea
- ◇ Those in residential care and the housebound, among them: Audrey Desborough, Ruth Williams, Gwen York, Ann and Colin Dix
- ◇ Those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, among them: Chris Sayles, Tom Stock, Nicholas Vaughan, Freddie Hogan, Mandy Bates, Mhairi Boyde, Anne Blackmore, Bishop John and his wife Elizabeth, Fabienne Godfrey
- ◇ The recently departed, amongst them Julie Quilter, Jennifer Barry-Murray and all who grieve at this time

The Collect

God of truth, help us to keep your law of love and to walk in ways of wisdom, that we may find true life in Jesus Christ your Son.

Amen

First Reading

Genesis 18: 1-15

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, 'My lord, if I find favour with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.' So they said, 'Do as you have said.' And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, 'Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.' Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, 'Where is your wife Sarah?' And he said, 'There, in the tent.' Then one said, 'I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.' And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, 'After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?' The Lord said to Abraham, 'Why did Sarah laugh, and say, "Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?" Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.' But Sarah denied, saying, 'I did not laugh'; for she was afraid. He said, 'Oh yes, you did laugh.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 5: 1-8

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance

produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 9:35 - 10:8

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glorify to you, O Lord**

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.'

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near." Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Prayer

Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen