

Parish News

Sunday 13th September 2020

Trinity 14

Parish Clergy

Revd Vicky Fleming 01543 502857 (Not Fridays)

Revd Gill Joynson 01543 502131

Parish Office 01543 502131

Mon– Wed 9.30 am—12.30 pm

Thur– Fri 9.30—12.30pm

Email: stlukesparish@btconnect.com

<http://www.stlukescannock.org.uk>

It is so frustrating trying to make contact with Vicars so Vicky will endeavour to be in her study every evening except Fridays and Sundays between 6pm and 7pm so that you can be sure of speaking to her. You are welcome to ring at other times but you may have to leave a message!

Important Reminder

If you would like a member of the Pastoral Care Team to make contact with you, or anyone you know in need, you should inform the Parish Office. Because of Data Protection legislation access to contact details is restricted and so the person concerned must give permission.

If someone would like prayer please tell the Parish Office.

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.

First Reading— Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵Realizing 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?' ¹⁶So 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. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even 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. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Second Reading— Matthew 18.21-35

²¹Peter came and said to Jesus, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' ²²Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his

slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, 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. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But 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." ²⁹Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

Post Communion

Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.



Wearing face masks in Church is mandatory.

There are some hand made masks available at the back of St. Luke's for you to buy.



Please bring your donations of food etc to church when you come on a Wednesday or a Sunday. See over for more details and bring extra donations for our Harvest Festival

★HAPPY★
BIRTHDAY!

God Bless

Cath Middlehurst
on 13th September

God Bless

George Fleming on
19th September



Congratulations to

Ian and Lesley Coulter who
celebrate 28years of marriage on
20th September

Owing to the frequent changes in Government guidelines please check the website for details.

If we are unable to continue the evening worship and Bible Study course we shall continue with a 'virtual' course and you will be given details to view the video sessions online

Our theme for this year is:

We are the body of Christ and everyone is important.

Prayers of thanksgiving for the Licensed Ministry Team

In September we are giving thanks for the members of the Licensed Ministry Team—David Gethin, Di Holt, Rev. Gill Joynson, Rev. George Fleming and Rev. Vicky Fleming.

The team have worked hard to bring services, pastoral care and kept in touch writing letters for the Pew News during lockdown and in these ever changing times. We have all learnt a lot more about technology so that we can video services for the website and Facebook pages. Every month we meet, virtually at the moment, and discuss the future and the services.

Every person in the team has played their part in helping to build community with Christ at the centre in these difficult times.

Please take time to thank them personally by phone or email.

A prayer to say:

Father, we thank you that we are the body of Christ and that each part of the body is important. We thank you Lord for Licensed Ministry Team, for their dedication to your calling and their help in enabling worship to continue in difficult circumstances. We pray that you will bless them as they seek to serve you and build community with Christ at the centre. Amen





Sunday 27th September Harvest Service

Due to Covid Restrictions we are still unable to decorate the church with flowers or harvest items. To celebrate harvest we would ask that you bring items to donate to Cannock and District Foodbank. In order to supply demand the foodbank has a weekly shopping list of:

- **200 BOXES OF CEREALS**
 - **600 TINS OF BEANS**
 - **170 TINS OF TOMATOES**
 - **552 TINS OF MEAT**
- **410 TINS OF RICE PUDDING**
 - **410 TINS OF FRUIT**
 - **205 JARS OF JAM**
- **255 PACKS OF BISCUITS**
- **355 BOTTLES OF JUICE/SQUASH**
- **255 BOTTLES OF UHT MILK**

If you can help by bringing these items please place them in the box is at the back of Church and Ian Coulter will take up when he is on duty at the Foodbank – Thank you

Dear Friends,

Once again the rules for meeting have been changed but thankfully we can still hold our worship services.

The last few months have highlighted the impermanence of so

many things we have taken for granted in life and in the church. It is impossible not to be struck by the changes that have taken place since March. We have all been unsettled and challenged. So many of the things we took to be solid and dependable are in fact fragile and fleeting. Events have been cancelled, people have lost jobs and some people have lost dear friends and family.

Through out all 'the changing scenes of life', Jesus remains the same and his power is not diminished. It is in the enduring love and strength of the risen Jesus that we can have hope for the future. When we think of the resurrected Christ, we remember that large heavy stones, walls and locked doors could not keep him out. He is not a ghost of the past hanging around in the present—he is the rock of the future calling us on to certain hope.

Jesus' presence easily passes through the difficulties and weakness of the present situation, and leads us on. St. Paul says in his letter to the Corinthians that there are three enduring things—faith, hope and love.

As we work through these times together let those three characteristics be at the heart of who we are as individuals and as the body of Christ.

Whatever you are experiencing now, hang on, even if it's by your fingernails, and look to Christ for his resurrection power to see you through.

God Bless,

Rev. Vicky Fleming



The Bible Course will help you understand the Bible for yourself. Over eight sessions you will see the big picture of the Bible storyline – from Genesis to Revelation. Along the way you will pick up tools and skills to help you read it for yourself. By the end of the course you will have confidence to pick up the Bible, read it for yourself and apply it to your life.

We will be following this course in our new Sunday Night Service at 5pm starting on 20th September in St. Luke’s Church. To book to come, order a £5 manual or get details about watching online please email the office. IF Covid 19 restrictions prevent us from meeting we will continue the course and will let you have details for a virtual course — so please make sure you are booked in.

| Date | St. Luke’s | St. Thomas |
|----------------|---|---------------------------------|
| 13th September | 8am Holy Communion 10am Morning Prayer | 10.30am Open for private prayer |
| 20th September | 10am Holy Communion | 11am Morning Prayer |
| 27th September | 8am Holy Communion 10am Morning Prayer | 10.30am Open for private prayer |