

# Parish News

**Sunday 20th September 2020**

**Trinity 15**

## **Parish Clergy**

Revd Vicky Fleming 01543 502857 (Not Fridays)

Away until Monday 21st September

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](mailto: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 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.

## Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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— Philippians 1.21-30***

<sup>21</sup>For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. <sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; <sup>24</sup>but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. <sup>25</sup>Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, <sup>26</sup>so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

<sup>27</sup>Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. <sup>29</sup>For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well – <sup>30</sup>since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

## ***Second Reading– Matthew 20.1-16***

Jesus said to his disciples: <sup>1</sup>‘The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; <sup>4</sup>and he said to them, “You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.” So they went. <sup>5</sup>When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, “Why are you standing here idle all day?” <sup>7</sup>They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” He said to them, “You also go into the vineyard.” <sup>8</sup>When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, “Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.” <sup>9</sup>When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup>Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup>And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup>saying, “These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.” <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?” <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first will be last.’

## Post Communion

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;  
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,  
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,  
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

On Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 11am Margaret Walker is hosting a virtual Macmillan Coffee morning on behalf of the St Luke's Friendship Group. We would like as many people as possible to join, so please share the information with your friends and family.

Download Zoom and contact Margaret on [margaretgwalker@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:margaretgwalker@hotmail.co.uk) as soon as possible so you can be sent details on how to join, some of the activities we will be doing and how to donate.



Happy Anniversary  
to Ian and Lesley Coulter  
who are celebrating  
28 years of marriage on  
Sunday 20th September.  
God Bless.

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 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 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,

Elsewhere in Pew News we are being asked to pray for the licensed ministry team, responsible for leading the various services take place at St. Luke's and St. Thomas', including the online services for those who are unable to get to church at the moment.

Gillian and myself are in the latter bracket and we certainly appreciate being involved in the worship albeit from a distance. I have to confess that I have found it difficult to really get a feeling of worship. At the Holy Communion service I miss the sense of belonging to a community of faith, gathering together, sharing in the family meal, kneeling together at the altar as forgiven sinners, joined by our common faith in Jesus as our Saviour. I can't wait, I thought, to get back to **proper acts of worship.**

But then I read an article which was entitled "*For an audience of one*", that one of course being God. It then dawned on me that all the negative thoughts I had been having about the worship were about me. That I was being distracted from worshipping because my thoughts revolved around me, were whereas worship is directed heavenwards to the One God.

So what I intend to do from now as I follow the service on the monitor, is to imagine that Jesus, who is the image of God, is in the room with me, that He is the audience of one that I am seeking to worship, and so to concentrate on him that all self centred thoughts will be banished.

You might like to try doing the same.

*"Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face,  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,  
In the light of His glory and grace."*

David Gethin

## **Bible Society—The Bible Course Explore the BIG story**

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. Each session is interactive, with sections of teaching, discussion time and personal reflection. Between sessions there are daily readings to prepare for the following week. 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 free online resources please email the office.**



<b>Date</b>	<b>St Luke's</b>	<b>St Thomas'</b>
<b>20th September</b>	<b>10am Holy Communion</b> <b>5.00 pm Bible Course Service</b>	<b>11am Morning Prayer</b>
<b>27th September</b>	<b>8am Holy Communion</b> <b>10am Morning Prayer</b> <b>5.00 pm Bible Course Service</b>	<b>10.30am Open for private prayer</b>