

St John's, Pevensey Road



**Sunday 30th August:
12th Sunday after Trinity**

Pews News & Service Sheet

People for whom our prayers are asked:

Arlene, Ian, Amber, Mike, Sally, Tracy, Agatha,
Clare & Luke & family, Shane, Clive, Henry, Marylyn,
Fr Ken, Fr John, Alberta, and Wendy.

Please pray also for...

...the repose of the souls of the recently departed,
especially Pauline Peacock, Sheila Johnstone, Paul Cabban,
John Clifford McConnell, and Diane,

... those whose Years Minds fall around this time,
especially John Cain and Les Gordon,

...and all who mourn.



You are very welcome to join in with Rev Jill and Rev Michael's **"Zoom" service** on Wednesday mornings at 10:00. Just send Rev Jill an email and she will let you know how to join in.

Collection Box

To clarify for those who follow the Mass via the online video, and may not have been able to hear Fr David's words of dedication last Sunday, this lovely oak container is a collection box on a stand, necessary to avoid passing round a communal collection bag in the current Covid-19 climate. Fr David blessed it, and thanked David Spice and Veronica Goddard for crafting the collection box, and the fabric bag which goes inside it, respectively.



What's in your hand?

We are into September this week - usually the time when we get back to our normal routines after the summer break. With the current Coronavirus pandemic, it's very different this year! However, it is still a good time to consider how God can use us to make a real difference in our workplace, school, family, friends and community. We are equipped with the resources we need to make God's love known.

When God gave Moses the job of bringing the Israelites out of Egypt, God asked the question, *'What is in your hand?'* (Exodus 4:2). Moses was holding his staff, which represented his livelihood (what he was good at); his resources (his flock represented his wealth) and his security (which God was asking him to lay down). We are asked the same question: *What has God given you?* Our gifts, temperament, experience, relationships, mind, and education can be used in the work God has given us to do. How will we use them to make a difference in the places where God calls us to serve?

John Ortberg, in his book *It All Goes Back in the Box*, speaks of Johnny, a 19 year old with Downs syndrome. He worked at a supermarket checkout putting people's items into bags. To encourage his customers, he decided to put a *Thought for the day* into the bags. Every night his Dad would help him to prepare the slips of paper and he would put the thoughts into the bags saying, *'I hope it helps you have a good day. Thanks for coming here.'* A month later the store manager noticed that Johnny's line at the checkout was three times longer than anyone else's! People wanted Johnny's thought for the day. He wasn't just filling bags with groceries, he was filling lives with hope!

What has God given *you* that will help and encourage others?

By Canon Paul Hardingham

Mass for the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

The Greeting

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Prayer of Confession

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in
penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's
commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

**All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence,
through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son
Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

The priest says the Absolution

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all
your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all
goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Gloria in Excelsis is said:

**All Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you
thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand
of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.**

Amen

Prayer for the Day - The Collect

Let us pray:

God of constant mercy,
who sent your Son to save us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah

Jeremiah 15.15-21

O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on
my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me
away;
know that on your account I suffer
insult.

Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart;
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.

I did not sit in the company of merry-
makers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat
alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.
Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful
brook,
like waters that fail.

Therefore, thus says the LORD:
If you turn back, I will take you
back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious, and
not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.
And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over
you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the LORD.

I will deliver you out of the hand of
the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp
of the ruthless.

For the Word of the Lord
All Thanks be to God

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans

Romans 12.9-end

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil,
hold fast to what is good; love one
another with mutual affection; outdo
one another in showing honour. Do
not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit,
serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be
patient in suffering, persevere in
prayer. Contribute to the needs of the
saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord.

No one comes to the Father except through me.

All Alleluia

The Lord be with you

All And also with you

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 16.21-28

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord,
Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of
the Father.

He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and
the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is
worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the
Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and
apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the
dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

In the power of the Spirit and in union
with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
you promised through your Son Jesus
Christ
to hear us when we pray in faith.

Strengthen Martin our bishop
and all your Church
in the service of Christ,
that those who confess your name
may be united in your truth,
live together in your love,
and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy
All Hear our prayer

Bless and guide Elizabeth our Queen;
give wisdom to all in authority;
and direct this and every nation
in the ways of justice and of peace;
that we may honour one another,
and seek the common good.

Lord, in your mercy
All Hear our prayer

Give grace to us,
our families and friends,
and to all our neighbours,
that we may serve Christ in one
another,
and love as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy
All Hear our prayer

Comfort and heal all those who suffer
in body, mind, or spirit ...;
give them courage and hope in their
troubles;
and bring them the joy of your
salvation.

Lord, in your mercy
All Hear our prayer

Hear us as we remember those who
have died in the faith of Christ ...;
according to your promises,
grant us with them a share
in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy
All Hear our prayer

Rejoicing in the fellowship of
[N and of] all your saints,
we commend ourselves
and the whole creation
to your unfailing love.

Merciful Father,
**All Accept these prayers,
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace *is introduced*

We are the body of Christ.
In the one Spirit we were all baptized
into one body.
Let us then pursue all that makes for
peace
and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always
with you.
All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of
peace.

We may exchange a sign of peace

Preparation of the Table

*The table is prepared and bread and
wine are placed upon it.*

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have
this bread to set before you,
which earth has given
and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.
All Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have
this wine to set before you,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.
All Blessed be God for ever.

The priest takes the bread and wine.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here

All His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of
your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:
**All Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of Saint John the Evangelist,
Saint Peter, Mary the Mother of God, and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom,
and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours,
almighty Father, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**All Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

**All Though we are many,
we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei is said:

**All Jesus, Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us
Jesus, bearer of our sins,
Have mercy on us
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
Grant us peace**

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to
his supper.

All Lord, I am not worthy to
receive you,
but only say the word,
and I shall be healed.

Communion is received

Music during Communion:
Meditation from 'Thais' (Massenet)

Prayer after Communion

*The priest prays the Post
Communion for the day:*

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside
our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in
Christ
may bring that healing to this broken
world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

All Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off,
you met us in your Son
and brought us home.
Dying and living,
he declared your love,
gave us grace,
and opened the gate of glory.

May we who share Christ's body
live his risen life;
we who drink his cup
bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights
give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have
set before us, so we and all your
children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise
your name;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Notices

The Blessing and Dismissal

Priest The Lord be with you
All **And also with you**

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit,
be among you
and remain with you always.
All **Amen.**

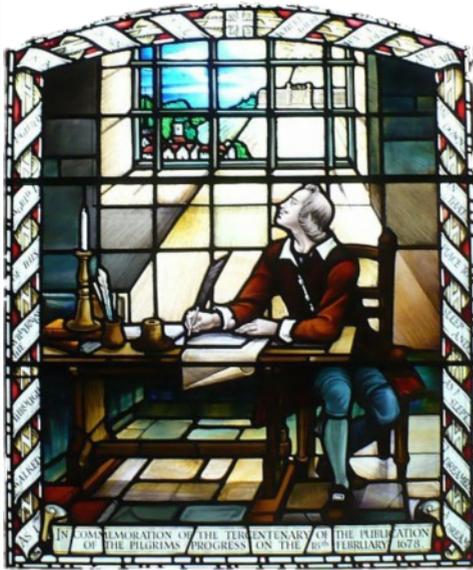
Priest Go in peace to love and serve
the Lord.
All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**Concluding voluntary: Toccata in D
minor (Dorian) BWV 538 (J.S. Bach)**

Today, 30th August, we remember John Bunyan – the writer of *Pilgrim's Progress*

After the Bible, John Bunyan's wonderful Christian allegory, the *Pilgrim's Progress*, is one of the most celebrated and widely-read books in the English language. It has been translated into more than one hundred languages around the world and keeps its place as a Christian classic.

Names of people and places from its pages have been commonplace wherever English is spoken. We need only recall Mr Great-Heart, Mr Valiant-for-Truth, Giant Despair, Madame Bubble, the Slough of Despond, Vanity Fair, the Delectable Mountains, the Hill Difficulty and the Celestial City.



Bunyan was born on 28 November 1628, at Elstow, near Bedford, England, of a poor family. He had little formal education and his father taught him to be a metal worker. His first wife died young. His second wife, Elizabeth, helped him considerably with his blossoming literary career. His conversion was the result of reading the Bible, and the witness of local Christians. From that time the Bible became the great inspiration of his life. He wrote more than fifty books on Christianity. A Baptist by conviction, he had little time for the Established Church.

Bunyan became a popular preacher, but because of his opposition to the Established Church and because he did not have a Church of England preaching licence, he was imprisoned in 1661. It was in prison that he wrote *Pilgrim's Progress*. It was not only Bunyan's greatest book but was destined to become one of the most popular Christian books in the world.

Pilgrim's Progress is an allegory, using the names of people and places from the Bible to teach spiritual lessons. The vivid and unforgettable imagery in the *Pilgrim's Progress* covers the whole Christian gospel from sin and condemnation all the way through faith, repentance, grace, justification, sanctification, and perseverance to heaven itself.

Bunyan died on 31 August 1688. His portrayal of the death of Mr Valiant For Truth is Bunyan at his allegorical best. This brave old soldier of Jesus Christ had received his summons to 'go home.' Calling his friends together he says, *'My sword I give to him who shall succeed me in my pilgrimage ... My marks and scars I carry with me, to be a witness for me, that I have fought His battles, Who will now be my rewarder.'* ... So he passed over, and all the trumpets sounded for him on the other side...'

The Small Print for today's service

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Eucharistic Prayer B (when no extended preface)

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