

# WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY



If this is your first newsletter, welcome ... if you have any questions about the church family, the Christian faith, or about our children's work, please do not hesitate to call Matthew the Rector on 01787 310 845.

This notice sheet covers the next week and combines:

- Notices
- The church diary (including livestream & Zoom joining instructions), Prayers and readings for the morning services on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June.

## Reflection - Treasures old and new

In the Gospel of Matthew in Chapter 13, after teaching about the Kingdom of Heaven, Jesus commented that: *'every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old.'* In the context of the passage, Jesus is provocatively saying that whereas there are remarkable treasures in what we now call the 'Old Testament', that his Kingdom is just as much of a treasure (if not more of one!).



I reflect firstly that the treasures are brought out. Our faith is not to be hidden away under lock and key but is to be visible. I also reflected that whereas Jesus clearly challenges his hearers not to be stuck in the past, he still describes the Old Testament as a treasure; we are not to throw out babies with bathwater.

I have been inspired by a conference I attended this week where pioneers across Suffolk and Norfolk shared stories about some of the innovative ways they are reaching out in new ways with the treasure of the Gospel. We are certainly trying to do the same in the Chadbrook benefice, with our toddler group, youth group and all the activities contributing to the 4 o'clock community – informal worship, messy church, forest church, café church and socials, not to mention the many other activities which gently welcome people in. At the same time, we celebrate and enjoy the more traditional forms of worship including our 1662 Choral Evensong, Communion services, and Morning Prayer. Please pray with me that we can be a church community which wholeheartedly brings out treasures old and new.

This verse will be the theme of the address at the informal worship service at HT this Sunday at 4.00pm.

## An insight into Ethiopia

We have special guests at our 10.30am service on the 3rd July – Tom and Gemma Fifield have been working for a church organisation in Ethiopia. Come and learn about what God has been doing through them in this extraordinary country.



## Be there - Songs of Praise!

It is confirmed – it's on. **Holy Trinity Church, Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30pm.**

This should be great fun. They bring a conductor, additional musicians, and make quite an event of it; we will sing up to 10 hymns together with a harvest and agricultural theme. Alongside this they will do some local filming. This is a great chance to showcase our church and our community – please make an effort to attend and bring as many people along as you can – we want to have a packed church. This is not just about having a moment of fame on the telly(!) – let's encourage each other as we sing words of faith heartily together in a full church, and see what fresh opportunities God brings. People will need to register to book free tickets - do get there first by contacting: [SOPcongregations@avantimedia.tv](mailto:SOPcongregations@avantimedia.tv) or calling 07734 030 888.



## 4 o'clock community - July

Looking ahead for Sundays in July we have, all at **4.00pm** ... who could you invite along?

- 10<sup>th</sup> July Café Church at Lawshall when we will be learning about taking risks for God,
- 17<sup>th</sup> July Forest Church at Foxearth Meadows with some great crafts and a focus on dragonflies,
- 24<sup>th</sup> July Messy Church on the Glebe Land by Holy Trinity (or in Holy Trinity if wet).

## Long Melford Village Fete

This has finally made it into the notice sheet!! We are delighted that for the first time in a very long time Long Melford is holding a traditional village fete, on the 9<sup>th</sup> July at Melford Hall. Entry is free between 1.00pm and 4.00pm. There are rumours that this will include the Rector being put in the stocks! With loads of activities and stalls for all ages, come along for a fun-packed afternoon. We are very grateful that proceeds will be split between Holy Trinity Church and the FLUMPS (Friends of Long Melford Primary School).



## How lovely is your dwelling place ...

Psalm 84 starts:

*How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord Almighty!  
 My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the Lord;  
 my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.  
 Even the sparrow has found a home,  
 and the swallow a nest for herself,  
 where she may have her young - place near your altar,  
 Lord Almighty, my King and my God.*

*Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.*



We don't have a sparrow at Holy Trinity, but a dove which decided to nest in the porch on the anti-pigeon spikes ... at Pentecost! Whereas we have great sympathy for the cleaning team ... we also pray that this will symbolise the reality of the Holy Spirit being with us in all our churches and homes. We pray that more will be drawn to our special places of worship (people not pigeons!).

## Storehouse Foodbank

A note from Vicky Leonard from Storehouse ...

*Firstly, I want to thank you, your church community & God for your faithfulness towards the work of Storehouse. Food donations are up 18% over the last 3 months, which is amazing when we are all feeling the financial pressure. Your financial donations are also awesome as we are currently needing to spend approx. £500 per month to meet the need of our community.*

*We are aware that the long summer holidays put an additional strain on families & this year with the household energy price rise that will be an extra burden. So we are launching our annual beat Summer Hunger campaign on Sun 26th June. This will run throughout the summer. We will also be requiring additional items to support households in general.*

If someone needs a referral to the Storehouse please contact the nominated person in the Chadbrook Benefice which is Cheryl Morgan (07943 811030). Currently food donations can be made at local supermarkets.



## This Week

Sun 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity (livestreamed)*
	4.00pm	Shine Informal Worship at Holy Trinity
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Connect baby & toddler group – St Catherine’s
	7.30pm	Ministry Team Meeting – St Catherine’s
Tues 28 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Morning Prayer via zoom #
	7.30pm	Handbells at St Catherine’s
	7.30pm	LM PCC Meeting
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Worship at Lawshall
	1.10pm	Melford Music Elaine Henson, Stephen Henson & Jennifer Cable
	7.00pm	Bell Practice at Holy Trinity
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> July	9.00am	Wedding Rehearsal at Holy Trinity – Ellis & Daisy
	10.30am	Church Tour at Holy Trinity – Medieval East Anglia
Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup>	1.00pm	Wedding at Holy Trinity – Ellis & Daisy
Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.00am	Alpheton Communion
	10.30am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity (livestreamed)*
	2.30pm	Baptism at Alpheton – Jude & Louis
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong at Holy Trinity

### \* Livestream Joining Instructions

- Google the five words “Holy Trinity Long Melford Facebook”.
- Click on the top link ([or simply click here](#)) to open the church’s Facebook page and scroll down a bit.
- Please note that you do not need a Facebook account yourself in order to watch the livestream.

# Morning Prayer - Zoom Meeting ID: 810 2345 2032, Password: 283350, or [click this link](#)

## Dates for your Diary

Sat	9 <sup>th</sup> July	1.00pm	Village Fete at Melford Hall
Sun	7 <sup>th</sup> Aug	12.00pm	Benefice Picnic on the Glebe Land - Holy Trinity
Sat	10 <sup>th</sup> Sept	2.00pm	Lawshall Flower Show
Sat	24 <sup>th</sup> Sept	10.30am	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Sat	24 <sup>th</sup> Sept	TBC	Alpheton & Shimpling Fete – Chadacre
Sat	1 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Evening	Harvest Supper (Alpheton & Shimpling)
Sat	8 <sup>th</sup> Oct	6.00pm	Patrick Kohler Memorial Concert at Holy Trinity
Sat	26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	All day	Melford Christmas Fayre

**Collect (prayer for the day)**

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you. Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**First Reading****Galatians 5:1,13-25**

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

<sup>13</sup> You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. <sup>14</sup> For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' <sup>15</sup> If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

<sup>16</sup> So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

<sup>19</sup> The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; <sup>20</sup> idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions <sup>21</sup> and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup> Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

**Gospel Reading****Luke 9:49-62**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke*

**Glory to you, O Lord**

'Master,' said John, 'we saw someone driving out demons in your name and we tried to stop him, because he is not one of us.'

<sup>50</sup> 'Do not stop him,' Jesus said, 'for whoever is not against you is for you.'

<sup>51</sup> As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup> And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; <sup>53</sup> but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup> When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, 'Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?' <sup>55</sup> But Jesus turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup> Then he and his disciples went to another village.

<sup>57</sup> As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, 'I will follow you wherever you go.'

<sup>58</sup> Jesus replied, 'Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.'

<sup>59</sup> He said to another man, 'Follow me.'

But he replied, 'Lord, first let me go and bury my father.'

<sup>60</sup> Jesus said to him, 'Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.'

<sup>61</sup> Still another said, 'I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family.'

<sup>62</sup> Jesus replied, 'No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.'

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*

**Praise to You O Christ**

*(Bible readings courtesy of Bible Gateway New International Version - UK (NIVUK))*

## Post Communion Prayer

Loving Father, we thank you for feeding us at the supper of your Son: sustain us with your Spirit, that we may serve you here on earth until our joy is complete in heaven, and we share in the eternal banquet with Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## Suggestions for Prayer

- For a peaceful resolution to the crisis in Ukraine, remembering before God the thousands who have been killed or injured and their families, refugees, and all caught up in these awful events.
- We remember before God those who have recently died and those who mourn including the families and friends of Anthony Fraser, Alpha Harrison, and Diane (Betty) Wright.
- For our new PCC's as they have their first meetings.
- For the many people who are feeling overwhelmed or lonely at the moment, that they would know the kindness of God.