



CANALSIDE NEWS

SUNDAY 18th JULY 2021

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

We are now back in church each Sunday for worship but we also continue to provide some form of online worship for those who for whatever reason, cannot attend in person.

This Sunday we have two 'live' services in the Benefice.....

9.15am: HOLY COMMUNION AT ST GEORGE'S in Semington and

10am A CELTIC-STYLE COMMUNION SERVICE AT ST MARY

MAGDALEN'S in Horse Road, Hilperton. The Service will be a celebration for the Patronal Festival of St Mary Magdalen and will be held in the church garden. It looks like it is going to be warm and sunny so please bring a hat or brollie to shelter from the sun instead of the rain. As we will be outdoors we can SING ! If the forecast is wrong and we have to go indoors sadly there won't be singing but we will still celebrate this special day together. After the service please stay for a drink and some light refreshments.

If you would like to attend either service and you haven't yet booked a place please contact Michael by 6pm on Saturday evening (17th)

The Service at St George's will be filmed and available to watch online on Sunday afternoon.

Here is the link to watch the service together with any of our pre-recorded services:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCS6_E8D47JK0aDFP89UvBrQ

Prayers, Readings and Reflection for the Service at St George's

The Collect (a special prayer for this Sunday)

Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life,
ever giving himself that the world may live:
may we so receive within ourselves
the power of his death and passion
that, in his saving cup,
we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading: Ephesians 2.11-end

¹¹ Don't forget that you Gentiles used to be outsiders. You were called "uncircumcised heathens" by the Jews, who were proud of their circumcision, even though it affected only their bodies and not their hearts. ¹² In those days you were living apart from Christ. You were excluded from citizenship among the people of Israel, and you did not know the covenant promises God had made to them. You lived in this

world without God and without hope. ¹³ But now you have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to him through the blood of Christ.

¹⁴ For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us. ¹⁵ He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new people from the two groups. ¹⁶ Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death.

¹⁷ He brought this Good News of peace to you Gentiles who were far away from him, and peace to the Jews who were near. ¹⁸ Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us.

¹⁹ So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. ²⁰ Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. ²¹ We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. ²² Through him you Gentiles are also being made part of this dwelling where God lives by his Spirit.

Gospel Reading: Mark 6.30-34, 53-end

³⁰ The apostles returned to Jesus from their ministry tour and told him all they had done and taught. ³¹ Then Jesus said, "Let's go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile." He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn't even have time to eat.

³² So they left by boat for a quiet place, where they could be alone. ³³ But many people recognised them and saw them leaving, and people from many towns ran ahead along the shore and got there ahead of them. ³⁴ Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

⁵³ After they had crossed the lake, they landed at Gennesaret. They brought the boat to shore ⁵⁴ and climbed out. The people recognised Jesus at once, ⁵⁵ and they ran throughout the whole area, carrying sick people on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶ Wherever he went—in villages, cities, or the countryside—they brought the sick out to the marketplaces. They begged him to let the sick touch at least the fringe of his robe, and all who touched him were healed.

This Week's Reflection by John

There is an increasing polarisation of views on important matters, both in wider society and amongst those of differing views within the Church of England and in other Christian denominations. I'm sure that the long months of the Covid pandemic haven't helped. For example, some are looking forward to the easing of restrictions with anticipation, while others are wondering whether they should shield again.

At national level in the Church of England, some are welcoming the plans for new Church plants which might often be led by lay people, while some clergy are seeing this as a threat, particularly as Covid pressures mean that dioceses are reducing the number of stipendiary clergy posts. By next year all Churches, including ours, will need to consider the matter of same sex marriage. The "living in love and faith" material we will use carefully presents the very different views held by deeply sincere Christians and the different theological positions behind them.

Paul, in writing to the Christians in and around Ephesus, recognises the different racial and cultural backgrounds of Jewish and Gentile Christians and makes a plea for unity, the unity that could only come from the shared identity they had as followers of Jesus. He reminded the gentiles that they had been outsiders, regarded by the Jews as “uncircumcised heathens” who lived without God and without hope.

It is only through Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross that unity had been achieved; Jews and Gentiles were no longer separated. The New Living Translation expresses this powerfully: - “he united the Jews and Gentiles as one people”. Jesus re-defined the laws and regulations of Leviticus and Deuteronomy, and brought about a new freedom, a new freedom in which they could come to God the Father in Jesus’ name and be guided by the Holy Spirit.

We, too live with this new freedom. As Christians it is crucial that we recognise that unity as people who proclaim “Jesus Christ is Lord” is far more important than the differences in worship styles, denominations.

At this challenging time in the life of our nation and world it is more important than ever that those of us who are followers of Jesus recognise and treasure our unity in him and seek to live that out in the way in which we approach our relationships with each other and in the way in which we approach our prayer life and our actions in our workplaces, our families and any other groups to which we belong. I think a core question for us at present is how do we go about this?

I expect we have all been appalled at the terrible racial abuse suffered by the young footballers after the European Championship Final this week. It is key, that as a national and local church, we stand against any form of discrimination.

Some years ago Bishop Tom Wright wrote :-

“If our Churches are still divided in any way along racial or cultural lines, Jesus would say that our Gospel, our very grasp of Jesus’ death, is called into question”.

We must note, and when needed, act on these hard hitting words.

Our attitudes and actions in the light of the Government announcement on the easing of restrictions will also be important.

It is already clear from the media, and posts I have seen from Christians on social media, that there are wide ranging views on what we should do. I suspect that some of us will think that we should continue to wear masks in Church while the infection rates are high, while others would be very pleased if we were to remove masks and see one another properly once more.

There are no easy answers, but our Gospel points us to the way in which we should approach our decision making.

Today’s Gospel immediately precedes Mark’s account of the feeding of the 5000.

The disciples had just come back from telling those living in the villages around Galilee about Jesus. They were keen to tell the Lord all about their mission, but the crowd was such that they were constantly interrupted, even to the point of not being able to find the time to eat. Jesus realised they were tired and hungry and he told them to find a deserted place and rest. But the crowd saw what was happening and they went to the expected “deserted place” in great numbers

The disciples would have been irritated, even angry. They would have been looking forward to a rest and a rare special time alone with their leader, teacher and friend. Jesus would have been looking forward to

this too. But Mark reports that Jesus didn't send the crowd away and tell them to come back tomorrow. We are told that he had:

“compassion on the crowd for they were “like sheep without a shepherd””.

He began to teach them, and then he fed them from the five loaves and two fish.

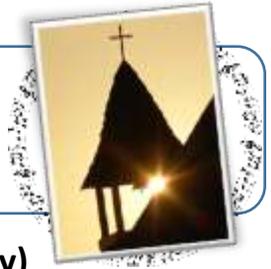
Jesus' attitude of compassion towards others must be key to our prayer life and our ministry in the coming days. We may at times be irritated by the actions of others, whether those making decisions at national level, those we meet in the street or seek to serve in our villages, and even those with whom we worship. We must listen to one another gently, seek to understand one another, and ask God, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to guide us in what we should say and do.

I am meeting with both the ministry team and wardens in the next few days to pray about, discuss and agree what action we should take in our worship and ministry in the Canalside Churches in the light of the government announcement. We would welcome your views too. Do let us know by speaking or writing to any of us, or through email. It is inevitable that we won't be able to please everyone, but we will seek to listen and act with compassion.



Staverton

Prayers and readings for the Service at St Mary Magdalen's



The Collect (a special prayer for this Sunday)

Almighty God,
whose Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of mind and body
and called her to be a witness to his resurrection:
forgive our sins and heal us by your grace,
that we may serve you in the power of his risen life;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

God of life and love,
whose risen Son called Mary Magdalene by name
and sent her to tell of his resurrection to his apostles:
in your mercy, help us,
who have been united with him in this eucharist,
to proclaim the good news that he is alive and reigns,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading: from 2 Corinthians

So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view.
At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view.
How differently we know him now!
This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new
person.
The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Gospel Reading: John 20:1-18

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Mary Magdalene announced to the disciples,
'I have seen the Lord.'

Alleluia.

20 Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. ² She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, "They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

¹¹ Mary was standing outside the tomb crying, and as she wept, she stooped and looked in. ¹² She saw two white-robed angels, one sitting at the head and the other at the foot of the place where the body of Jesus had been lying. ¹³ "Dear woman, why are you crying?" the angels asked her.

"Because they have taken away my Lord," she replied, "and I don't know where they have put him."

¹⁴ She turned to leave and saw someone standing there. It was Jesus, but she didn't recognise him. ¹⁵ "Dear woman, why are you crying?" Jesus asked her. "Who are you looking for?"

She thought he was the gardener. "Sir," she said, "if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and get him."

¹⁶ "Mary!" Jesus said.

She turned to him and cried out, “Rabboni!” (which is Hebrew for “Teacher”).

¹⁷ “Don’t cling to me,” Jesus said, “for I haven’t yet ascended to the Father. But go find my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

¹⁸ Mary Magdalene found the disciples and told them, “I have seen the Lord!” Then she gave them his message.

Planning for the Future- we want your views!

As I continue to work with the Benefice Wardens and Ministers to plan for the Autumn amidst the continuing challenges of Covid I would value your views on the following;-

- a) What do you most miss from our Pre Covid ministry that you would like us to resume?
- b) What aspects of our ministry during Covid have you valued that you would want us to continue?
- c) is there anything else that you would wish us to consider as we pray and plan?

Please either email me at Canalsiderector@gmail.com or write to me at The Rectory. 22 Warren Road, Staverton, Trowbridge BA14 8UZ by the end of July. Please also make it clear whether your comments apply to Hilperton/Staverton, Semington or both. With many thanks John

Tea@TheTin

Next Sunday, 25th July, we will meet once more at St. Mary Magdalen’s Church at 4pm, please let Michael or Joy know as soon as possible if you would like to attend. Although Covid restrictions are easing it would still be very helpful if you could bring your own pens, pencils and colouring

pens, you may require scissors too. Snacks and drinks will be available as last month. Please note, there will not be a Tea@TheTin in August.

Children Society Box Holders

Sorry for the delay in emptying your boxes. Please drop your box in the bag which I will put at the back of the Church during Wednesday and Sunday services. I am sure you all realise the House Box Network is helping the most vulnerable children, despite all the hardships in 2020 they managed to raise £750,000. At present I will not be making any home collections. Thank you for your support. Sandra

Walking Aid

If anyone would like this walking aid it is being given away free of charge. Please let Michael know and he will put you in touch with the donor.



This Thursday (22nd) The Return of Friendship Group

Friendship Group at St Mary Magdalen's will restart with a pilot session on Thursday from 2.30-4pm. Anne Rees

The Return of Drop in for Coffee

Advance Notice: Val and Colin are planning to restart Drop in for Coffee at St Mary Magdalen's in September. More details to follow.

Charity Art Exhibition

I am having a small Art exhibition and craft sale at home on Sunday 1st August. Outside if possible. This will feature a series of 'Wiltshire' paintings that I have completed over the past year. See attached flyer.

This is a charity event, any money we make from donations or sale of refreshments will go to will go the Lennox children's cancer fund. Judy Meats (112 Church Street, Hilperton)

Prayer Requests

It is important that we pray for all those who seek our support, especially at this time. Please let Michael know of anyone who particularly needs our prayers. Do ensure that you have their permission.

This week we pray for..

Amelia-Lily and family
Andrew Margetts
Barbara & David
Beryl Curtis
Chris Brown
Colin Jackson
Collette Miyagawa
David Daniels
David Franklin
Deanna and Family
Doreen
Doris and Arthur Walker
Elizabeth
Hannah, Ash & Oliver
Helen (Stella's niece)
Iris and Paddy Webb



*St Michael's
Hilperton*

Jacqui Fudge
James Vincent
Janet Blake
Jess Humphries
Lilly & Phil
Margaret Hulbert
Michael & Clem
Mike Aldridge
Ottie
Pat & Stan Thompson
Pauline Burbidge
Phyl Brown
Rosa Light
Sam Tucker
Sophia & Family
Winnie Curtis

- We pray for all those who mourn but particularly at this time for the families of Gerald Marshman, Alan Hall, Margaret Hill and Christina Nunn.

- Please pray for all those taking summer breaks at the moment that this time will provide relaxation, refreshment and peaceful contemplation.
- We pray for Joy as she completes her placement and training in Lyneham and Woodhill and for the Rev Rachma and team who Joy will be working alongside. Joy looks forward to returning to Canalside from Monday.
- Please pray for the Dean of Salisbury and all those involved in the appointment of the 79th Bishop of Salisbury.
- Let us thank God for the continuation of the vaccination programme and the ray of hope it brings to all our lives.
- As a very difficult School year comes to an end this week we pray for all the staff, pupils, parents and governors of our three schools that they may have a peaceful, blessed and safe summer break.
- We pray for all those staff and pupils leaving pre-school, school and college this week and in particular all our Year 6 pupils preparing for secondary school in the Autumn.
- Please pray for all those grieving at this time around the World for all those who have died from the Coronavirus.
- Lord we bring before you all those suffering from the effects of Coronavirus in any way and thank you for the NHS, scientists, health professionals, politicians and key workers working so hard to help us through the crisis.

Foodbanks Update

Trowbridge: Bill thanks everyone for the items of food and toiletries for Storehouse. He collects from the church porches on Tuesday & Thursday mornings & takes directly to Storehouse where they are gratefully received. The request from Storehouse this week is for **Tinned Meat - Corned beef, Ham, Tinned Pies, Hot Dogs, Meatballs, Tuna, Tinned Spaghetti Bolognese, Tinned Curries, Tinned Macaroni Cheese,**

Tinned Potatoes, Tinned Vegetables - Peas, Carrots, Coffee, Biscuits - Plain and Chocolate, Crisps, Sugar, Shampoo, Conditioner.

On Wednesdays Storehouse provide a Soup Kitchen from 1-2pm *“Come on down for smiles and food to fill hungry tummies”*

Melksham: is particularly requesting **Tinned Rice Pudding, Tinned Soup, Tinned Custard, Squash, Pasta Sauce, Tinned Fruit, Sweets and Chocolate** this week. Please continue to support the work of our local foodbanks. EVERY donation makes a difference. If you would like to support Trowbridge Storehouse regularly or give a one off donation, please follow the link below and select storehouse.

<https://westwiltsvineyard.churchsuite.co.uk/donate/fund/zk54op3a>

Items for our local foodbanks can be left in our church porches, the Somerset Arms& in local supermarkets.

Do you or someone you know need Support?

If you need support or are aware of others who may need support, please contact one of our Churchwardens, John, Joy or Michael.

Similarly let us know if you are able to offer shopping or other help – and thank you to those who have already offered this. If you would like someone to pray with you or for you, or if you would like to speak with someone, please do not hesitate to contact John or Joy.

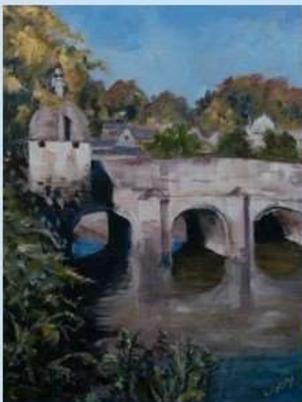


Art Exhibition and Craft Sale

Sunday August 1st 11- 4pm

112 Church St Hilperton. BA14 7RG

Bridges and Meadows Around West Wiltshire



A series of original
paintings by Judy Meats



Handmade Crafts by
Caroline Dick



**Free Entry. Donations and refreshment sales in aid of:
Lennox Children's Cancer Fund www.lennoxccf.org.uk**



The
Canalside
Parishes

BENEFICE DIARY JULY

Date / Time		Event details	Location
Tu	20 th	0930 Hilpertont/Staverton Morning Prayer https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88326941179	Online
W	21 st	1000 Midweek Communion Booking not required.	St Michael's
		1400 St George's School Leavers' Service	School
Th	22 nd	0900 Semington Morning Prayer https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84008141990	Online
		1000 1130 Private Prayer	St Michael's
F	23 rd	0930 Hilpertont School Leavers' Service	School
		0930 Staverton School Leavers' Service	Online
Sa	24 th	1030 Renewal of Marriage Vows Service Sean and Stacey Pederick	St Mary Magdalen's
Su	25 th	ST JAMES THE APOSTLE	
		<i>If you haven't already done so please contact Michael to book places for the following 'live' services</i>	
		1000 Holy Communion	St Michael's
		1600 Tea@ the Tin	St Mary Magdalen's

Find details on our Facebook page & our website:

www.canalsidebenefice.org.uk

BENEFICE CONTACTS:

Rector: Rev John Rees 01225 764365 canalsiderector@gmail.com

Curate: Rev Joy Albone 07931638524 canalsidecurate@gmail.com

Office: Michael Gamble 07795400262 canalsideoffice@gmail.com

