



# CANALSIDE NEWS

SUNDAY 10th OCTOBER 2021

THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

THIS  
SUNDAY

**MORNING WORSHIP**

9.15am St George's, Semington

**HOLY COMMUNION**

10.30am St Michael 's, Hilperton

*The Service at St Michael'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\\_E8D47JK0aDFP8\\_9UvBrQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCS6_E8D47JK0aDFP8_9UvBrQ)

## **The Collect (a special prayer for this Sunday)**

God our Father,  
without your love and forgiveness  
we would shrivel and die;  
by the enabling of your Spirit,  
help us to be channels of prayer  
for your Kingdom to come on earth.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the same Spirit,  
God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

Father in heaven,  
open our eyes to see your gracious action in your world.  
Open our hearts to align our ministry with yours;  
and open our minds to focus on  
the priorities of your kingdom,  
where Jesus reigns forever. **Amen**

## **The Epistle: Philippians 4.4-7**

<sup>4</sup>Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! <sup>5</sup>Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon.

<sup>6</sup>Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. <sup>7</sup>Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

## **The Gospel: Matthew 7.7–12**

<sup>7</sup>“Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be

opened to you. <sup>8</sup> For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.

<sup>9</sup> “You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? <sup>10</sup> Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! <sup>11</sup> So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.

<sup>12</sup> “Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets.

### **This week’s reflection by John**

Last week we began our four-week series on generous giving by celebrating Harvest. We gave thanks for all God’s generosity to us, and some people brought symbols of the things we are grateful to God for, ranging from family photos to a model combine Harvester. Someone shared with me after one of our services that she gives thanks for her memories. I think that is really powerful, for often when we look back on our lives we can see how God has been at work, generously blessing us and answering our prayers, often in ways we couldn’t see at the time we were praying.

Prayer is our subject for today. It is so important Jesus himself regularly withdrew from the disciples and from the crowds to find quiet places; places where he could pray to his Father. It was through prayer he knew what his Father wanted him to do. In the Last Supper he gave thanks to his Father for the bread and wine, and in today’s reading from Matthew’s Gospel he taught about the importance of asking the Lord to provide both for our own needs and the needs of others. I’ll come back to our Gospel reading, but I want to begin by exploring our text from Philippians.

Paul, writing to the Christians in Philippi, encouraged them to rejoice and to be full of joy. Paul was able to do this through his personal experience. He knew God's loving presence was with him in all circumstances. Because of the depth of his prayer life he was joyful even though he was writing from prison in Rome. He could have been full of self-pity or even been cross with God; for he was in prison for sharing his faith in Jesus. Instead, Paul trusted that God would be with him, strengthening him and enabling him to tell others about Jesus even in prison. He brought all his worries and concerns to God in prayer. It was this that enabled him to rejoice even when his circumstances are difficult.

Paul wanted the Philippians to do the same. He would also want us to rejoice that God is with us, even in these difficult Covid times. He would want us to rejoice even though we face significant financial challenges, with a forecast deficit at the end of the year of nearly £5000.

He would also want us to act – and the most important action of all is prayer.

*Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand*

Paul experienced a peace that could only come from God. His life was based on a daily rhythm of telling God what he needed and thanking God for answered prayer.

Paul's prayer life was modelled on Jesus' teaching. In Matthew Chapter 7 Jesus taught that we should keep praying, and trust that we will receive the answer to our prayers. He taught that we should trust that God truly wants the best for us, just as a good parent wants the best for their children.

In verse 11 we hear that God, who is more loving and more powerful than any human parent, gives good things to those who ask him.

I think these readings challenge us to spend more time in prayer, and to have a deeper trust that God truly wants to provide for us.

So often, even as a Church community, we are more keen to plan and organise than we are to pray. Whether we are organising a fundraising event, planning maintenance or improvements to our church buildings, or needing to cover a funding deficit we plan in much the same way as a business or as a community organisation, apart from beginning our meetings with prayer.

This approach to planning our Church life can be deeply embedded – and indeed has been typical of most Churches I have belonged to over the years. It has been so much part of my life that a few years ago I nearly finished a meeting of military personnel and civilian security experts by inviting them to join me in saying the Grace. I sometimes wonder how they might have reacted.

Jesus teaches us to pray for what we need in confidence and in trust, and Paul teaches us that if we take that approach to asking for what we need, if it accords with God's will, we will experience a peace that passes all understanding. Roger Morgan, when he spoke to us about discipleship recently, spoke of how the most productive and joyful time of his day was the time he spent in prayer as he got up. I know that that is true for some of you too.

I would like to finish by encouraging us all to spend more time in prayer; for the needs of the world, including an end to Coronavirus, and for the financial needs of our Diocese and for God's provision of the near £5000 we need if the Parish of Hilperton and Staverton is not to have a deficit at the end of the year.

A good starting point would be to use the prayer resources in the Generous Giving leaflet. I have been thinking for some time that we should have a gathering to specifically pray for every aspect of our

church life, including our worship, our ministry in the community and our financial needs.

I would therefore like to invite you to join me for a prayer and coffee hour at 9.30 on alternate Saturday Mornings at the Rectory (22 Warren Road), beginning on Saturday 16th October. If you would like to join in via Zoom instead please email me at [canalsidirector@gmail.com](mailto:canalsidirector@gmail.com). Over time we will pray about every aspect of our church life and ministry. Please contact me if you have suggestions for prayer topics.

## 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  
Beryl Strange  
Colin Jackson  
Collette Miyagawa  
David Franklin  
David and Audrey  
Sheppard  
Deanna and Family  
Doreen  
Doris and Arthur Walker  
Hannah, Ash & Oliver  
Holly Thompson  
Iris and Paddy Webb



*St Mary the Virgin,  
Whaddon*

James Vincent  
Jess Humphries  
John Simmons  
Judy Meats  
Lilly & Phil  
Margaret Hulbert  
Michael & Clem  
Mike Aldridge  
Ottie  
Pat & Stan Thompson  
Pauline Burbidge  
Phyl Brown  
Rosa Light  
Roselyne Mélan  
Rosie Alice & Mark  
Sophia & Family  
Winnie Curtis

- We pray for all those who mourn but particularly at this time for the families of Betty Bonham, Michael Elloway, Beryl Strange and Joyce Lee.
- Please pray for the Dean of Salisbury and all those involved in the appointment of the 79<sup>th</sup> 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.
- we continue to pray for the staff, pupils and governors of Hilperton, Staverton and St George's School and of all our local schools
- 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.

## Harvest

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the three Harvest services last Sunday. In total just over 90 people attended. Thank you to everyone involved in decorating the churches so beautifully and for all your harvest gifts which have now been passed on to the foodbank. It was also great to hear the organ being played again at St Michael's – thank you Tim.

## Bishop Andrew's Visit

Next Sunday (17<sup>th</sup>) the Bishop of Ramsbury will be visiting the Benefice at the 10.30am Communion Service at St Michael's. The main focus of the Service will be to give thanks to Ray Guymer, Ivor Hughes, Jeannette Worth and Gill Guymer as they retire from their ministries after a great many years of service. After the service coffee and cake will be served.



## Youth Alpha – It is not too late to join in!

Are you interested in exploring more about what it means to be a follower of Jesus?

Would you like to do this with others of a similar age to yourself ?

If you are in Year 6 – Year 10 and would like to explore more, why not join us on Friday 29<sup>th</sup>

October at 7.00pm, at Rev. John Rees' home – 22 Warren Road, Staverton, BA14 8UZ, drinks and snacks will be available.

For more details, or to express an interest, please contact John or Joy (see contact details on back page)



## WaterAid

St Michael's have donated £47 pounds this year. I am not sure if everyone realises there is a tub at the back of the Church during every service. Thank you Sandra.



## Children's Society Boxes

£322.45 has been collected for 2020/21. Thank you for everyone who has donated. Sorry to the people I would normally call on but I decided for your safety and mine I would not visit this year. Urgently required is someone to take over from me for 2021/22. Sandra.





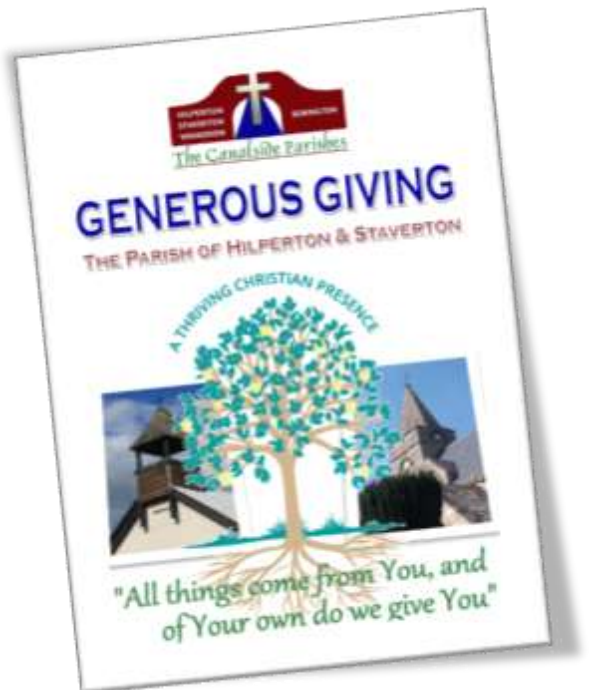
## Covid restrictions in our Churches: Policy change

At the end of July, following the Government's lifting of Covid19 restrictions, the Ministry Team, Wardens and PCCs met and discussed how the changes would affect the way we worship in Canalside. It was decided to proceed with caution and to make small changes for the time being. The Hilperton and Staverton PCC recently reviewed the current arrangements. After some discussion it was decided at St Michael's and St Mary Magdalen's we will remove the requirement for people to sit socially distanced in our churches. If you don't want someone to sit next to you may like to put a bag or coat next to you to indicate this. Semington PCC has also agreed to take the same steps.

**NOTE:** After this information was published last week, we received some feedback and consequently an area will be set out at the back in St Michael's Church for those who wish to sit socially distanced from others during services. Please ask the Welcomers or Wardens to direct you to these seats on arrival at church if you would prefer this.

## Generous Giving

This week we continue our Generous Giving Campaign – a four week focus asking everyone to consider what they give to God to fund mission and ministry and what each church shares with others in giving to the Diocese. If you haven't yet received the Generous Giving Booklet please contact Michael.



## **Private Prayer at St Michael's**

Since June of last year St Michael's has been open on most Thursday mornings for private prayer. As the Church is now open each weekday and Wednesday Morning worship has returned to church the PCC has decided that there is no longer a need to have a designated time for Private Prayer on Thursdays. A big thank you to Sandra for taking a lead on these sessions throughout the last 16 months. The church remains open each weekday during daylight hours if you would like to spend some quiet time in the building.

## **Shoebboxes – a fortnight to go**

Following the launch of this year's Christmas Link to Hope Appeal – you now have just 2 weeks to get your shoebboxes ready before they need to be brought to church for onward transit. This year's deadline is Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October.

## **Dominica**

In recent years, since Dominica suffered a devastating hurricane we have supported, in ways which we are able, appeals for items of light weight clothing all sizes & ages, shoes, bedding, curtains, towels, sewing items, Christmas gifts for children. Sometimes these have been shipped in containers or barrels. Now of course the island has been hit by Covid & the main source of income is tourism.

The last amount given by folk in the benefice went in barrels to the island, the barrels will then be used to store water or cut in half to grow crops. It is amazing what is able to be fitted into a barrel. A printer for a computer being one! This time someone has generously donated a computer, others have donated other items of bedding etc, etc. If you should have any items you wish to go into the next shipment please may Bill & I have them by Friday the 8th October? Our thanks to all who have given in the past & blessed the people of Dominica. Bill & Marilyn Stubbs

# John and Anne GO Trekking



**26th & 27th  
October  
Kennet & Avon  
TOWPath**

**Raising funds for  
St Michael & All Angels and  
St Mary Magdalenes Churches  
in Hilperton**

In 2020 John headed east along the Canal Towpath and raised a fantastic £1,200 for

our churches. This year Anne will be joining him starting at Pewsey and heading across the border into Berkshire towards Kintbury. If you would like to sponsor John and Anne on their trek there are a number of ways you can do so.....

- **BACS payment:** Hilperton PCC / 30-98-75 / 00319535 (state SPONSORWALK in the transaction)
- **Give a Little website:** use this link  
<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/09f15793-e102-42b9-8b88-f5857547cec4>
- **PayPal:** Log on to your PayPal account and donate to  
[canalsideoffice@gmail.com](mailto:canalsideoffice@gmail.com)
- **Cash/Cheque**  
Pop it into an envelope marked SPONSORED WALK and drop it into the Rectory — 22 Warren Road, Staverton BA14 7QU.  
Cheques should be made payable to Hilperton PCC please.

**Contact: Michael Gamble 07795400262 [canalsideoffice@gmail.com](mailto:canalsideoffice@gmail.com)**

## **A monthly Fellowship Lunch**

As we plan ahead we would like to start a monthly Fellowship Lunch at St Mary Magdalen's in Horse Road, Hilperton. This is intended to be a simple lunch of **SOUP AND A ROLL**. To make this happen we need someone to take a lead who can bring together a team of helpers and be part of the Parish Social and Fundraising Group (see below). If this is something you could help us with we would love to hear from you. Contact Michael for more details.

## **Social and Fundraising Group – We need your help**

Fundraising and meeting for social activities are both significant in parish life but obviously during the pandemic most of our annual events have had to be cancelled. In Hilperton and Staverton Parish we are now forming a Social and Fundraising Group to start work on planning ahead for the rest of this year and beyond. If you would like to be part of this Group we would love to hear from you – just contact Michael as soon as possible.

## **Traidcraft**

A message from Rosemary Yates: The Autumn/Winter Traidcraft catalogue is now available for you to buy Fair-trade Christmas cards, Advent Calendars, gifts, food and fashion and also to raise money for the Church. Further details from Rosemary on 753741.

## **Our very own Calendar for 2022**

Many thanks to those of you who have already entered seasonal photographs for our 2022 Calendar. We would love to see more entries so if you have any snaps please do get in touch. The entries will be independently judged to select 13 shots (1 for each month and 1 for the cover). The Calendar will then be sold to raise funds for our churches. The entry fee for each photo is £3. Don't worry if you only have photos

on paper – they can still be entered – just let Michael have the photo and he can copy it and return the original to you to go back into your album or wherever you keep them. If you prefer you can enter digital photos by email or by phone. Just remember that each photo must be taken in Hilperton, Staverton or Whaddon and should depict Spring, Summer, Autumn or Winter views. The photo can be an old one or one taken recently. **Please send your entries to Michael by no later than Midnight on SUNDAY 31<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 2021.**

## **Foodbanks Update**

### **TROWBRIDGE STOREHOUSE:**

The Food Bank says a big thank you to all the Schools and Churches for all the donations they received from the Harvest Festival Services.

Many thanks to Bill who continues to collect donated items from the church porches & takes them directly to Storehouse. **Stock is very low at the moment,** everyday items are needed. Urgently needed: **Shampoo, Conditioner, Toiletries, Toilet Rolls, Biscuits-plain and chocolate and any Christmas items.** **They also desperately need any type of bag.** On Wednesdays they are now holding a Community Meal for at least 16.

The Food Bank hopes to give 70 or more families all they need for a fresh wholesome Christmas. Your donations could buy the following: **Complete Hamper £50, Meat/Vegetarian option £25, Fresh Vegetables £10, Christmas trimmings: Christmas pudding custard etc £15.**

If you prefer you can make a financial donation so that Storehouse can order supplies from the supermarkets. 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>

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

## MELKSHAM FOODBANK:

is particularly requesting tinned custard, biscuits, squash, coffee, sugar and tinned rice pudding this week. Items for the Melksham Foodbank can be left in the porch at St George's Church, in most local supermarkets and at the Somerset Arms. Please continue to support the work of both our local foodbanks.

<b>DATES FOR DIARIES</b>					
<i>Month</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
<b>OCT</b>	Th	21 <sup>st</sup>	1000-1200	<b>DROP IN FOR COFFEE</b>	St Mary Magdalen's
	Tu and W	26 <sup>th</sup> and 27 <sup>th</sup>	All day	<b>JOHN &amp; ANNE'S SPONSORED WALK</b>	Kennet and Avon Canal
<b>NOV</b>	Sa	13th	1000-1200	<b>REMEMBRANCE DAY COFFEE MORNING</b>	Hilperton House
	F	26 <sup>th</sup>	1900+	<b>QUIZ NIGHT for St Mary Magdalen's</b>	St Mary Magdalen's
<b>DEC</b>	F	10 <sup>th</sup>	1400-1630	<b>CHRISTMAS FAYRE AFTERNOON</b>	St Mary Magdalen's



# BENEFICE DIARY 2021



The  
Canalside  
Parishes

Month	Day	Date	Time	Event details	Location
OCT	Tu	12 <sup>th</sup>	0930	Hilperton/Staverton Morning Prayer <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88326941179">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88326941179</a>	Online
	W	13 <sup>th</sup>	1000	Midweek Communion	St Michael's
	Th	14 <sup>th</sup>	0900	Semington Morning Prayer <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84008141990">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84008141990</a>	Online
			1430 1600	Friendship Group	St Mary Magdalen's
	F	15 <sup>th</sup>	0915 1045	Toddlers@the Tin To book a place please contact Anne on <a href="mailto:annerees58@gmail.com">annerees58@gmail.com</a>	St Mary Magdalen's
	Sa	16 <sup>th</sup>	0930 1030	Prayer at the Rectory	22 Warren Road, Staverton

**NEXT  
SUNDAY**

**BENEFICE COMMUNION**  
**A Celebration of Ministry**  
10.30am St Michael 's, Hilperton  
with Bishop Andrew

Find details on our Facebook page & our website:

[www.canalsidebenefice.org.uk](http://www.canalsidebenefice.org.uk)

#### BENEFICE CONTACTS:

**Rector:** Rev. John Rees 01225 764365 [canalsidirector@gmail.com](mailto:canalsidirector@gmail.com)  
**Curate:** Rev. Joy Albone 07931638524 [canalsidecurate@gmail.com](mailto:canalsidecurate@gmail.com)  
**Office:** Michael Gamble 07795400262 [canalsideoffice@gmail.com](mailto:canalsideoffice@gmail.com)