



Trinity 11

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I hope that you have had a good week, and I am certainly pleased to see that the rain has abated a bit today!

This Sunday

I hope that you will be able to join us for worship via Zoom this coming Sunday - Rev'd Christopher Miles is preaching for us this week, thank you, Christopher. The link for this Sunday's service and post-service chat is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82723452207?pwd=S2lkZWpJWEdHRIZEZTEybGVzTERuQT09>

Do feel free to pass this onto anyone else you know who may be interested in joining us - although it is now only a couple of weeks before 'in person' church resumes on Sundays it would still be good to see as many as possible each week on Zoom, as we are still the church and we are still gathering together.

The Week Ahead

- Monday - 9.00 am Morning Prayer & 6.00 pm Compline (Facebook Live)
- Tuesday - 9.00 am Morning Prayer & 5.00 pm Evening Prayer (Facebook Live)
- Wednesday - 9.30 am Holy Communion (in the Lady Chapel and via Facebook Live, see below) & 6.00 pm Compline.
- Thursday - 9.00 am Morning Prayer - No Evening Prayer.

Wednesday Morning Communion

Last Wednesday I was delighted to have the first people back into church to receive communion since lockdown. I think it was quite emotional for some of us! If you would like to attend the service this coming Wednesday then please do drop me an email or a telephone message. I don't mind if the same people come again (please do ask) but if others want to come for the first time that would be lovely - do let me know.

'Re-gathering, Re-planting or Re-creating?'

As the physical church building starts to re-open not only for private prayer but also now for Wednesday morning communions and, very shortly, for Sunday morning communions I think it would be good for us all to give some prayerful consideration to what we are seeking to do.

It was Heraclitus who said: "*No man ever steps in the same river twice, for it is not the same river and he is not the same man.*"

On that basis I think we should be cautious about expecting to simply 're-create' the church that existed prior to lockdown. It will be different because everything is different, and it would be a mistake to return expecting everything to be as it once was. I think it is much healthier, and in some ways more exciting, to think in terms of re-gathering and re-planting the church from the seeds which we have, expecting something different and new to grow. So please think and pray for St Mary's and please pray for the Holy Spirit to re-gather the people, to plant the seeds we have and to give us the freedom and courage to see it grow in new shapes.

God bless,

Rev'd Paul

Collect for Trinity 11

O God, you declare your mighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ you Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Today's Readings

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Matthew 16:13-20

Next Week's Readings (Trinity 12)

Exekiel 3:1-15

Matthew 16:21-end

Prayers for the Week

We pray for: All who live in Park Villas, Spa Close and James Close

At the first anniversary of their marriage we pray for Andrew and Lucy

We pray for those who have recently died:

Joan Mitchell

David Hawkins

From our Book of Remembrance we pray for:

Cyril George Mitchell (23rd)

Henry Hibbs (23rd)

Edward Allen (24th)

Andrea Diana Pound (27th)

Joyce Marion Dunford (29th)

Parish News

Sunday 10am Holy Communion – In order to get the service started on time, do feel free to start joining from about 9.50am onwards. The order of service will appear on the screen as we go, and is also available on the church website or [here](#). If you are not on the email mailing list for the Zoom invitation, please let Paul have your email address.

Zoom Coffee. We are planning to have coffee 'virtually' between 11.00am and 12.00pm again this Sunday after the service, via Zoom. If you would like to join us, the link will be the same as for the 10am service.

Nicky's Licensing as Vicar of Marden will take place on 13th October and will comply with government guidelines for social distancing restrictions at that time. Meantime she is still on secondment at the benefice of Mereworth, Wateringbury and West Peckham.

New Parish Administrator's Telephone As Janice is now carrying out her Parish Administrator's duties from home, her new contact telephone number for parish business is 07570 941809.

Friends of Kent Churches Ride and Stride

This will take place on Saturday, 12th September. If anyone would like to take part on their bicycles or walking, I have the sponsorship forms. Please let me know in good time as we will try and get some sponsorship for you via the Church news sheet. Also, anyone willing to sit in the church (wearing a mask) for an hour in the morning please let me know. So few cyclists come in the afternoon that I may just leave the church locked with a form for them to sign.

Julia Miles (Tel. 852323) or jmiles46@btinternet.com

Geoff and Ann Marsh While on holiday in Cornwall, Christopher and Julia visited Geoff and Ann at their new home in Wadebridge, close to some of their family. They asked the Miles to send their best wishes to all their Hadlow friends.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting The APCM will take place on 25th October after the 10am service. The date has been confirmed following a letter to clergy by Bishop James stating that APCMs must take place by 31st October and may either take the form of physical attendance or take place by electronic means, eg Zoom. The form that the APCM will take will be decided at the September meeting of the PCC. If you would like to attend and vote, but are not yet on the electoral roll, please contact Martin Massy. All those who have already handed in forms do not need to reapply.

Hospital Car Service If you need transport to a hospital or other medical appointment, please contact Mike Harvey on 01732 851881.

Food Bank A reminder that we are there for those in need. If you know of any person or family who might be in need of food support, please do not hesitate to refer them to Paul or either of our Church Wardens.

Financial giving. Thank you to all who are continuing to give to St. Mary's at this time. Your contributions are vital to maintaining ministry and meeting ongoing costs. If you would like to give on a regular basis, a standing order with your bank would be much appreciated. Please contact me on mhmassy@btinternet.com or 07725 603952 for further details, or if you would like to give by cheque or have your envelopes collected.
Martin Massy – Treasurer.

