



News Sheet for Sunday 27 September 2020 Harvest Festival

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP, IT'S GREAT TO HAVE YOU WITH US.

Just as we thought things were getting easier, they get harder again! The Government's latest (stricter) regulations suggest that we are in for a hard Autumn and Winter, including, perhaps a Christmas which will be quite different from those we normally celebrate. There can be no doubt that our priorities must be to protect the most vulnerable, save the NHS from overload, and drive down the infection rate, and so I would encourage everyone to obey the rules and work together to defeat this pandemic.

At the same time, I am aware that this means for many people a tighter restriction on meeting with friends and family, and perhaps some very lonely days ahead. For those in business or full-time employment, it may also signal a more uncertain and stressful few months ahead – especially as Christmas approaches.

So, let's all agree to care for one another, look out in particular for those who are vulnerable, alone, under pressure, or afraid. Let's be sure to be kind to one another, even to those who might not be kind to us, remembering that stress and anxiety often cause people to behave out of character.

Lets also take time to count our blessings, which is always good for our spiritual and mental health. Lets give thanks for the things and people we are missing, in the knowledge that these days will pass and we will be able to enjoy them again; and lets give thanks for God who is with us always, will provide for our needs and strengthen us to get through these times together.

This Sunday (27th) will be our Harvest Festival – our time of thanksgiving for all the good things God has given us. We will not be able to collect our usual harvest gifts, but if you would like to make an offering in support of our local foodbank or the people of the Gambia, you will find how to do so elsewhere on this news sheet. From 7th October we hope to open our Wednesday 9.30am Communion to a live congregation. This service will probably also be livestreamed.

On Sunday 11th October we will be holding another 8am Eucharist, a 10am Eucharist with a different flavour, and at the same time a 'one off' Junior Church in P&J Hall. This will be a trial run to see how things go.

Stay well, stay safe, and call if you need any help!

May God bless you all,

Mark

THIS WEEK

Sunday 27 September - 10.00 Morning Service*, Harvest Festival
livestreamed via our [Facebook page](#) (no 'Zoom coffee' this week).

Wednesday 30 September - 9.30am Midweek Service, [Zoom Meeting ID: 5089713920](#)

Thursday 1 October - 2.00pm Bible Study , [Zoom Meeting ID: 5089713920](#)

Sunday 4 October - 10.00 Morning Service*, Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

* please sign up beforehand to attend any services in church in person, see inside for contact details.

Ss Philip & James Church is open for prayer Wednesdays 10.00am-3.00pm & Sundays 12noon-3.00pm.

PRAYERS FOR SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER - HARVEST FESTIVAL

TODAY'S COLLECT Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK . . .

Those in urgent need of our prayers including... Ron Bartlett, Alona Beauchamp, Chris Butterfield, Barbara Main and Timothy Rayment.

Members of our extended church family in need of our continuing prayers... Baby twins Aidan and Finn, Matthew Allen, Gladys Barber, Marion Brown, Patricia Bull, Dilys Denney, Pearl (Frances) Draper, David and Yvonne Dunk, Jonathan Eddy, Joan Hall, Alan Harvey, Mark Hawes, Mollie Hayes, Dexter Heard, Sue Huddie, Garth Kellett, Bonnie Lewis, Roger Matcham, Gill Page, Matthew Parkes, John and Barbara Simson, Barry Taylor, Eileen Taylor, Erica Taylor, Malcolm Taylor, Jean Thomas, Tyler Thompson, John Tillyer and Molly Wilson.

Those who have died recently... David Frost.

Those from our two memorial books whose anniversaries fall at this time... Estelle Davidson, Robert Harlick, Marjorie Robarts, Joan Jaynes, Frederick Watson, Thomas Chatziapostolou, John Cairns, Spencer Welch, Isabella Hill, Walter Toccock and Florence Munday.

PRAYER DIARY FOR WEEK BEGINNING 28 SEPTEMBER 2020

Meditation 'Tears are prayers too. They travel to God when we cannot speak.' *Psalm 56.8*

We give thanks for those who put their own lives at risk to ensure our safety and security.

Please pray...

Mon - For the people of Gabon and the Congo.

Tues - (St. Michael and All Angels) For those who serve in the armed forces and for their chaplains.

Wed - (St. Therese of Lisieux) For children and all who minister to them in our parish.

Thurs - (The Holy Guardian Angels) For all carers, for those we care for and those who care for us.

Fri - For those who work in the charity shops of our town.

Sat - (St. Francis of Assisi) For Christians of the Franciscan order.

Sun - For those who suffer from leukaemia.

ALL WEEK - Those who live in Tadley Close, Tamworth Drive, Tavistock Road, The Aloes, The Avenue, The Bogs.

ALL SAINTS UPDATE – PLEASE READ!

The Covid 19 pandemic has changed everything, as you know, and has had its effect on every business and every project. For our rebuilding project it has made things harder, more complicated and more difficult to predict.

We are still waiting for approval for our faculty application, which has been further complicated by the formal opposition of the Victorian Society.

We have also found that the changing times and the passing of time have had an effect on the cost of the project, which together with our inability to fundraise for the last 6 months means we are falling seriously short of the funds necessary to complete the project. That being said, we are still waiting for the insurers to tell us how much they will be giving us, so the actual shortfall is still unknown.

The intervention of the Victorian Society at this late stage may also mean that we may have to re-submit our plans to the planning authority!

The PCC are of course resolved to rebuild All Saints for the benefit of the whole community, I am convinced that all will eventually come together for good, and we will get the building we need, but some challenging hurdles still lie ahead of us, and that is very frustrating.

Our Parish AGM will be held VIA ZOOM on 19th October at 7.30 pm and there will be a fuller report and discussion there, by which time we hope to have a few more tangible facts and perhaps some good news for a change!

Please continue to pray for this project!

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Please note that items with headlines underlined are new this week.

SERVICE IN CHURCH - Please contact Mary Goodson (01252 815103) by Friday if you would like to attend the service in Ss Philip & James Church on Sunday 4 October. Please note that face masks must be worn in church.

HARVEST GIFTS - We are offering two main options for Harvest gifts this year - Hart Foodbank and the "COVID-19 Emergency Rice Appeal" in the Gambia.

To donate to Hart Foodbank please go to <https://hart.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/> where you can donate online or print off a donations form. You can also leave food donations in the collecting points at the local supermarkets (Morrisons & Waitrose) but please don't bring items to church on Sunday.

To donate to the emergency appeal being organised by Kaira Konko Scouts in Soma, Gambia, please visit their [Virgin Money Giving Page](#).

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM) - Notice is given of a Meeting for the Election of Church Warden's followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Monday 19 October 2020 at 7.30pm via Zoom. Access details for Zoom will be given nearer the date. The APCM will include the election of three members to the Deanery Synod and five members to the PCC. If you would like to stand for either the Deanery Synod or PCC please contact the Parish Office for nomination forms. Those elected to the Deanery Synod and PCC will be required to complete a Trustee Eligibility Declaration.

OCTOBER PARISH MAGAZINE - The Fleet Parish Magazine for October is now available for collection from Ss Philip & James Church on Wednesday 10am-3pm and Sunday 12-3pm plus it will be available outside FPCC on Monday-Wednesday next week (28-30 September) between 9.30am and 12.30pm. This month's magazine is also available online but this is no longer planned to continue whilst we are able to distribute the printed version - if you have any strong feelings on the subject then please email the editors via magazine@parishoffleet.org.uk or contact the Parish Office.

If you normally have your magazine delivered to you then it should arrive as usual but if you are not signed up to have it delivered directly and would like this to happen please contact the Parish Office.

If you normally distribute the magazine and are no longer able to do so please contact the Parish Office so that we can make arrangements to cover your round.

One of the highlights for this edition is the tribute to Jim Burke - a 'must read' for all who knew him but didn't have chance to attend the funeral in some way.

STEP BY STEP FUNDRAISER - 'Sleep out at Yours' - Friday 9 October, sleep out in your garden to support young people at risk of homelessness - see stepbystep.org.uk/sleepout for more details. £5 a ticket, and organise your own sponsorship using their JustGiving page or downloadable sponsorship form - the aim is to get sponsored and raise money for local young people facing homelessness. Although the sleep out is virtual this year, the hope is that people will get involved, enjoy the entertainment lined up, and support young people who are in great need.

GIVING OPTION - You can now donate to Parish funds by scanning this QR code with any smart phone with a QR reader on it - it takes you directly to a web page where you can make a donation. New planned giving donors are always welcome, please contact the Parish Office if you'd like more details on the options available.



NOTES ON THE READINGS FOR SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

[Deuteronomy 28.1-14](#)

Deuteronomy is a long discourse on the Mosaic Law prior to the Hebrews settling in their new promised land. Immediately before this passage is a list of curses - things they must not do like breaking the Ten Commandments. Here is a list of blessings if they keep the Law.

[Psalm 65](#)

A psalm of thanksgiving for a successful harvest. Verse 9 onwards describes springtime in Judah.

[2 Corinthians 9.6-15](#)

On his travels in Greece Paul was aware that those left behind in Jerusalem were in greater need than those with whom he had recently been staying. Some of the new churches had responded to Paul's suggestion that they help with enthusiasm; the church in Corinth had reacted less so. He therefore urges his readers to share God's gift of their harvest with those who are not so fortunate.

[Luke 12.16-30](#)

This parable is made all the more poignant by the rich man extensively using the words 'I' and 'my' with little regard for others. After he dies the question remains of his goods 'For whose benefit will they be?'

PARISH CONTACTS

Vicar, Revd Mark Hayton ☎ 01252 219281 ✉ vicar@parishoffleet.org.uk

Safeguarding Officer, Sheila Buller ☎ 01252 629346 ✉ s.m.buller@btopenworld.com

Administrators, Chantelle Gardner & Elly Wilson Office hours: Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 1.00pm

✉ Parish Office, Parish Community Centre, Church Road, GU51 4NB ☎ 01252 812114

✉ office@parishoffleet.org.uk website: www.parishoffleet.org.uk



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