



# The Parish of Thorpe St Andrew

## WEEKLY NEWS AND SERVICE SHEET

### Message from the Rector

### Trinity 1 – 14 June 2020



#### **As you go, proclaim the good news!**

It will not surprise you to know that one of the courses the Diocese have put on for clergy and other ministers is one entitled, 'Leading in Anxious Time'. Things have been a bit anxious for our whole nation and, in recent days, pretty stressful for the Church of England – first hearing last Saturday via a tweet from a

Government Minister that churches were to reopen for private prayer, and which at the time of producing this newsletter on Thursday is not clear. The uncertainty that seems to attach to everything at the moment would be testing at any time – but right now it is hard. We are pleased that the church can reopen and hope that in the midst of all this we can be once again a beacon of hope in these strange times. This Sunday's Gospel begins around 20 weeks of touring through Matthew's Gospel in what is called Ordinary Time. It is anything but! Yet, as we prepare to unlock the Parish Church and open to the public for the first time in nearly three months, Jesus is telling us to 'proclaim the good news'. The constant and undeniably transformative presence of Christ in so many people's lives during this lockdown is worth proclaiming – from the rooftops, our churches, our homes and our computers, as we watch our services and gather together on Zoom. Whilst the times are uncertain, each and everyone of us is equipped to proclaim the good news – and to give thanks for it. Whilst we might be feeling anxious – these are times of great opportunity and it is important that we seize those opportunities as they come. As and when we know what times the Parish Church will be open (details are enclosed separately) we will let you know. With every blessing on you,

*Father James*

# READINGS and PRAYER INTENTIONS

**READINGS** Trinity 1: Exodus 19:2-8a; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8

*Please do use these prayer intentions throughout the weeks as we pray for the church, the world, the community, those in need of our prayer and those departed this life.*

## • THE CHURCH

**Our Ministry Team** James Stewart, Patrick Kerley, Nicole King, Taylor Wilton-Morgan (licensing 27 June; ordination as deacon 6 August). **Our Bishops** Graham, Alan and Jonathan, praying in particular for Bishop Jonathan and his wife Rebecca, following his retirement announcement. **Ecumenical** United Reformed Church, Eastern Synod Moderator-Paul Whittle. **Anglican Communion** Province of Myanmar, Archbishop Stephen Than Myint Oo

## • THE WORLD

**All those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic**

*All key workers in NHS and all other fields of frontline work particularly our local doctors' surgeries and healthcare provision, including all partners, staff and patients of: Thorpe Health Centre (St William's Way); Thorpewood Surgery (Woodside and Dussindale); Lionwood Surgery.*

## • THE COMMUNITY

**All who live in** Thompson Road, Thor Close, Thor Loke, Thor Road

## • THOSE IN NEED OF OUR PRAYER

including Brian Riseborough, Paul Carter, Mark Little, Monique Rowland, Jennifer Jones, Janet Fancy, Colin Hicks, Glenys Paflin, Audrey Camp, Alan Harrison, Jill Hall, Grace Howes, Peter and Gaynor Garrod, Anne Farthing, Len Bennett, Rita Ward, Alison Gibson, Joy and Andy McCall, Dave Whitton, Barrie Mills

## • THE DEPARTED

**The recently departed** Margaret Vine, Brenda Debenham, Albert Hastings, Jean Brown, Peter Gedge, Colin Elliott, Mary Kett

**Those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time** including *(All dates in June)* 1<sup>st</sup>: June Whitehead, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Elsie Shears, 8<sup>th</sup>: Andrew Stebbeds, 9<sup>th</sup>: Leslie George, 10<sup>th</sup>: Christina George, 14<sup>th</sup>: Ethel (Babs) Stebbeds, 17<sup>th</sup>: June Knights, 20<sup>th</sup>: Edward Betts, 28<sup>th</sup>: Cynthia Huggett, 30<sup>th</sup>: Derek Kirby

## PARISH REGISTER – FUNERALS for June

**16 June** Colin Elliott, interment of ashes, TSA Burial Ground

**19 June** Peter Gedge, Earlham Crematorium

## OTHER NOTICES AND USEFUL INFORMATION

**PARISH LIFE – AN UPDATE** As announced in previous weeks we aim to have a magazine for distribution at the beginning of July. Any contributions should be urgently sent to me, Christine Cutting or Chris George our editor.

### **GOVERNMENT PLANS TO EASE OUT OF LOCKDOWN**

Somebody said that the coming out of lockdown would be very hard and they are right. The Government took the Church of England by surprise late last Saturday by announcing that places of worship were open for private prayer. We have completed a risk assessment and taken preparatory steps. I will announce when the details are known, since at this stage we are awaiting guidance on the level of supervision required, if any.

**BISHOP OF LYNN TO RETIRE** The Bishop of Norwich announced at the Diocesan Synod, which met for the first time by Zoom on Wednesday 3 June, that the Bishop of Lynn, The Rt Revd Jonathan Meyrick, will be retiring on 25 January 2021. Please do keep Bishop Jonathan and Rebecca in your prayers as they prepare to move to North Oxfordshire.

**CAKE RECIPE CHALLENGE** Recipes have begun to come in. Those who watch online will know that I laid down a new challenge to provide cake recipes so that these could go in weekly newsletters during the lockdown. The challenge has been enlarged. We will now produce a 'Thorpe St Andrew Cake Bakers' Paradise – Recipes from the lockdown' booklet to raise vitally needed funds!! Please send these in. **Deadline Sunday 28 June.** Please post them to the Rectory or email: [rector@thorpeparishchurch.org](mailto:rector@thorpeparishchurch.org)

**OUR NEW CURATE – UPDATE** I was pleased to announce on Sunday 24 May, that, notwithstanding the current situation, Taylor Wilton-Morgan will begin his ministry as planned at the end of June. The date planned for his ordination will now be used as a time for the Bishop to licence him as a Parish Lay Worker (27 June). He will preach on 28 June and be fully active as our curate from then. The Bishop of Norwich currently plans to ordain him deacon in Norwich Cathedral at a very small service with limited guests on 6<sup>th</sup> August (Feast of the Transfiguration). Please keep him and Edwin in your prayers. I have met with Taylor (socially distant) a couple of times in the last week and

he is a source of huge encouragement for us all. He is bright and intelligent man, fully aware of his vocation to the ordained ministry, with a wonderful compassion. When the opportunity arises more fully I am sure you will all join with me in welcoming him and Edwin. Taylor has written something lovely for Parish Life.

**ANYONE FOR AFTER CHURCH COFFEE?!** I would encourage as many as possible to join us for our Zoom After Church Coffee. We have had some very successful ones and it would be good to see you. These take place at 11.00am each Sunday. It would be lovely to see you. Since this newsletter is uploaded on the Parish Life website the zoom invitation is sent out in the weekly email – so that we know who is in the potential invitation list. We plan to choose a topic to discuss each week. There were some lively discussions last Sunday – so do come and join in. It was great fun!

**PLANNED GIVING AND COLLECTIONS** We have had several questions about planned giving whilst our church buildings are closed under the COVID-19 restrictions. We are not currently able to receive, nor count, Free Will Offering / Gift Aid envelopes. If you have been thinking about setting up a Standing Order, or wish to make an online payment, please contact Sally, our Treasurer, for details, on [treasurersa@gmail.com](mailto:treasurersa@gmail.com). When the situation with Covid-19 becomes clearer, we will give further guidance. I would encourage all to consider prayerfully how we each can contribute to what is going to be a financially difficult time when we return. There is much hope for new possibilities in the future, but we do need resources. We will be launching plans for our **Recovery Fund** shortly. **WATCH THIS SPACE!**

**100 CLUB** This is currently suspended. We will let you know more when we are back. Please bear with us.

**FOODBANK** Thank you for all those who brought things in for the FoodBank. I am receiving items for the FoodBank at the Rectory, for onward transmission to the FoodBank. Please leave on the doorstep and I will add them to our collection. This is only for whilst churches are closed!

**AUTUMN CRAFT FAIR, 31 OCTOBER 2020 (11am-3pm)** Subject to restrictions operating at the time this is the replacement for all the stallholders who had booked for our Spring Craft Fair. More details later.