



# The Parish of Thorpe St Andrew

## WEEKLY NEWS and SERVICE SHEET

Trinity 6: 19 July 2020 - Message from the Rector

### Welcome back...!

What an amazing journey we have had as a church in the last 17 weeks. Some of us return this Sunday, whilst some others are still shielding. It has left me reflecting on where our journey has taken us in this time. The beautifully bright and colourful rudbeckia flowers in the picture on this front cover symbolise the journey of hope we are making. The Church of England Parish of Thorpe St Andrew represents the true community church for this wonderful place we are blessed to serve. At the height of the lockdown, when a visit to the supermarket was a highlight of some people's weeks, we were reaching many households in our parish through our online worship (with over 1800 views some weeks) and imparting a message of hope through our emails going to nearly 250 email addresses and being posted out to nearly 50 homes. My hope, as we consider the parable of wheat and the tares this Sunday, is that we know the difference between an inward looking community and the true outward facing community of disciples we aspire to be. There is much for us to be thankful for as we return to church. We pray that God will bless our journey into a 'new normal' – and that we may flourish and grow into a community of light and love.

God bless you all! **Fr James**

**Picture credit:** Alistair Stewart, rudbeckias in his garden



## PRAYER INTENTIONS

- **THE CHURCH Our Ministry Team** James Stewart, Patrick Kerley, Nicole King, Taylor Wilton-Morgan (ordination as deacon: 6 August) **Our Bishops** Graham, Alan and Jonathan **Honorary Assistant Bishops** Norman Banks and Rod Thomas **Anglican Communion** The Episcopal Church in the **Philippines** Bishop Joel Atiwag Pachao
- **THE WORLD All those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic** *All key workers in NHS and all other fields of frontline work* particularly all our Schools – Dussindale Primary and Nursery (Headteacher: Louise Norgate), Hillside Avenue Primary and Nursery (Headteacher: Mr Phoenix), St William's Primary and Nursery (Headteacher: Sarah Shirrass), Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form (Principal: Penny Bignell).
- **THE COMMUNITY** all in Weston Wood Close, Weston Wood Road, White Farm Lane
- **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 Garrood, Anne Farthing, Rita Ward, Alison Gibson, Joy and Andy McCall, Dave Whitton, Jean High, Orrin Tyrrell
- **THE DEPARTED The recently departed** Len Bennett, Mary Kett, Marjorie Hawkings, Tom Archer, Joan Howes, Eileen Rennick, Barrie Mills, Tony Pestell. **Those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time (July):** 22<sup>nd</sup> Robert Waugh, 22<sup>nd</sup> Lilian Etheridge, 24<sup>th</sup> Walter Harvey, 24<sup>th</sup> Catherine Plunkett

## FUNERAL SERVICES IN JULY

- 20 July** Funeral of **Marjorie Hawkings** at the Parish Church, preceded by private cremation at Earlham Crematorium. Both services are by invitation only, due to COVID-19 precautions.
- 20 July** Funeral of **Joan Howes** at St Faith's Crematorium
- 28 July** Graveside Funeral of **Eileen Rennick** at the Thorpe St Andrew Churchyard extension, Yarmouth Road.
- 29 July** Funeral of **Tony Pestell** at St Faith's Crematorium
- 31 July** Graveside Funeral of **Doreen Morris** at the Thorpe St Andrew Churchyard extension, Yarmouth Road.

## OTHER NOTICES AND USEFUL INFORMATION

**IN CHURCH SERVICES RETURN** Boris Johnson announced that Places of Worship could reopen for Public Worship from 4 July. We do not know what the next months will bring and so anything that we do needs to be very provisional, learning from the past, as we plan for the future. The government and church guidelines do not permit singing. We are also asked to consider the number of services we have had in the past and reflect on whether they are needed in the future. In benefices where there are more than one church incumbents are invited to consider opening one church initially and seeing how this goes. We are clear that we will keep everything under review and change our plans accordingly. We have been asked to maintain our online presence, which we will do – and since there is no singing in church we will add some services in the evening or at other times (without congregation) where Fr Taylor and I will sing (first one – 19<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30pm). We are anxious to keep our Café Church going and so our service this Sunday (as already agreed) will be ‘Café-style’. We will try two simple Eucharists (without hymns) at the Parish Church and review. We will have a socially distanced Café Church (with no refreshments) on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July at 11.00am (to enable us to have the streamed service at 9.30am). There will be more details next week and in church. Here is a provisional timetable for July:

19 July at 9.30am	Parish Eucharist in Parish Church <b>and</b> streamed on Facebook	<b>LIVE</b>
19 July at 6.30pm	Evensong with Hymns, streamed on Facebook only	<b>LIVE</b>
26 July at 9.30am	Parish Eucharist in Parish Church <b>and</b> streamed on Facebook	<b>LIVE</b>
26 July at 11.00am	Café-Style Church in the St Andrew’s Centre (no refreshments)	

**MORNING PRAYER** This will be said at **8.30am Tuesday to Friday** at the Parish Church – **and you are now welcome to join us.**

**CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER** The Parish Church is open for private prayer to go in and light candles. The church is open as follows:

**Monday CLOSED Tuesday to Saturday 10.00am ‘til 4.00pm Sunday 11.00am ‘til 5.00pm.** Please use hand sanitisers and observe social distancing.

**PARKING AT THE BUCK** I am delighted to advise that after consultation with the owners of the Buck they have agreed to turn off the parking meter/camera **EACH SUNDAY from 8.00am to 11.30am.** This has been achieved through patience and prayer. This is available from when we return.

## **SOME GUIDELINES FOR US AS WE RETURN**

- The service will follow the same pattern as our online services, without the hymns. Organ music will be played before, during and after the service.
- Current guidelines indicate that the wearing of face coverings is voluntary. If you wish to wear one, please bring your own.
- Please ensure that you use the hand sanitisers on entering and leaving the church. Please note that a one way system (clearly defined) is in operation.
- We will continue to issue a weekly notice and service sheet for each week. Please take this away with you.
- The toys in the Children's Corner have been removed under current guidance. Children are of course very welcome.
- Alternate pews are being used and within the pews please ensure we remember to sit 2 metres away from others, unless from the same household or 'support bubble', in which case you may sit together. We are asking that the main aisle is used first and we will only open up the side aisle if capacity requires it. This is to lessen the amount of cleaning required after a service.
- We will not shake hands in the peace. Ensuring social distance we may place our hands together in prayerful form (or in Namaste form) – as a sign of peace.
- There will be no procession of the elements in the offertory.
- Please can you place your much needed offerings and collection on the brass plate, as you come in. The collection bowls will not be passed around during the service. Those who count the collection will be using gloves, where appropriate. There is separate information elsewhere about
- When you come up for communion we will not be using the rails. Please form a queue, ensuring 2 metres distance in order to receive the bread (host). Please fully extend your arms fully to ensure social distance. The celebrant alone will receive the wine on behalf of us all. Please return to your seats using the one-way system down the side aisle (the blockage will be removed to enable this to happen.) The celebrant will use hand sanitiser before the wafers are distributed and the communicants will receive the wafer in their hand. For those requiring a blessing, hands will not laid on the head but extended towards the head.
- We will keep a list of those attending in order to comply with Government guidance which includes a request for names of attendees to be recorded and kept for 21 days in order to assist 'track and trace' if required.
- The church surfaces will be cleaned after each service.

**OPEN AIR PARISH EUCHARIST AND PICNIC – SUNDAY 9 AUGUST AT 10.30AM** We announced this a couple of weeks ago. The idea is being well received and we are looking forward to it. Please bring rugs and chairs to sit on (there will be a supply but you may want your own). There is plenty of room to practise social distancing. Please bring a picnic so that we can really celebrate the summer and being back together and Fr Taylor's ordination as Deacon and his and Edwin's arrival among us. **PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!**

**PARISH LIFE – JULY EDITION** This is out. Copies are available to be picked up by yourself at the entrance and exit of church. You can also contact Chris George or Patience Skelton on **01603 701116**, if you need one. They are also in Coop, Thunder Lane and Yarmouth Road Post Offices.

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

**NEXT PARISH CHURCH GARDENING MORNING** We are very thankful for the team who assembled to do some extra gardening in readiness for the Plant Sale. The next regular gardening morning is planned for Saturday 1 August (9.30am to 11.30am). More details from Fr James.

**PLANT SALE** A big thank you to Margaret Hope, Alistair Stewart and the lovely team of helpers. The sale begins as this sheet goes to print – so we will record more thanks and details of the amount raised in next week's notices.

**FR TAYLOR'S ORDINATION** Having licensed Taylor on 27 June, the Bishop of Norwich still 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.

**CAKE RECIPE CHALLENGE** We are producing a 'Thorpe St Andrew Cake Bakers' Paradise – Recipes from the lockdown' booklet to raise vitally needed funds!! Thank you to all those who have sent these in. Please keep sending these in. **Deadline extended to Sunday 19 July.** This is to enable Parish Life readers a chance to participate. Please post them to the Rectory or email: [rector@thorpeparishchurch.org](mailto:rector@thorpeparishchurch.org)

**ROAD CLOSURE** The road will be closed from 13 July for eight weeks at the cross roads of St William's Way and Thunder. Entrance to Brenda James Close is not blocked, but Thunder Lane will need to be accessed from the Plumstead Road East end. With thanks to Norfolk County Council.

**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.

**FOODBANK** Thank you to all who have continued to keep our Foodbank Collection Point for Thorpe St Andrew going in these difficult. By doing so we helping people across our city, some of whom are much less fortunate than ourselves. From next Sunday the Foodbank Collection Box will be on the table where the tea and coffee is normally served. Here is a list of useful things which the Foodbank needs. The items in red are needed most at this time:

Long life milk, Powdered milk, Long life fruit juice, Pasta Sauces – esp. tomato-based (i.e. not curry sauces), Sponge Pudding (tinned/long life), Tinned custard, Tomatoes (Tinned), Tinned Veg – esp. carrots, sweetcorn and green beans , **Tinned potatoes**, Rice Pudding (Tinned), Tea Bags (40s and 80s), Instant coffee, **Instant mash potato**, **Snack bars/breakfast biscuits**, Tinned Meat e.g. ham, chicken in sauce, corned beef, Tinned Fish, Tinned Fruit, Biscuits (sweet), Nappies - especially **size 5 + 6**, Jam, Peanut butter, **Sweets/bars of chocolate**, **Petfood (dog and cat)**, Washing up liquid and sponges, Soap powder/washing gel (small quantities), **Sanitary towels/tampons**, toiletries including **deodorants**, shower gel, **shampoo**, toilet rolls, shaving gel/foam and razors etc.

**STUDY GROUP LAUNCH** *‘The reason for loving God is God; and the measure of love due to God is immeasurable’.* With these words, St Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153) begins his celebrated classic, *On Loving God*. It’s a short, beautifully clear, and readily accessible text with an extraordinary history. The work enflamed the hearts of mediaeval monks, yet was also one of the most popular books of Protestant Reformation, and it remains deeply illuminating to the modern mind. In a series of talks, our curate, Fr Taylor, will guide us through this fascinating piece of spiritual writing, allowing it to prompt some key questions for our times: ‘Why should I love God?’, ‘How can I experience God’s love for me?’, ‘What connects love of God and neighbour?’, and ‘How can I love myself?’. We will allow St Bernard to suggest some ‘habits of holiness’ through which we might grow in spirit and wisdom, and, perhaps most urgently, we’ll think a bit about what this suggests for Christians living in a world emerging from a time of pandemic. All are most welcome – especially if you’ve never heard of St Bernard before! Dates to follow next week. You can contact Fr Taylor to express interest on telephone: 01603 387401 or email: [fr.taylor@outlook.com](mailto:fr.taylor@outlook.com) The introductory session will take place on Zoom at 7.30pm on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July. The next two sessions will be on 6 and 20<sup>th</sup> August, also at 7.30pm.

**SOME WORDS FROM OUR TREASURER** Thank you so much to everyone who has been in touch with me regarding making their Free Will Offering by Standing Order, it is very much appreciated. If you've been thinking about making your donations this way, it's very easy to set up via online or telephone banking - please email me on [treasurersa@gmail.com](mailto:treasurersa@gmail.com) and I will be happy to provide the details you need to give to your bank. You can make a monthly, quarterly or annual payment - whichever is best for you. If you are a

registered Gift Aider, rest assured we can claim Gift Aid on your donations just the same as if you had put an envelope in the collection plate, in fact the administration is much easier. If you are not registered for Gift Aid, and you are a UK taxpayer, do please consider this as it means we can re-claim additional funds from the Government at no extra cost to you. It is all so vital for our mission and ministry within our community and especially so in the current situation. Please email me on the above address and I will arrange for a Gift Aid form to be sent to you. Thank you once again to all those who have already made the switch, and I look forward to hearing from you.

**PINK ENVELOPES/GIVING ON RETURNING TO CHURCH** We said at the beginning of the lockdown that we would not worry about pink envelopes during that period and that we would at this point give clear instructions. These are the ways you can help us:

- If you have been continuing to put money in your pink envelopes we will very gratefully receive them. You might put them in a bigger envelope to hold them.
- However, a lot of people have said to us that they would prefer to bring us their collections (accumulated over the period) in one accumulated amount or indeed a cheque (payable to Thorpe St Andrew PCC). We suggest you use the one for the 19 July or the first Sunday you return to church.
- We now have a contactless (and push button) card reader. This will be available at the Plant Sale and on Sundays and is available on request.
- You can post a cheque to the Rectory. This will be passed to Treasury team.
- We can arrange to call and collect anything you are able to give. We will ring the doorbell and stand at distance, as envelope is placed on the doorstep.
- As said above you can contact Sally and obtain details to go over to standing orders or indeed make individual online payments. For security reasons we are not publishing the bank numbers here but these can be obtained from Sally – [treasurersa@gmail.com](mailto:treasurersa@gmail.com)
- Any additional amounts are very gratefully received. Whilst we have done all we can to cut costs our income is down considerably – with no hall bookings and lack of weddings. The shortfall may be as much as £20,000 if not more.

**ZOOM COFFEE** We are suspending this for a couple of weeks to assess whether it is still needed, now that we can return to church.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Please contact our Rector,

The Revd James Stewart (Fr James)

Tel: 01603 439160 or email him at [rector@thorpeparishchurch.org](mailto:rector@thorpeparishchurch.org)