



The Parish of Thorpe St Andrew

Weekly News with Service Sheet

Trinity 15 – 20 September: Message from the Rector



It's not fair...

It's a great sadness that in the current Covid-19 situation we cannot go into the schools in the parish to do assemblies in the way that we did pre-lockdown. We hope it will return but at the moment I am preparing the latest of our video assemblies to send in to be played to the

children. (Apparently, they enjoy them!) One of my assemblies would definitely not be allowed at the moment since it involves clearing quite a bit of space in the assembly hall and then getting some volunteers up and putting them together with somewhat of a lack of social distance! I ask for two of the smallest children and two of the tallest. I then produce a rope and tell them that they are going to play 'Tug of War'. I put the smallest two on one side and the tallest on the other and ask (naively): 'Is this fair?' 400 children shout at the top of their voices, '**Noooooo!**' All sorts of instructions follow, but one by one I call up extra volunteers to help the two little ones and eventually (when they have about 8 in their team) they win! This Sunday's gospel is a classic for all situations of life, but particularly for churches. Some work hard from the beginning of the day. Others only do an hour. Yet in Jesus' parable – the master pays them all the same wage. '**What!!!???**' we all exclaim, '**It's not fair!**' Yet it is not for us to try and reason out the generous loving mercy of our God. His love is not measured on the stock exchange with a fluctuating price – for it is shown to all – strong and weak, big and small, those who have worked hard for the church for many years and those who are new.

God loves us all. Now, that is fair!! God bless you all.

Fr James

THE PARISH EUCHARIST – Trinity 15

Organ Voluntary

Welcome *Words of welcome to the congregation and those watching online.*

The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

What God has prepared for those who love him, he has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything. Therefore, let us in penitence open our hearts to the Lord, who has prepared good things for those who love him.

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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. **Amen.**

Reading Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Gospel Reading Matthew 20:1-16

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening. You have the words of eternal life. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.** Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of

them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last." This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Admission of Churchwardens for 2020-2021

The Rector introduces this part of the service and then asks Tim and Alison to come to the nave sanctuary step. He then asks these questions of them:

Rector Alison and Tim, will you undertake the duties of the office of Churchwarden for this year in the Parish of Thorpe St Andrew in the Archdeaconry of Norwich?

Alison/Tim **I will.**

Rector Will you work with the clergy of your parish for the good of the Church and for the furtherance of God's Kingdom?

Alison/Tim **I will.**

Rector Will you promote the safer recruitment of staff and volunteers and do all in your power to protect the vulnerable from harm?

Alison/Tim **I will. I, Alison Carman, and I, Tim Peters, of the Parish of Thorpe St Andrew, solemnly and sincerely declare before God and his people that I will faithfully and diligently discharge the duties of the office of Churchwarden for the parish of which I have been chosen, during the period of my appointment.**

Rector I, James Stewart, Rector of Thorpe St Andrew in the Archdeaconry of Norwich, by virtue of the authority committed to me, do admit you, Alison Carman and you, Tim Peters, into the ancient and honourable office of Churchwarden. May the Lord give you grace for your office, and bless your going out and your coming in from this time forward and for evermore. **Amen.**

Eternal God, when you call your servants, you promise to give grace and strength for the task. Mercifully look upon Alison and Tim, whom you have called to the office and work of Churchwarden; that beginning their work in reverence, following it through with obedience, and completing it in faithful devotion, Alison and Tim may be constantly renewed by your Holy Spirit. This we ask in the name of Jesus, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

God of power, may the boldness of your Spirit transform us, may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us, may the gifts of your Spirit equip us to serve you and worship you now and always. **Amen.**

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Rector and Churchwardens sign the Oath of Admission and the Rector then hands the churchwardens their staffs and they return to their seats.



The Creed

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

The response to the bidding

Lord in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

The Peace

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you are called to peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you. The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

The Preparation of the Table

The table is prepared, and bread and wine are placed upon it. Organ music is played.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation. **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, you made the world and love your creation. You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour. His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death. And now we give you thanks because you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image and called us to new life in him. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels praising you, and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son. On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with the Blessed Virgin

Mary, St Andrew and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread *The minister breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei *The Agnus Dei is sung as the bread is broken.*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

The Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, blessed are those who are called to his supper. **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

The bread is distributed. Organ music is played.

Prayer after Communion Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Notices *The notices and announcements are given.*

The Blessing *The Rector gives the final blessing.*

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Organ Voluntary

PRAYER INTENTIONS

THE CHURCH *Our Ministry Team* James Stewart, Taylor Wilton-Morgan, Nicole King *New Churchwardens* Alison Carman and Tim Peters *Our Bishops* Graham, Alan and Jonathan *Ecumenical* The Deanery of Piteå in Luleå (our link diocese in Sweden) and its Rural Dean, Anna Andersson *Anglican Communion* Church of South Sudan, Archbishop Justin Badi Arama

THE WORLD *All those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic* all key workers in NHS and all fields of frontline, particularly all public transport workers – drivers of trains and buses, office staff and those working on the infrastructure of rail and road.

World events NW USA (particularly Oregon) and Siberia, suffering devastating wildfires; parts of the UK, experiencing regional lockdowns.

THE COMMUNITY

Streets of the Parish Boulderside Close, Boulton Road, Boundary Lane

Dedication of bench Remembering Ann Cook, a bench in her memory was dedicated in the Parish Churchyard yesterday (19 September)

Civic Leaders Thorpe St Andrew Town Council, Broadland District Council Norfolk County Council; Chloe Smith MP; twin town of St Andrews, NB, Canada and their Mayor, Doug Naish and Deputy Mayor, Brad Henderson.

THOSE IN NEED OF OUR PRAYER including Brian Riseborough, Paul Carter, Mark Little, Monique Rowland, Jennifer Jones, Janet Fancy, Colin Hicks, Alan Harrison, Jill Hall, Grace Howes, Peter and Gaynor Garrood, Rita Ward, Alison Gibson, Joy and Andy McCall, Jean High, Jean Mayhew, Yukiko, Brother Gabriel, Craig Fransham, Bill Stibbe

THE DEPARTED *The recently departed* Audrey Camp (Funeral - 18th September), Patricia Rogers (Funeral - 1st October), Roy Fisher (Funeral - 22nd September), Glenys Paflin (tbc)

Those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time Janet Blackburn (23rd), Louise Dickens (24th), Donald Trimble (25th), Margery Herbert (25th)

SERVICES IN THE PARISH IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

27 September	9.30am at the Parish Church	Eucharist
27 September	10.00am St Andrew's Centre	Café Church
4 October	9.30am at the Parish Church	Eucharist
4 October	11.15am at Good Shepherd	Harvest Festival
11 October	8.00am at the Good Shepherd	Eucharist
11 October	9.30am at the Parish Church	Harvest Festival

OTHER NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HARVEST FESTIVALS IN THE PARISH Whilst it has been the practice of the Parish, introduced relatively recently, to have a joint service for Harvest, Covid-19 restrictions make this difficult, so there will be a Harvest Thanksgiving in each church. Covid-19 restrictions mean a Harvest Lunch is not possible. These are as follows:

4 October 2020 at 11.15am Harvest Festival Eucharist at Good Shepherd

11 October 2020 at 9.30am Harvest Festival Eucharist at Parish Church

GOOD SHEPHERD There are many parishes in the Diocese of Norwich where churches remain closed due to Covid-19 restrictions – and the policy of the Diocese was the open one church first. We are very concerned about the vulnerability of any in our congregation and want to do what is safe. These are a couple of first steps:

4 October at 11.15am Harvest Festival and Lighting of Easter Candle

11 October at 8.00am First Post lockdown service at this time

GLENYS PAFLIN RIP With great sadness we announce the death of Glenys at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital. It was a great privilege to be with Glenys and Gerry when she died. They retired to Norfolk nearly 30 years ago and although they lived over the other side of Norwich they made Thorpe St Andrew their spiritual home. Both were involved in the life of the parish and Glenys for a time led the Parent and Toddler Group. Please keep Gerry and their sons in your prayers. The funeral service is being planned.

CAFÉ CHURCH AND FAMILY SERVICES Café Church **IS BACK** in person at the St Andrew's Centre on Sunday 27 September at its pre-lockdown time of 10.00am This will be led by Nicole and Fr Taylor. It will be an opportunity to give thanks for its return and to pray for God's continued help in this pandemic and to review where Café Church is going. Fr James hopes to join at the end! No refreshments, but a warm welcome!

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. If you would like to display a notice saying you are parking for church – these are available in the vestry. If you receive a ticket **PLEASE NOTIFY ME IMMEDIATELY!**

FOODBANK The Foodbank Collection box is on the table where tea/coffee is normally served. A list of items needed most is available on request.

JEAN MAYHEW I am pleased to provide further and good news about dear Jean. Jean is doing much better now and is looking forward to the move. Sadly she has to wait a few weeks before moving. Her new address will be:

De Lucy House Car Home, 40 Victoria Rd, Diss, IP22 4HZ

We will let you know when the new moving date is decided.

PARISH CHURCH GARDENING MORNING Our usual pattern continues with gardening on the first Saturday of the month at the Parish Church – **3 October between 9.30am and 11.30am.**

100 CLUB The 2020-2021 season runs October to September. Forms are available. Please can you support this if you are able. You can hold up to three numbers. We need as much financial support as we can at this time and this is a fun way of supporting us. Even the Rector won second prize last month, although this has been returned to the parish with gift aid! The gauntlet has now been thrown down! You can obtain a form by contacting Linda 01603 434986 or Ann 01603 436619 or email rector@thorpeparishchurch.org

BIBLE STUDY, AUTUMN 2020 – ON ZOOM: ‘When in Romans...’ Our new Bible study series begins on **Thursday 1st October at 7pm.** We will be reading and reflecting upon Romans, the book we’ve been hearing alongside the Gospel in Church these past few months. Make no mistake: Romans has a reputation, and many people probably think of it as either a bit scary or just irrelevant to the Gospel. But that, the Christian tradition would contend, is a mistake. So, here’s an invitation to linger with St Paul’s tightly-woven set of stories, and discover in them, quite simply, the fundamentals of Christian life, hope, and love. All are very welcome, whether you’ve read Romans before, or never even opened its pages. Sessions will be discursive and relaxed. Please e-mail Fr Taylor (fr.taylor@outlook.com) so you can be added to the Zoom invitation. Assistance can be given for those new to Zoom!

THORPE CEMETERY COMMUNITY PROJECT We are working with community partners to improve the historic part of the cemetery. We really need some volunteers. Further sessions continue from 8.45am – 12 noon. They next meet on Saturday 26 September. Further details from the Rector.

VOLUNTEERS The Churchwardens are preparing rotas for people to welcome us on a Sunday morning, cleaning and anything else you would like to volunteer with. Please contact Alison or Tim.

AUTUMN CRAFT FAIR HM Government restrictions mean that this has now been cancelled. More news later, as the weeks go on. Thank you to Victor and Phyllida for the effort that they had already put in.

HARVEST FLOWERS If you have expressed an interest in helping with flowers/decorating the church this is your chance to help decorate the Parish Church. We understand that the Good Shepherd Church is taken care of. Expressions of interest to Fr James.

NORFOLK CHURCHES TRUST: BIKE, DRIVE OR WALK Thank you to all those who helped on Saturday 12 September. Huge thanks to Auriol, who completed her walk and to Matt Green who planned to cycle. Please sponsor them. Matt has a JustGiving page which I will publicise on Facebook. Half the funds go to the Norfolk Churches Trust and half come here. Last week to sponsor them will be next Sunday. Please help.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! Many have already been very generous. Here is a reminder of some of the ways you can still help:

- We now have a contactless (and push button) card reader.
- You can post a cheque to the Rectory, to be passed on to Treasury Team.
- We can arrange to call and collect anything you are able to give.
- You can contact Sally and obtain details to go over to standing orders or indeed make individual online payments. For security reasons our bank details here can be obtained from Sally on treasurerts@gmail.com

Any additional amounts are very gratefully received. Whilst we have done all we can to cut costs our income is down considerably, but the shortfall may be as much as £20,000, if not more. If you are not registered for Gift Aid, and you are a UK taxpayer, please consider this as it means we can re-claim additional funds from the Government at no extra cost to you.

GIVE AS YOU SHOP Please help boost our Parish funds by shopping online via Amazon Smile and The Giving Machine. It's so easy to do, secure and doesn't cost you a penny as the donation is made by Amazon or The Giving Machine (who have over 2000 retailers to choose from including John Lewis/Waitrose, Sainsbury's, Booking.com/Expedia, M&S). You receive exactly the same goods/service with relevant guarantees and our Parish benefits from your purchase. Sign up today at <https://smile.amazon.co.uk> or <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk> When prompted you will be asked to nominate your charity. Our charity name (as it appears) is The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of Thorpe St Andrew. Thank you.

FACEBOOK We are currently on **956 likes** for our Facebook page (with more than a thousand in total following). It would be good to push over the **1000** barrier in the next few weeks since if there are more lockdowns this page will be vital for our community. You can invite your friends to like our page. Please do what you can.

GUIDELINES FOR US TO FOLLOW WHILE AT CHURCH

Boris Johnson has now said that we are in a second wave, so we must be really careful please. Please can we follow these guidelines. If you have any questions please do ask!

- Please **use hand sanitisers** on entering and leaving the church.
- Please **wear a face covering at all times in church**, other than to receive the host. Those reading/leading are exempt.
- **Please take this weekly notice and service sheet away with you.**
- **Alternate pews are being used** and within the pews please ensure we remember to sit **2 metres away from others (1 metre plus with face mask)**, 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 can place our hands together in prayer form (or Namaste form) – to offer peace.
- **Please can you place your much needed offerings and collection on the brass plate, as you come in.** Collection bowls will not be passed around during the service. Those who count the collection will use gloves, where appropriate.
- 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. The side aisle will be invited up first. The celebrant and deacon 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 be laid directly on 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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Please contact our Rector,

The Revd James Stewart (Fr James)

Tel: 01603 439160 or email him at rector@thorpeparishchurch.org