



The Parish of Thorpe St Andrew

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER AND SERVICE SHEET

Message from the Rector: Trinity 11 - 23 August



Who do **YOU** say I am...?

As clergy we get used to interesting questions, some of which are just plain silly and some of which lead to something deeper. I have learned to expect the unexpected and I am rarely disappointed! Some people find a person in a dog collar disconcerting, but most people want to ask questions. Whilst they do not necessarily ever ask them very directly, the questions which they ask are fundamentally questions of faith and of our calling as Christians. Our Sunday gospel reading finds the tables turned and Jesus asking the questions. As he has gone about his ministry of teaching and healing, people have had questions for him, but he now has one for his disciples: Who do **you** say that I am? The disciples, it would

appear, are mainly thrown by this question, and they either look down and hope that Jesus doesn't ask them (as if they were in a classroom and the teacher is asking things which no one knows the answer to), or they deflect the question by saying what others say. Only Peter 'steps up to the plate' and recognises that Jesus is the Messiah, the son of the living God. If Jesus was walking with us along River Green, or met us in the doctor's surgery or in the supermarket, what would we say if he asked us this same question? Would we change the subject? Would we struggle to answer? Or would we be as confident as Peter? The global pandemic has meant that we have had time to pose some of these fundamental questions of faith to ourselves, and, if you haven't, then it really is worth spending some time thinking – who do **YOU** say Jesus is? You never know who might be asking! God bless you all!

Fr James

THE PARISH EUCHARIST: TRINITY 11

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.**

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.**

Gloria *The Gloria in excelsis is said*

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

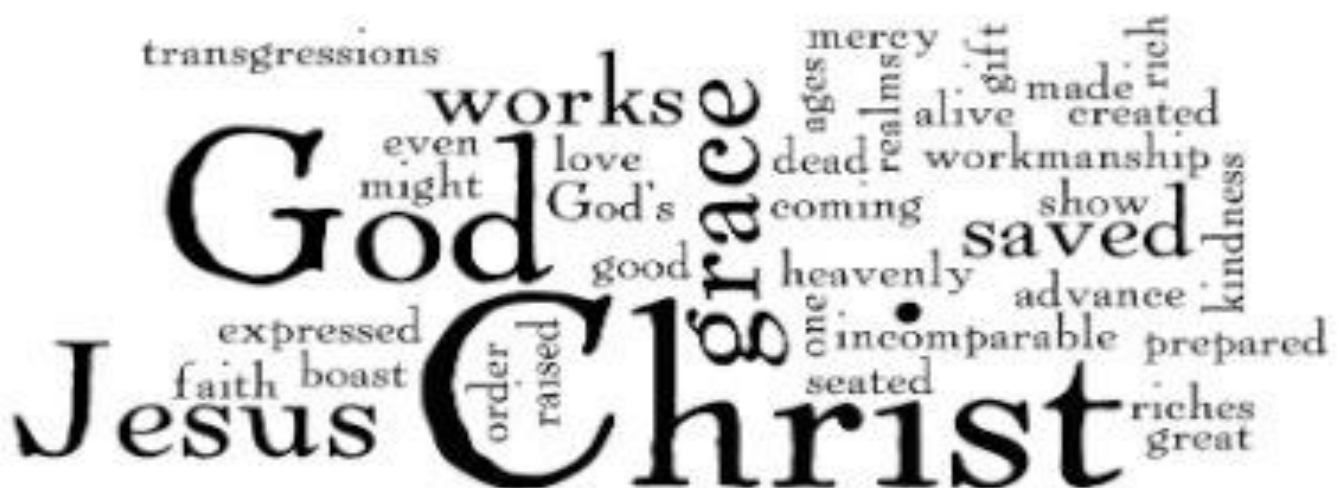
O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,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

Readings (one of these is read) Isaiah 51:1-6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God--what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.



Gospel Reading Matthew 16:13-20

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.

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is the gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Creed Let us declare our faith in God.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

The response to the bidding

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

And at the end Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace

We are all one in Christ Jesus. We belong to him through faith, heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace. 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. 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.

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. From sunrise to sunset this day is holy, for Christ has risen from the tomb and scattered the darkness of death with light that will not fade. This day the risen Lord walks with your gathered people, unfolds for us your word, and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread. And though the night will overtake this day you summon us to live in endless light, the never-ceasing sabbath of the Lord. And so with choirs of angels, with all the heavenly host, we proclaim your glory and join their unending song of praise:

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. **Amen.**

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. Please follow directions given. Music is played.

The Prayer after Communion

Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace: by our communion keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices *The notices and announcements are given.*

The Blessing *The Rector gives the final blessing.*

Christ, who has nourished us with himself the living bread, make you one in praise and love, and raise you up at the last day; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and those whom you love this day and for evermore. **Amen.**

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, Patrick Kerley, Nicole King, Taylor Wilton-Morgan **Our Bishops** Graham, Alan and Jonathan **Ecumenical Methodist Church:** East Anglian District Chair, Julian Pursehouse **Anglican Communion** Province of South East Asia – Archbishop Melter Tais
- **THE WORLD All those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic**
All key workers in NHS and all other fields of frontline work, particularly our Care and Nursing homes - Broadland View, Larchwood, Dussindale, Mary Chapman
- **THE COMMUNITY All those who live and work in** Anne Close, Armstrong Road, Association Way
- **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, Jean Mayhew, Yukiko
- **THE DEPARTED The recently departed** Yvonne Sangster, Jan Thrower, Margaret Pettman, Michael George **Those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time** Eric Cocks (26th), Julie Chick (27th), Daphne Francis (28th), June Catchpole (29th)

FUNERAL SERVICES IN AUGUST

Due to the guidelines from HM Government and the Church of England in connection with the Covid-19 pandemic, funeral services are by invitation only

- 24 Aug** Funeral of **Jan Thrower** at the Parish Church with private cremation thereafter at St Faith's Crematorium (*Time will be provided to invitees*)
- 25 Aug** Funeral of **Margaret Pettman** at St Faith's Crematorium

SERVICES IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

Subject to restrictions operating at the time, the following will happen:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 30 August 9.30am at the Parish Church | Family Communion |
| 6 September 9.30am at the Parish Church | Simple Communion |

Our worship pattern is being reviewed at the beginning of September.

OTHER NOTICES AND USEFUL INFORMATION

CONGRATULATIONS to **Alison Carman and Tim Peters**, elected as **Churchwardens** for this Parish. We thank them for answering the call to serve in this way and we wish them well in all their work. The Diocese will now complete the usual checks and will then indicate when the churchwardens can be sworn in. Due to the current restrictions this will be done by me – and I will do it in the context of a Sunday Eucharist. Watch this space for when this will be! I am also very pleased to say that **8 new PCC members** were also elected at the Annual Parochial Church, held last Sunday – **Pat Bales, Jenny Fuller, Margaret Hope, Nicole King, Ian Mackie, Julian Mogford, Graham Rowland and John Ward**. Congratulations go to them too. Our first PCC meeting takes place at the Parish Church on **Tuesday 1st September at 7.30pm** (preceded by a Eucharist at 7.00pm). Anyone is welcome to join us for the Eucharist – but only PCC members can attend the meeting.

CAFÉ CHURCH AND FAMILY SERVICES There is no East Coast Truckers' Convoy this year but will keep our 9.30am service as a Family Communion on 30 August. We will review Café Church for September. The service on 30 August will, weather permitting, be outside. If the weather is inclement we will be inside.

MINI POP UP PLANT SALE! SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST 2020

A small selection of plants that were not quite ready earlier on in the month will be available to buy after the service next Sunday. If you, similarly, have any plants please bring them along before the service. Mini sale will be between 10.30am and 11.30am. Information from Margaret Hope or please send an email to rector@thorpeparishchurch.org

FACE COVERINGS The Government guidance has changed again and now indicates that it is mandatory for those attending inside places of worship to wear face masks from 8 August. Those leading a service, preaching, praying or reading may remove their face mask for that part of the service when speaking. Face masks will be worn by the clergy when distributing communion. You will, of course, need to remove your face covering, to receive the host at communion.

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER The church is open as follows: **Monday CLOSED Tuesday to Saturday 10.00am until 4.00pm Sunday 11.00am until 5.00pm MORNING PRAYER** This will be said at **8.30am Tuesday to Friday** at the Parish Church.

FOODBANK The Foodbank Collection Box will be on the table where the tea and coffee is normally served. A list of items needed most is available on request.

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.

JAN THROWER RIP It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden and unexpected death of dear Jan. Jan was much involved within the life of the Parish with bell ringing and other activities and more recently continued to wash the linen, and was a regular member of our Soup Lunch community (except on Match Days at Carrow Road). She worshipped at both the Parish Church and the Church of the Good Shepherd. During the lockdown we had conversations about the fact that the Rector was washing his own linen! Although slightly diffident, she was a wonderful Norfolk character and leaves a place in our hearts and our community difficult to fill. Please do be in touch with me in relation to this, if you need any additional help at this time.

OPEN AIR SERVICE Thank you to you all for coming to our wonderful Summer celebration on 9 August. I have received many positive messages. I hope you were able to see the EDP coverage, including the interview on the online version. This is still available on our Facebook page. Thanks go to Ian Mackie for his help with the press arrangements.

NEXT PARISH CHURCH GARDENING MORNING Thank you to all who helped with gardening on Saturday 1 August. The next regular gardening morning is planned for **Saturday 5 September** (9.30am to 11.30am).

100 CLUB The last two draws suspended from the 2019-2020 season were drawn at the Open Air Service on 9 August. **April draw:** 1st Prize – Patience Skelton; 2nd Prize – The Revd James Stewart. **May draw:** 1st Prize – Pip Jenkinson; 2nd Prize – Janet Johnson. The 2020-2021 season runs October to September. Forms are available. Please do support this if you are able. You can hold up to three numbers. You can obtain a form by contacting Linda Olney **01603 434986** or Ann Cox **01603 436619** or email rector@thorpeparishchurch.org

THORPE CEMETERY COMMUNITY PROJECT We are working with community partners to improve the historic part of the cemetery. We really need some volunteers. If you helped yesterday (Saturday 22 August) – thank you. Further sessions continue from 8.45am – 12 noon. They next meet on and **Saturdays 12 and 26 September**. Further details from the Rector.

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.

'ON LOVING GOD': PARISH STUDY GROUP ON FACEBOOK LIVE

The final of our parish study group series will take place on Thursday 27 August at 7.30pm, through the parish Facebook page (in the same way that services are broadcast). It will be recorded and shared there for anyone to view at a later date, too. Taking the twelfth-century Cistercian abbot, St Bernard of Clairvaux, as our guide, Fr Taylor, will lead us through some key questions for our times. All are very welcome to tune in. For more information please e-mail fr.taylor@outlook.com or telephone 01603 387401.

FLOWERS Sue and Isobel love doing the Church flower arrangements but are finding lifting, carrying and clearing-up is getting physically challenging! There are some in the community who have expressed an interest in flower arranging. Many parishes have a rota. Please contact the Rector to discuss. If volunteers to arrange flowers do not come forward, then Sue and Isobel write this: *'We really need some volunteers to come and assist us by doing these accompanying jobs. We know that if we don't get any help then we will not be able to carry on doing the flower, which will be a great pity. We really don't want to give up, we love making flower displays, but our bodies are shouting at us after working here for a couple of hours.'*

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. 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 I will be happy to provide the details you need to give to your bank. 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. Thank you once again to all those who have already made the switch, and I look forward to hearing from you.

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:

1. We now have a contactless (and push button) card reader.
2. You can post a cheque to the Rectory, to be passed on to the Treasury Team.
3. We can arrange to call and collect anything you are able to give.
4. 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 treasurersa@gmail.com
5. 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.

GUIDELINES FOR US TO FOLLOW WHILE AT CHURCH

- 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.
- Please ensure that you use hand sanitisers on entering and leaving the church.
- Please take this weekly notice and service sheet 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. 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 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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Please contact our Rector,

The Revd James Stewart (Fr James)

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