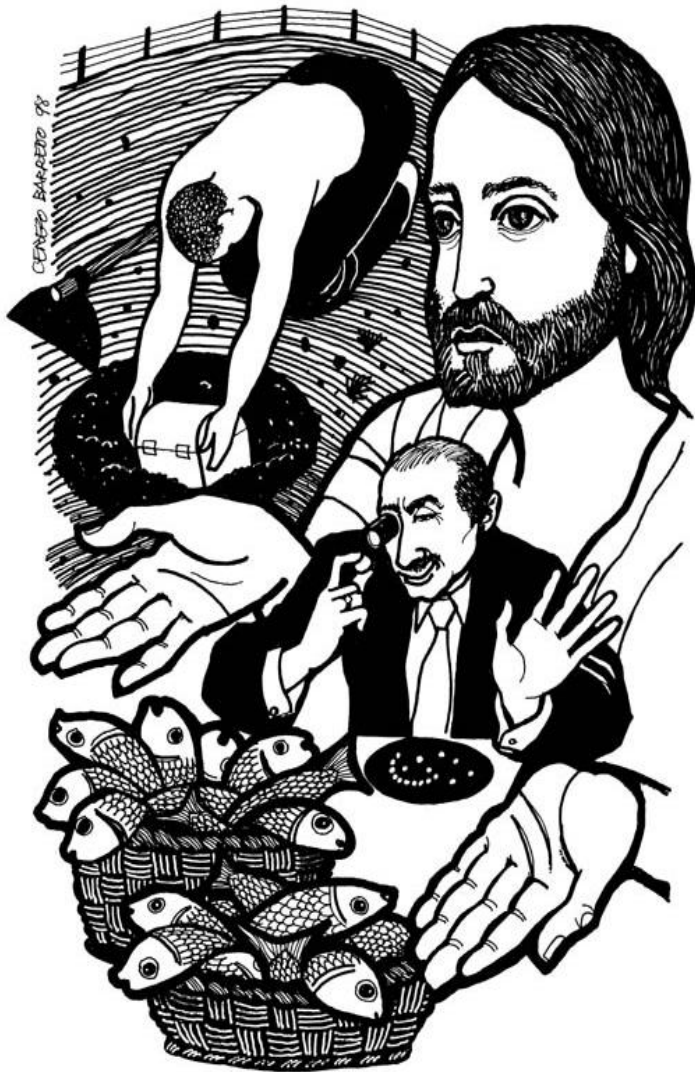




The Parish of Thorpe St Andrew

WEEKLY NEWS and SERVICE SHEET

Trinity 7: 26 July 2020 - Message from the Rector



Things to be thankful for...?

I was speaking to a salesman on the telephone this week, who pondered, as we talked about the effect of the lockdown, 'I suppose we have a lot to be thankful for.' I was rather pleased he had realised! Whilst of course there are some horrible things happening (and we hold all those situations in our prayers) there is much that is good and much to be joyful for – from our heritage and as we look forward. As a parish in the past, like many others, there was a fondness that things be done just as they always had been. The period of lockdown has meant that things have needed to be done differently, which has enabled new ideas **and** possibilities for new people to be involved in our corporate life. The gospel reading for this Sunday is a collection of very short parables about

the kingdom of heaven. Each shows the possibilities for growth if we put our trust in the God who created us, redeems and sustains us, whether it be a pearl of great price, a mustard seed which grows into a large tree or a net full of fish. Jesus reminds his disciples, who say that they understand the parables, that they are like 'the master(s) of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.' As we enlarge and build the kingdom of heaven in greater discipleship, in recognising new possibilities and in forming new relationships let us be thankful for the treasures new and old, arrayed before us in the body of Christ, which we call the Parish of Thorpe St Andrew.

God bless you all! **Fr James**

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 **Ecumenical Roman Catholic Church** Diocese of East Anglia, Bishop Alan Hopes **Anglican Communion** for all bishops who planned to gather in Canterbury for the Lambeth Conference.
- **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** Whitlingham Lane, Williams Loke, Winceby Close
- **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** Marjorie Hawkings, Joan Howes, Eileen Rennick, Barrie Mills, Tony Pestell, Freda Garrett **Those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time:** 31st July Tony Gordon, 31st July Robert Townshend

FUNERAL SERVICES IN JULY

- 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.
- 7 Aug** Funeral of **Freda Garrett** at St Faith's Crematorium

SERVICES IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

We are keeping this under review but we definitely have the following:

2 August 9.30am at the Parish Church	Simple Communion
9 August 10.30am in Parish Church gardens	Open Air Eucharist
16 August 9.30am at the Parish Church	Simple Communion
23 August 9.30am at the Parish Church	Simple Communion
30 August 9.30am at the Parish Church	Family Communion

OTHER NOTICES AND USEFUL INFORMATION

FACE COVERINGS The Government guidance now indicates that those attending inside places of worship are encouraged to wear face masks. The Church of England guidance now indicates that those attending are 'strongly advised' to wear a face covering of their choosing. There are lots of opinions. It is important to realise that places of worship are not in the same category as retail shops, where they are mandatory as of Friday 24 July. Since it is not mandatory it is still up to each and every one of us to make a decision on what is best. We would suggest that when you are moving around in the service and coming in and going out (and therefore closer to people) these may be the times when it is more important to wear one, than (for example) sitting in the pew. You will, of course, need to remove your face covering, to receive the host (bread) at communion. It is also important that we respect each another's decisions on how we handle this, too.

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 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 – **and you are now welcome to join us.**

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. Rushcutters parking is still available too!!

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.
- The guidelines on face coverings have now changed. All who attend are strongly advised to wear a face covering whilst in the church. A very limited supply will be available at church. Please supply your own where possible.
- 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. 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.

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.

CAFÉ CHURCH Due to guidance on face coverings, and other considerations, we have moved the Café Church onto Zoom this Sunday (26 July) at 11.30am. There is no East Coast Truckers' Convoy this year but will keep our 9.30am service as a Family Communion on 30 August – and will provide Zoom opportunities when appropriate. We will review Café Church for September.

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!**

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 The next regular gardening morning is planned for **Saturday 1 August** (9.30am to 11.30am).

PLANT SALE A big thank you to Margaret Hope, Alistair Stewart and the lovely team of helpers from the Garden Team. We made the fantastic sum of £829.00. Well done to all who came. A wonderful sight to see people queued along Yarmouth Road, and to have our Diocesan Secretary, Richard Butler, here.

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 6th August (Feast of the Transfiguration). Please keep him and Edwin in your prayers.

CAKE RECIPE CHALLENGE If you have a recipe we are happy to receive a few late entries as we put this together. We had always said that this would be available for purchase **late October**.

ROAD CLOSURE The road will be closed from 13 July for nine weeks at the crossroads of St William's Way and Thunder Lane. 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 bold 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.

‘ON LOVING GOD’: PARISH STUDY GROUP ON FACEBOOK LIVE

The first of our parish study group talks will take place this week, on Thursday 30th July 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, our curate, Fr Taylor, will lead us through some key questions for our times, beginning this week with something fundamental: *why* should we love God? All are very welcome to tune in. For more information please e-mail fr.taylor@outlook.com or telephone 01603 387401. The next two sessions will be on 6th and 20th August, also at 7.30pm. N.B. This group has been moved to Facebook from Zoom, to increase accessibility, and make sure more of our online events are in one place.

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 and 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. 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. I will arrange for a Gift Aid form to be sent out. 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 A huge thank you to those who have already returned pink envelopes on our first Sunday back or made donations in lieu of these. We are hugely thankful already. If you have not already made a donation in relation to the lockdown period or are able to give more then please do as much as you can. Here are some guidelines on how you can help.

- 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 first Sunday you return to church.
- We now have a contactless (and push button) card reader. This will be available on Sundays, if requested.
- You can post a cheque to the Rectory, to be passed on to the 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 our bank details here can be obtained from Sally on 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 are returning to church. In the light of face masks – this may return.

NORWICH EAST DEANERY – PRAYER WALK – 22 AUGUST 2020

Departing the parishes and churches of our Deanery throughout the morning and arriving at the Cathedral Cloister for a prayer & blessing at 12.00noon. Please check for local departure times. Bring your own picnic lunch to eat in the Cloister (by kind permission of the Dean & Chapter) For those unable to walk some parking will be available at the Cathedral in the middle part of the day.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Please contact our Rector,

The Revd James Stewart (Fr James)

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