



The Parish of Thorpe St Andrew

WEEKLY NEWS and SERVICE SHEET

Trinity 4: 5 July 2020 - Message from the Rector



'I was glad when they said unto me, we will go into the house of the Lord'

It has been a great privilege to welcome Taylor and Edwin to the parish this week and I know he is very touched by all the expressions of welcome given to him. It is good to be accompanied on the journey as we chart our way out of this lockdown. The Bishop of Norwich's advice on most things currently has these words attached to it – **'slowly, steadily and safely'**. Each of these words recognise that the journey to a 'new normal' may not always be easy and certainly, as I have tried to interpret the current guidelines on returning to church, it is clear that there is no need to rush. If it's any consolation I am aware that there are still many parishes who have not yet even opened their churches for private prayer. More detail follows in the notices. In the midst of all the planning and listening to different views the words of Psalm 122 are still at the forefront of my mind that, as we enter, we do so with gladness. The oft-quoted words of our gospel reading this week are also of comfort: *'Come to me all those who are heavy laden and I will give you rest.'* For some, these weeks of self-isolation and anxiety brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic, put us in the same situation as someone carrying heavy burdens. The transformative and healing power of Christ lifts those burdens off our shoulders and brings us rest, relaxation and refreshment. As we return to worship God and receive the sacrament let the gladness in our hearts be for that.

With every blessing,

Fr James

READINGS and PRAYER INTENTIONS

READINGS Zechariah 9:9-12; Romans 7:15-21a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-end





- **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** Salvation Army: Territorial Envoys – Russell and Alison Day on the day of their last service **Anglican Communion** United Church of Pakistan: Humphrey Peters – Bishop of Peshawar
- **THE WORLD All those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic** *All key workers in NHS and all other fields of frontline work particularly All those working in our local hospitals (NNUH), including doctors, nurses, porters, cleaners, cooks, administrative staff, chaplains*
- **THE COMMUNITY** all in Tower Hill, Tracey Road, Turnham Green
- **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, Barrie Mills, Jean High
- **THE DEPARTED The recently departed** Len Bennett, Mary Kett, Janice Cooper, Iris Freschini, Marjorie Hawkings, Tom Archer, Gemma Cowey (also Marjoram), Jimmy Marshall **Those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time (July):** 5th Hilda Goulty, 7th Lieselora (Lilo) Bowen, 7th Sheila Conners, 9th Michael Seago, 10th Bernard Downing

FUNERAL SERVICES IN JULY

- 10 July** Funeral of **Janice Cooper** at the Parish Church with burial in the Thorpe St Andrew Churchyard Extension thereafter. Service is by invitation only, due to COVID-19 precautions.
- 14 July** Funeral of **Iris Freschini** at Earlham Crematorium
- 16 July** Funeral of **Mary Kett** at the Parish Church with burial in the Thorpe St Andrew Churchyard Extension thereafter. Service is by invitation only, due to COVID-19 precautions.
- 20 July** Funeral of **Marjorie Hawkings** at the Parish Church, preceded by private cremation at St Faith's Crematorium. Both services are by invitation only, due to COVID-19 precautions.

OTHER NOTICES AND USEFUL INFORMATION

IN CHURCH SERVICES RETURN Boris Johnson announced that Places of Worship could reopen for Public Worship from 4 July. The Bishop of Norwich has urged us to take things ‘slowly, steadily and safely’. I have received a lot of feedback and comments, which has been taken on board. We have been fortunate so far in that people have enjoyed our online services, which are viewed with admiration from afar. 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. Our reopening of the church for private prayer means that we have done a lot of the work in relation to a risk assessment but it is clear that there is more work to do – and more cleaning to be done after public worship. Our toilets will only be open for emergencies, since the guidance suggests they should be cleaned after each use. 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 – 19th 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 26th 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:

5 July at 9.30am	Café-Style Church, streamed on Facebook only	
12 July at 9.30am	Parish Eucharist, streamed on Facebook only	
19 July at 9.30am	Parish Eucharist in Parish Church and streamed on Facebook	
19 July at 6.30pm	Evensong with Hymns, streamed on Facebook only	
26 July at 9.30am	Parish Eucharist in Parish Church and streamed on Facebook	
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 welcome to join us **from 7 July onwards**.

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 **Sunday 19 July from 8.00am to 11.30am**. This has been achieved through patience and prayer.

OPEN AIR PARISH EUCHARIST AND PICNIC – SUNDAY 9

AUGUST AT 10.30AM I have been considering an open air service in Summer months since I came here, so since the guidelines suggest that things outside are better in relation to infection risk we plan to hold a service in the Parish Church grounds (weather permitting). A bring your own picnic will follow! It will enable a (perhaps) larger number group of people (socially distant) to attend and will enable us to celebrate being back together and Fr Taylor's ordination as Deacon and his and Edwin's arrival among us. **PLEASE RESERVE THE DATE!**

PARISH LIFE – JULY EDITION As I write this, I am assured that some, if not all of the magazines will be with us this weekend. Thank you to Chris, Patience and all who will deliver them. Any queries regarding distribution to Patience on **01603 701116**.

LEN BENNETT RIP It was with great sadness that we announced the death of dear Len Bennett last week. Len has been a very faithful servant of the parish for many years. He celebrated 50 years as a Reader in May 2016. He has latterly been residing at St Mary's Care Home, Crostwick. I have spoken to Len's daughter, Trish, and she has agreed that we will hold to remember Len (and his wife Barbara) at a date to fixed. Details of the private family funeral arrangements are not currently available to me. Please keep Trish and John, Len's children in your prayers.

MARJORIE HAWKINGS RIP I was extremely, notwithstanding COVID-19 precautions, to minister to Marjorie at the very end of her life, just before she passed away on Sunday 28 June. Marjorie was always a very kind and bright member of our congregation and very much part of the community in Thorpe St Andrew. Please do keep Martin and Ian, her sons, in your prayers.

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

PLANT SALE We were sad to lose our Church Fete from the calendar, and since plants will go out of season we are holding a Plant Sale on Saturday 18 July between 11am and 3pm in the Parish Church grounds. Please bring plants to the porch of the church any time between 10 am on Thursday 16 July and 10 am on Saturday 18 July, in readiness for the sale. This is being coordinated by Margaret Hope and Alistair Stewart. A poster is included with the email version of these notices. Please be in touch with Fr James if you need a paper copy to display. Tell all your friends, that there will be lots of plants available to brighten up our Summer gardens!!

THANK YOU A huge thank you to helpers (new and old) who came to help with our gardening morning on Saturday 4 July. Next one planned for Saturday 1 August (9.30am to 11.30am).

CEMETERY COMMUNITY PROJECT A call to all those who are available to help with the clearing of the very historic part of the cemetery between 8.45am and 12 noon on Saturday 11 July. Further details from Fr James.

PRAYER CALENDAR A note to say that Thorpe St Andrew features in the Diocesan Prayer Calendar this week – Tuesday 7 July. This can be found at <https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/news/prayer-calendar/>

NEW CURATE – UPDATE Taylor was licenced by Bishop Graham on 27 June as a Lay Worker. He is fully active as our curate now. Please see his details in Parish Life. The Bishop of Norwich currently 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 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

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.

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: frtaylor@outlook.com

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.

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. 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 if you're currently considering doing so.’

CANADA DAY - 1 JULY

We had a lovely day celebrating our new found friendship with our twin town of Saint Andrews By the Sea, New Brunswick, Canada. The Rector was present at the raising of the Maple Leaf at Town Hall and Parish Church, along with Cllr Ian Mackie and Fr Taylor, as a demonstration of the strength and warmth of our new found but special friendship with the people of Saint Andrews By The Sea, New Brunswick, Canada. Good to see, on this special day, that Bishy Barney Boats have returned to River Green (see front cover). In the evening Fr James joined with Town Councillors to have an hour long Zoom meeting with Councillors from Canada.

