



THE FRIDAY EMAIL

Friday 30th August 2024

Friday Thought from Di Kitson:

Dear Friends,

This year seems to be racing by, and this Sunday we find ourselves in September with the children making preparations to return to school in a short space of time. Next Sunday (8th) we will be celebrating our Patronal Festival and Archdeacon Janet will be presiding at our Eucharist. After the service we shall be enjoying together our Patronal lunch which is a 'Bring and Share'. If you would like to join us please sign up for it by putting your name down on the sheet at the back of the church indicating what you can bring to possibly share with others. As we celebrate that day we are reminded of Mary, Mother of our Lord to which the Church is named. In the history books it tells us that the word Great was added to our church so as not to confuse it with St. Mary's at Gilston.



But back to our readings for this Sunday, where we have the reading from Deuteronomy. It sounds quite complex when you first start to read the passage, but the people are encouraged to uphold the law and basically live by the Ten Commandments. By living by these commandments they were building their relationship with God. However this does depend on the people keeping the law, and passing it down to the generations to come. Following on from that reading, we come to the Gospel of St. Mark. Jesus with the clear insight to the law as the Son of God, sees the terrible things that are going on and people not adhering to the Law. Jesus in our passage is not so much turning the world upside down by His teaching, as turning it right side up again, the way God intended it to be. Far from not keeping the Law, Jesus is reverencing it with his whole being. It does remind you of what is happening in the world today, with riots taking place, stabbing and the murdering of innocent children in our everyday living.

Our prayers must be for peace in our world, for justice to reign and for the concept of loving one another. Jesus encouraged to, 'Love one another, just as I have loved you'!

Yours in Christ,

May God bless you,

Di Kitson

➤ READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9:

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you. You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!' For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Psalm 15, verse 15:

A Psalm of David.

O Lord, who may abide in your tent?

Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and speak the truth from their heart;
who do not slander with their tongue,
and do no evil to their friends,
nor take up a reproach against their neighbours;
in whose eyes the wicked are despised,
but who honour those who fear the Lord;
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;
who do not lend money at interest,
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be moved.

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23:

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them.

(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.)

So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him,

'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?'

He said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, "This people honours me with their lips,

but their hearts are far from me;

in vain do they worship me,

teaching human precepts as doctrines."

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.'

Then he called the crowd again and said to them,

'Listen to me, all of you, and understand:

there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

'For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come:

fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly.

All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.'

The collect for the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God,

whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence:

give us pure hearts and steadfast wills

to worship you in spirit and in truth;

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.



➤ **Details of Sunday 9.30am Parish Eucharist which is also live-streamed**

- ❖ President: Bill Church, Vicar
- ❖ Preacher: Bill Church, Vicar
- ❖ Reader: Sarah Vickers
- ❖ Intercessions: Shirley Dodgshon
- ❖ Processional: The Lord is King! Lift up they voice (tune: Church Triumphant) CP592i
- ❖ Gradual: Blest are the pure in heart (tune: Franconia) CP391
- ❖ Offertory: O worship the King, all glorious above (tune: Hanover) CP546
- ❖ Communion: Just as I am, without one plea (tune: Saffron Walden) CP308i
- ❖ Choir Motet: Come, my way, my truth, my life (tune: The Call) CP405ii
- ❖ Recessional: All for Jesus, all for Jesus (tune: All for Jesus)

INTERCESSIONS FOR THIS WEEK

For the world-wide Church:

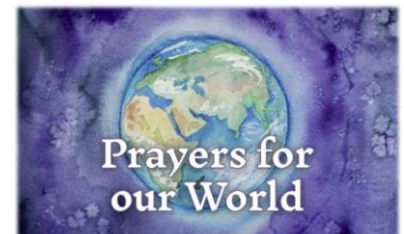
- ❖ Bishop Alan - Bishop of St Albans
- ❖ Bishop Jane - Bishop of Hertford
- ❖ The Venerable Janet Mackenzie - Archdeacon of Hertford
- ❖ The Revd Gaz Tracey - Area Dean - whilst on study leave
- ❖ Archbishop Justin - Archbishop of Canterbury
- ❖ In the Anglican cycle of prayer for the Anglican Church of Mozambique & Angola
- ❖ In the Diocesan cycle of prayer for the Cathedral Education Centre
- ❖ In our Deanery cycle of prayer for the parish and people of The Ash & Quin Valleys Group Ministry
- ❖ For those being martyred or persecuted for their Christian faith



[\(https://releaseinternational.org/\)](https://releaseinternational.org/)

For our world:

- ❖ For the victims of Israel and Gaza during the current Israel-Palestinian conflict.
- ❖ For the people of Ukraine, be they in their homeland or refugees in Europe.
- ❖ For just and peaceful governance throughout the world, not least in Russia, Ukraine, Israel, Palestine, Sudan, Somalia, China, Haiti, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Nigeria, Yemen, Iran, Pakistan, Myanmar, North Korea, and the DRC.
- ❖ For those suffering from the effects of climate change or natural disaster.
- ❖ For those working to reduce the effects of climate change.
- ❖ For those working to relieve suffering throughout the world.
- ❖ For emergency and keyworkers, scientists and leaders, medical and care workers, and, in this country, particularly for the NHS and social services.



- ❖ For those being unjustly held captive or being persecuted
- ❖ For those who have been abused in body, mind, or spirit.
- ❖ For those who are victims of modern-day slavery and human trafficking.
- ❖ For those who are victims of famine or poverty, praying for the work of the *Shiksha Rath* educational project in New Delhi which we support.
- ❖ For those struggling with addiction.
- ❖ For those who are homeless, and for the work of the *Holy Trinity Night Shelter* in Bishop's Stortford which we support.
- ❖ For those involved in the migrant and refugee situation.
- ❖ For the work of organisations which are working to bring an end to poverty.

For our town:

- ❖ For the staff and patients of our Central Surgery, the Princess Alexandra, Rivers, and Herts & Essex hospitals, for our care homes, social services, voluntary care sector.
- ❖ For Sawbridgeworth Town Council and for East Herts District Council and our councillors.
- ❖ For local businesses in these uncertain times.
- ❖ For our emergency services.
- ❖ For groups and organisations, including The Hailey Centre and library.
- ❖ For our youth organisations and uniformed brigades.
- ❖ For the pupils, teachers, staff, governors, and parents associated with our local schools, including our church school in Spellbrook, as they prepare for the new school year
- ❖ For those feeling isolated and lonely; particularly those living alone.
- ❖ For those who are concerned about making ends meet, and for organisations such as Harlow Foodbank and the evangelical church's pop-up store seeking to bring aid.

For the people of:

Sunday:	Station Road, River Court & The Maltings
Monday:	Walnut Cottages, Barn Court & Trojan Terrace
Tuesday:	The Four Acres, Ash Groves & Meadow Way
Wednesday:	Crofters, Crofters End, Highfields, Dorrington Place & Rochester Ave
Thursday:	Hatfield Heath Road & Great Hyde Hall
Friday:	Sheering Lower Road & Hallingbury Road
Saturday:	Bullfields, Walnut Tree Crescent & The Mews

For the sick, tired, and bereaved, including:

Sue Adams, Angela Alder, June Allen, Linda Bowler, Pam Brown, John Butler, Barbara Carter, Rachael Dineen, Elsa Duce, Katrina Evangeli, Jimmy Galvin, Kathy Hanratty, Nick Heslop, John Ireland, Steven, Wendy, Julie Patterson, Douglas Rose, Jackie White, Mark White, Jean Dedman, Jeanette Dedman.

For those who have died, including:

- ❖ Roy Ward RIP
- ❖ Jane Honeywood RIP

For our dearly departed ones, remembered at their year's mind:

❖ Philip East RIP (6th Sept)

*God of mission,
who alone brings growth to your Church,
send your Holy Spirit
to give vision to our planning,
wisdom to our actions,
joy to our worship, and power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers,
in spiritual commitment to you,
and in service to our local community,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

NOTICES

➤ Services and events in church this week:

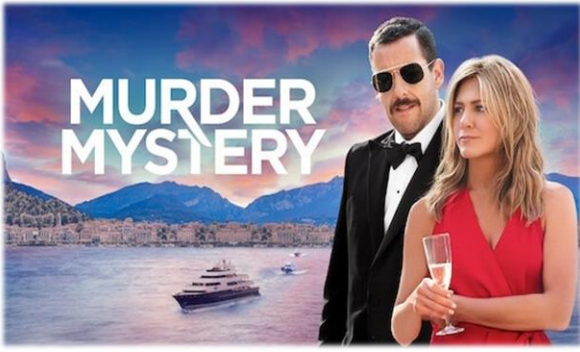
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| ❖ Sun 1st September
<i>Fourteenth after Trinity</i> | 9.30am | Parish Eucharist (CW)
<i>Followed by refreshments in Church House</i> |
| | 12.30pm | Service of Thanksgiving
Ron & Angela Alder's 70 th Wedding
Anniversary |
| ❖ Mon 2 nd September | 7.30pm | Vacancy Meeting in Church with Archdeacon
Janet and Bishop Jane all welcome |
| ❖ Wed 4 th September | 10am | Service of the Word (CW) |
| ❖ Wed 4 th September | 3.15pm | Memorial Service Roy Ward |
| ❖ Sun 8th September
<i>Patronal Festival</i> | 9.30am | Parish Eucharist (CW)
<i>Followed by lunch in Church House</i> |

➤ **Bring & Share Patronal Lunch Church House – Sunday 8th September 12.30pm**



We will be celebrating our Patronal Festival with a bring and share lunch. There is a signup sheet for donations of food at the back of Church House. Due to limited availability of fridge space, please bring food in cool boxes. Bread will be provided, please bring your own drink. Any Questions, please speak with Cathy Battson or Ann Bard.

➤ **Murder Mystery Evening - Saturday 12th October.**



This autumn we're going to have a bit of fun with a murder mystery evening in Church House entitled 'The Jewel of the Ocean', performed by Quintessence - an amateur dramatics group from Hunsdon. The cost of the evening will be £15 which will include a welcome drink and Ploughman's Supper. Whether you choose to come dressed for a cruise on the high seas or not is optional! Tickets go on sale from

Thursday 05th September from the Parish Office. Doors will open for embarking at 7pm.

➤ **GDPR**

GDPR renewal is due, therefore we will be requiring everyone to re-sign permissions. From next week, more details to follow.

➤ **Keys**



A new padlock for church will be installed and keys will be distributed to those in a role that the PCC has determined needs access to the church. Keys will be distributed from next week.

Mothers Union Christmas Cards



Christmas will be here before we know it, therefore why not get yourselves organised and place your orders for good quality, reasonable priced Christmas cards from the Mothers Union? Gillian Bushell will be available to take orders during coffee on Sunday 1st, 08th and 22nd September, payment is by either cash or cheque and all proceeds will go to the work of the Mothers Union.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Great St Mary's

➤ **Content for the Newsletter**

If you have a notice for the Friday Email, please contact Angela Kenny in the Parish Office by Wednesday lunchtime.

**The Parish Office is closed until Tuesday 3rd September.
In an emergency, please contact a Churchwarden or our Lay Reader, Di Kitson.**

➤ **Contact us**

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Gilly Squire (Churchwarden)

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Di Kitson (Lay Minister)

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Angela Kenny (Parish Administrator)

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Office hours: Tues to Friday 9am-1pm

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Jane Johnson (Parish Safeguarding Office)

safeguarding@sawbridgeworthchurch.org.uk

07808 684357

Website:

www.sawbridgeworthchurch.org.uk

Facebook:

www.facebook.com and search for 'Great St Mary's, Sawbridgeworth'

YouTube:

www.youtube.com and search for 'Great St Mary's, Sawbridgeworth'



Sponsored Bike 'n Hike

BEDS AND HERTS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Bike 'n Hike

Saturday 14 September 2024

9am to 5pm



For more information please make contact:



- ▶ Have fun visiting over 600 churches and chapels
- ▶ Raise funds for your local church or chapel
- ▶ Help save other churches in Beds and Herts



BEDS & HERTS
Historic Churches Trust

Bike 'n Hike in association with the national *Ride + Stride*
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