



ST MARY'S CHURCH, BRIDGWATER SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2020

Welcome to this weeks bulletin! St Mary's is now gathering for a service each week at 9.30am on a Sunday. Doors open at 09.15 please register as you come in (for track and trace purposes) also sanitizer is provided. If you forget your mask don't worry as we have plenty to spare!

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This weeks GOSPEL reading: Luke 12.16-30

¹⁶Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" ¹⁸Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry."

²⁰But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.'

²²He said to his disciples, 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. ²³For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. ²⁴Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁶If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? ²⁷Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ²⁸But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! ²⁹And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. ³⁰For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

Collect

*Creator God,
You made the
Goodness of the land
and the riches of the
sea and the rhythm of
the seasons, as we
thank you for the har-
vest, may be cherish
and respect this plan-
et and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.*

Post Communion Prayer

Lord of the Harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

BIBLE READINGS :

Deut 8. 7-18 / 2 Cor 9:6-End

Coming up this week:

WEDNESDAY

10.30am - Diocesan led Eucharist
live streamed at
www.bathandwellsorg.uk

THURSDAY

9.30—12noon—Church open for indi-
vidual prayer

SUNDAY

8am - Morning service [Listen on
BBC Somerset radio](#)

8.10am—Sunday Worship [Listen on
BBC Radio 4](#)

9am—Cof E Holy Communion

Live streamed at
www.churchofengland.org

9.30am Holy Communion at St
Mary's

10am— Holy Communion from St
Mary Magdalene, Taunton

www.stmarymagdalenetaunton.org.uk/sermons/

1.15pm—BBC 1 Songs of Praise

BBC 1

People to hold in prayer this week:

- Bishop Peter Hancock
- Jess Grandfield
- Wendy Harris
- Jack Young

If you would like to have a prayer request in the bulletin then please let us know.

STOP PRESS!

**The Church is now be open on
Thursdays for individual
prayer 9.30—12noon.**

*If you could offer help as a steward
then please contact Suse*

We have been asked to make the following letter available to all our churches:



 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It is clear that we now have to gear up for a second wave of the coronavirus. This is hard. Many people were starting to believe things could return to normal. They can't. But neither are we in the same place as before. We have learned a great deal. In our leadership of the Church and in the witness we show to our nation we need to be determined, resilient and hopeful. We will need to be more critical in our response to restrictions that are above and beyond government regulations, helping the church at the local level, in parish and diocese, steer a course that is marked by responsible action towards each other, care for the most vulnerable, and witness for the poor and disadvantaged who are suffering disproportionately. All this is the nature of love.

Our national situation is much more complicated than it was in March. The divisions are deeper. There is public and reasonable concern about hunger – especially amongst children – and homelessness, with an expected rapid rise in evictions. Domestic violence remains a major issue which is concealed.

We are also in a situation which threatens the recovery from the huge decline in the economy in the second quarter. The most vulnerable to this second wave are the small companies who employ the most people, and especially those in the hospitality industry. It will be for us and others to encourage the banks, who received such help in 2009, to be equally merciful to others as the nation was to them. St Matthew 18:23-35 seems highly relevant.

The poor, the elderly and isolated are especially vulnerable. There will be growing nervousness about Christmas, about mental health and many other issues that cannot be considered in this very short letter.

We are called to be responsible, but we are also called to resilience and prophetic speech. We have the networks, long since mobilised, and the partnerships to serve especially the hungry and homeless. Our schools are a particular treasure.

However, there will also be a sense of tiredness; the weariness which comes with dealing with yet another threat and difficulty. To face this, we must continue to encourage one another and bear one another's burdens. We must in our meetings be transparent with each other, able to say difficult things in a way that avoids mistakes being made through unwilling acquiescence to the perceived view of the majority.

Most of all we need to draw close to Christ, and continue to offer the hope and stability of the gospel. It is this gospel joy, even in the darkest times, that alone can help us through this crisis, bringing hope and an eternal perspective to the very pressing trials of the moment.

We are so grateful for our partnership with you in this work. Do feel free to share this letter as you see fit. And please be assured of our prayers.

In the peace of Christ,

The Most Revd & Rt Hon Justin Welby

The Most Revd & Rt Hon Stephen Cottrell

Las Chance!!!Smarties for Zambia

I am hoping to send off our Lent Appeal donations ASAP. If you are able to get to church could you please bring your donation and let me have it. If I'm not there please give it to one of the wardens. Many thanks for your continued support for our Link parish. *Richard Philpott*

Wave of Light service

Thursday 15th October

6.30pm

The 9th—15th October is baby loss awareness week.

On the 15th October as part of the international 'Wave of Light' we will hold a short service and light candles to remember those precious babies who died during pregnancy, at or soon after birth and in infancy.

In order to adhere to Covid guidelines, all are welcome but we ask that you register your intention to come along so we can make sure we keep everyone safe. You can do this online at [Eventbrite.co.uk](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk) and search for Wave of light 2020 Bridgwater

Or ,by letting Suse know.