



# St MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH

ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

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**13<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

**Holy Cross Day / 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

**Team Rector:** The Revd Dr Charles Miller (520144)  
**Team Vicar:** The Revd Paul Smith (534654)  
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**Churchwardens:** Mr Peter Squire (797051)  
(07711 548015)  
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Miss Joyce Kelly (533555)  
(07833 535768)  
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**Bookings\*:** Miss Joyce Kelly (as above)

**Parish Office:**

Monday	10.00 – 13.00
Tuesday	10.00 – 13.00
Wednesday	10.00 – 13.00
Thursday	CLOSED
Friday	10.00 – 13.00

**Please observe COVID protocols and sign in if you visit the office.**

**Administrator:** Leave a message on: (520144) or  
Mobile (07395 943957)  
e-mail: [administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk](mailto:administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk)

**Web site:** <https://www.stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk>

*If you would like to receive this pew leaflet electronically, please email [pewleaflet@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk](mailto:pewleaflet@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk) with the subject line **SUBSCRIBE**.*

*Items for inclusion in the next Leaflet to be sent to*

*David Duce by midday on Tuesday. Telephone 522591, [pewleaflet@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk](mailto:pewleaflet@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk)*

*[\*for Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals please contact the Parish Office]*

## **PASTORAL LETTER - BECAUSE BY YOUR HOLY CROSS YOU HAVE REDEEMED THE WORLD**

Dear Friends

We welcome today as our president and preacher the Revd Jennifer Brown. In today's well-known gospel passage we are reminded that Jesus came into the world: 'not to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him' (John 3.17).

Today we mark the Feast of the Holy Cross, which falls tomorrow, a day which helps us to reflect on the saving work of Jesus upon the cross. The cross was the instrument of the most shameful and prolonged death imposed in the Roman world.

For Christians it is the symbol that stands at the centre of the universe declaring no greater love, the sign of supreme, sacrificial love which leads from sorrow to joy, from death to life. There is no day on which the cross of Jesus does not throw its shadow of suffering and its strength of hope. Its arms of wood reach out to embrace the world, pointing from earth to heaven.

Not only does this Feast originally commemorate the discovery of the true cross in Jerusalem by St Helena in the fourth century, but it is good to make a special memorial day, in thanksgiving that Christ's saving work on the cross has set us free.

With love and blessings, *Fr Paul*

**SUNDAY MASS** If you wish to come to Mass on **Sunday 13 September**, please contact **Peter Squire** (details on the cover) before 12 noon on Friday. For **Sunday 20 September**, please contact **Joyce Kelly** (details on the cover). The Order Of Mass for each Sunday can be found on the web site, in short and long forms:

[https://stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk/worship\\_resources.htm](https://stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk/worship_resources.htm) should you wish to bring your own printed copy, load onto a mobile device or follow the Mass at home. Printed copies of the short form only will be available in church.

**CHURCH OPENING TIMES FOR PRIVATE PRAYER** **St Nicolas'** is open on Mondays from 10 am to 1 pm. **St Helen's Church** on Wednesdays and Saturdays, 11 am to 1 pm, and **St Michael's** on Thursdays from **11 am to 1 pm**. We regret that toilets cannot be opened in any of the churches during the times for private prayer. *Fr Paul*.

**BISHOP COLIN** retires later this year. We are invited to make donations to a retirement gift for Bishop Colin and his wife Sarah, by **16 September**. Details are available in church and have been circulated with the electronic edition of the pew leaflet. If any one who has not received a copy would like one, please contact David Duce (details on cover). The Abingdon and Vale of White Horse Deaneries are jointly hosting an online Farewell Evening Service (based on an Evening Prayer liturgy followed by an address and blessing by the Bishop) for Bishop Colin on **Wednesday 16 September** at 7.30 pm. The meeting will be hosted on the Zoom platform; details have also been circulated with the electronic copy of the pew leaflet; please contact David Duce if you have not received them but would like a copy.

**ST MICHAEL'S ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING** will be held after Mass on Sunday 4 October. Copies of the Annual Report, the formal calling notice for the meeting and the Minutes of last year's meeting are available on our web site. Do please read these documents from our web site if you can. Nomination sheets for elections for Church Wardens, Church Council, Parochial Church Council and Deanery Synod are on the Notice Board in church. As Fr Paul writes in his report "I want to take this opportunity to say again that the work of meetings is not always easy, but joining the DCC, and being part of it, is more than about attendance. The flourishing of the DCC depends on all its members having a keen interest to see the ongoing mission and ministry of the congregation take place."

**HARVEST FESTIVAL** this year will be kept on Sunday 4 October.

**THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING (APCM)** will be on Thursday 22 October at 7 pm at St Michael's.

**ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION - AGAIN!** The Electoral Roll has to be revised again because of the postponement of the Annual Church Meetings back in April. The new revision will take place in the period Friday 11 September to Saturday 26 September. The Electoral Roll is our official membership list, and you need to be on the Electoral Roll in order to be able to vote at the Annual Church Meetings. If you are not already on the Electoral Roll and would like your name to be added, please complete the simple application form, available at the back of the church, or from Keith Bowman. Your name can be added to the Roll if you are baptised and aged 16 or over, and you satisfy some other simple conditions. Please speak to Keith (01235 528962) if you have any questions about this. Would you also let him know if you have changed your name or address in the past year.

**THE ABINGDON BRIDGE** AGM scheduled for 22 September has had to be cancelled. The Trustees are instead holding an online meeting to meet the legal requirements of an AGM. Do please read the latest letter from the Chairman on their web site which also has a very good short video on the work of TAB. <https://www.theabingdonbridge.org.uk/>

**A CANDLE IN THE WINDOW** Issue 7 can be downloaded from <https://www.abingdon-st-helens.org.uk/DNR/window.php>

**Worship**

**Presidents at Mass on Sundays in September:** 13<sup>th</sup> The Revd Jen Brown, 20<sup>th</sup> The Revd Paul Smith/ Mrs Beryl Clements, 27<sup>th</sup> (Patronal Festival), 4<sup>th</sup> October The Revd Paul Smith, 11<sup>th</sup> October The Revd Canon Charles Masheder.

**This week** Holy Cross Day, the Patronal Festival of St Helen's Church, is being kept in the Parish on Sunday. The readings for Trinity 14 are also included in the table below. Other commemorations this week are Cyprian, bishop and martyr 258 on Tuesday, then on Wednesday Ninian, bishop, apostle of the Picts c 432 and Edward Bouverie Pusey, priest 1882; on Thursday Hildegard, abbess, visionary, 1179 and Saturday Theodore, archbishop, 690.

**Holy Cross Day** St Theodore, Abbot of Studion (7568-826) wrote:

How splendid the cross of Christ! It brings life, not death; light, not darkness; Paradise, not its loss. It is the wood on which the Lord, like a great warrior, was wounded in hands and feet and side, but healed thereby our wounds. A tree has destroyed us, a tree now brought us life.

**Edward Bouverie Pusey**, priest, died on 16 September 1882. Born in Oxford in 1800, he became a Fellow of Oriel College in 1823, became a biblical scholar and was appointed Regius Professor of Hebrew in Oxford in 1828. He became one of the leaders of the Oxford Movement and made significant contributions to encouraging Religious Life within the Church of England. Pusey House and Library in St Giles in Oxford were founded by his contemporaries in his memory. In a sermon he wrote:

It is not by great things, but by great diligence in little everyday things that thou canst show great love for God, and become greatly holy, and a saint of God. Few ever do great things, and the few who can do them can each do but few. But every one can study the will of God and can give great diligence to know it and to do what he knows. Everyone can, by the grace of God, be faithful to what he knows. Your daily round of duty is your daily path to come nearer unto God.

**Please pray for:**

- our brothers and sisters celebrating their Patronal Festival at St Helen's today;
- our government in the management of the Covid-19 pandemic;
- all returning to universities over the next weeks, students and staff alike;
- the suffering, recently departed and all whose year's mind falls at this time;
- people in our parish living in Bridge Street, Bridges Close, Broad Street and Buckland Mews.

**Eucharistic Lectionary**

Sun	Numbers 21.4-9	Ps 22.23-28	Philippians 2.6-11	John 3.13-17
Tr. 14	Genesis 50.15-21	Ps 103-1-13	Romans 14.1-12	Matthew 18.21-35
Mon	1 Corinthians 11.17-26	Ps 40.7-11		Luke 7.1-10
Tues	1 Corinthians 12.12-14, 27-end	Ps 100		Luke 7.11-17
Wed	1 Corinthians 12.31b-end of 13	Ps 33.1-12		Luke 7.31-35
Thur	1 Corinthians 15.1-11	Ps 118.1-2, 17-20		Luke 7.36-end
Fri	1 Corinthians 15.12-20	Ps 17.1-8		Luke 8.1-3
Sat	1 Corinthians 15.35-37, 42-49	Ps 30.1-8		Luke 8.4-15

**Collect (Holy Cross Day)**

Almighty God, who in the passion of your blessed Son made an instrument of painful death to be for us the means of life and peace: grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer for his sake; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Collect (14<sup>th</sup> Sunday of 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...

**Some On-line Resources for Worship**

*Parish resources page*

[http://www.abingdon-st-helens.org.uk/Parish/P\\_resources.html](http://www.abingdon-st-helens.org.uk/Parish/P_resources.html).

*St Michael's Prayer and Worship resources page*

[https://www.stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk/worship\\_resources.htm](https://www.stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk/worship_resources.htm)

*Diocesan Church at Home (Live-streamed Eucharist) page.*

<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19/livestream/> The Diocesan Church at Home services resumed on Sunday 6 September, at 10 am. The telephone audio service was not available on 6 September, but might be on 13 September.

*Oxford Cathedral on-line services (includes service booklets and sermons)*

<https://www.chch.ox.ac.uk/oxfords-cathedral/online-worship>.

An archive of cathedral services and sermons is available on Soundcloud <https://soundcloud.com/user-867515242>

*Community of the Resurrection*: live streaming and recordings of the community's daily round of prayer and praise <https://www.facebook.com/CoRMirfield/> Details of services at <https://mirfield.org.uk/community-of-the-resurrection/our-life-and-work/worship/>

*Walsingham* In addition to the daily live-streaming of Shrine Prayers at 6 pm. the Sunday Mass is live-streamed at 9.00 am, <https://www.walsinghamanglican.org.uk/>

#### **RESOURCES ACCESSIBLE BY TELEPHONE**

*Diocesan Eucharist Recordings* Not available on 6 September, but might be on 13 September, from around 11 am. Call 01865 920930 and select the full service or a short version. Standard call rates apply.

*Daily Hope* A Church of England resource offering hymns, prayers and reflections as well as full services via a freephone number 0800 804 8044.