

You can contact the Parish Administrator by email or phone 01235 520144 or 07395 943957 from Monday – Thursday, 10.00 am to 1.00 pm (closed on Fridays); please observe COVID protocols and sign in when you visit.

#### For Your Thoughts and Prayers

- All those who are struggling with poverty, debt, and unemployment;
- Those who work to provide for those in need, especially foodbanks and debt advice providers;
- Those who speak up for the voiceless and those who work to promote equality in society;
- NHS workers, first responders, and all those in stressful or dangerous work;

For intercessory prayer requests contact [clairembolton@googlemail.com](mailto:clairembolton@googlemail.com).

*Please pray for the residents of Blacknall Road, Bostock Road, Boxhill Walk, Brewers Court.*

**For health & wellbeing:** Connie Tait, Barbara Mazey, Ken Chapman, Anne Benad, Margaret Brooks, Mary Barton, Sue Hartley, Chris Bayliss, Bill Burnett, Sue Phipps, Eleanor Robinson (outside Parish), Mary Blanks, Ann Moss, Linda Brewer, Thea Murphy, Frank Peirson, Janet Perry, Nancy McLellan, Tom Bewley.

Next Week's Readings Ezek. 2.1-5, 2 Cor. 12.2-10, Mark 6.1-13

Team Rector	The Revd Dr Charles Miller
Team Vicar	The Revd Paul Smith
Associate Priests	The Revd Jennifer Brown The Revd Canon Charles Masheder
Licensed Lay Minister	Mrs Gwen Bevington
Wardens	Mrs Linda Hobbs and Dr Geoff Meen
Director of Music	Dr Peter Foster
Assistant Organist	Mr Andrew Shouler
Parish Administrator	Mrs Jackie Cunningham
Caretaker	Mr Philip Atkinson

Parish Office 01235 520144 or 07395 943957  
E-mail: [administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk](mailto:administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk)  
[http://https://www.abingdon-st-helens.org.uk/](https://www.abingdon-st-helens.org.uk/).

**A copy of this Newsletter is posted regularly on our website.**



# St HELEN'S CHURCH

ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

June 27, 2021

The Fourth Sunday after Trinity

As Paul and his companions travelled to different churches as part of their ministry, one of the things that they did was to take a collection for congregations in need. Paul urges the Corinthians to give as generously to others as they can, not so that they themselves will become impoverished or be in need, but because, as Paul says, "it is a question of a fair balance between your present abundance and their need."

The question of a fair balance between the abundance of some and the needs of others is very much a question for our own time. In the UK we have an abundance, while many others are in need. This has become clear in the uneven distribution of COVID vaccines around the world – we have had an abundance which has allowed most of our population to be vaccinated. The vaccine roll-out here is, without doubt, a great achievement, something to be celebrated and for which we are rightly thankful. But in our abundance we must remember those in need. It is right that the UK and other developed nations contribute vaccines to less well-off countries. This is not the only inequality in our world today. Wage and wealth inequality exist between and within nations, even our own, and the impact of climate change is not and will not be experienced equally between countries and regions.

I'm not saying all this to make anyone feel guilty for what they have, and I recognise that there may well be those in our own congregations who are struggling, whether with income, health or other issues. But as Christians we need to be aware of the inequalities in our communities and in the wider world so that we can work towards a "fair balance" between abundance and need.

*Jen Brown*, Associate Priest

**WELCOME** to St Helen's today, 4th Sunday after Trinity. *Holy Communion (BCP)* is at 8.00 am.

The *Eucharist* is at 10.30 am and can also be accessed on Zoom from 10.15am

[Zoom link removed from online newsletter – please contact the Parish Administrator for access to the live stream. The recording will be uploaded to the website as soon as possible]

There will be no evening service.

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#### FOR TODAY'S WORSHIP

**Readings:** Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24  
2 Corinthians 8:7-15  
Mark 5:21-43

**Collect:** O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

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#### THIS COMING WEEK AT ST HELEN'S

*There will be no Morning Prayer.*

**ON WEDNESDAY** *Holy Communion* will be in the South Aisle at 10.30 am. [No booking required].

**NEXT SUNDAY** *Holy Communion* will be at 8.00 am. [Booking: contact [papenfold@aol.co.uk](mailto:papenfold@aol.co.uk) or [jil129@outlook.com](mailto:jil129@outlook.com)]

The *Eucharist* will be in church at 10.30 am. To reserve a place contact the Parish Office, [administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk](mailto:administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk)

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#### NOTICES

**CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER.** St Helen's Church is open from 11am to 1pm for private prayer on Tuesdays and Thursdays during June.

**ST HELEN'S BABY & TODDLER GROUP** has started a small trial group, meeting in the Parish Centre garden on Monday mornings. We now have 15 families on the waiting list and are exploring how we might expand the group. Would anyone like to sign up to the rota of helpers, term time only? The more helpers we get the less often you would need to attend! It would involve arriving on Mondays at 9am to help set up. A few helpers stay for the session, some helpers can go away and come back to help clear up at 10.30am. If we can find enough helpers to start a second session we would also need people from 10.30am-12 noon. Also someone with singing skills to lead the singing in the second session. No great musicality required, just the ability to sing in tune and the confidence to lead 15 mins of pre-school songs/nursery rhymes. Email us at [b&tsainthelen@gmail.com](mailto:b&tsainthelen@gmail.com) if you could help.

**A CANDLE IN THE WINDOW** There is still time to contribute to the July magazine! The deadline is the end of Monday 28th June. Email: [candle@abingdonparish.org.uk](mailto:candle@abingdonparish.org.uk)

The theme of the July 4th issue of the magazine is 'Recreation or re-creation'. Articles, pictures, poems welcome! Any unusual hobbies? Anyone want to write about 'Messing about on the river' or

messing about in other ways? Or articles from left-field.

**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2021 – THANK YOU** for your support. We're delighted to report that the total raised during Christian Aid Week 2021 came to £6472.62, with a further likely Gift Aid contribution of £601.90. Many thanks to everyone who helped in any way through their actions or their giving.

**Mothers' Union meet on Tuesday, 6th July at 10.30 am in the Parish Centre.** Our speaker will be Mary Anderson – "Literacy in Nigeria". Refreshments from 10.15am. Non-members also welcome.

**Silent Reflections on Tuesday 29 June at 7.30 pm** will be held in St Michael and All Angels in the following manner. If you wish to attend, please text Sue Sheppy on 07786 736 226. Entry will be by the north door of the church (by Albert Park). Masks will need to be worn and hand sanitisers will be available. Chairs will be set out 2 metres apart round the labyrinth. Father Paul will introduce material on the theme: *Sinking Sand to Solid Rock: Reflections on the Apostle Paul*. A copy will still be emailed to all those on our list, and made available from St Michael's website. If you can, print off your own copy to bring, but further copies will be available in church. Labyrinth walks will be possible one at a time.

At its meeting last Wednesday the Parochial Church Council (PCC) agreed to participate in a Team Ministry review with the Associate Archdeacon of Dorchester, David Tyler. You will hear more about this in the months ahead.