



St MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH

ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

24th October 2021
Last Sunday after Trinity

Regular Service Times

Sundays: Sung Mass, 9.30 am
Tuesdays: Silent Reflections, last Tuesday of the month (except December)
Thursdays: Said Mass, 12.30 pm

Contacts

Team Rector: The Revd Dr Charles Miller (520144)
Team Vicar: The Revd Paul Smith (534654)
e-mail: paul315smith@btinternet.com

Churchwardens: Miss Joyce Kelly (533555)
(07833 535768)
e-mail: joyceekelly@btinternet.com
Mrs Louise Heffernan (01235 525412)
(07779 650968)
e-mail: lheff@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk

Bookings*: Miss Joyce Kelly (as above)

Parish Office: The Parish office is now open again **Mondays to Thursdays, 10 am-1 pm** until further notice. Please observe COVID protocols and sign in when you visit.

Administrator: During normal working hours phone or leave a message on:
Telephone (520144) or
Mobile (07395 943957)
e-mail: 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 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***

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

Dear Friends

Welcome to St Michael's today on this Last Sunday after Trinity. We welcome Mrs Beryl Clements as our preacher today and look forward to what she has to say to us.

The story of the healing of Bartimaeus is one of the stories that forms the basis of the ancient 'Jesus Prayer', a rhythmic prayer taught and practiced in the Eastern Orthodox Tradition, sometimes using a prayer rope, the words of which are 'Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner'. In Bartimaeus, it is not a plea for mercy which is grovelling and negative. But, from this blind man's lips, it is a bold and unashamedly loud cry for the mercy of God which contains a longing for healing and transformation.

Bartimaeus gives us a model which we might not necessarily expect. He is responding with a faith that takes Jesus on. Jesus teaches us to ask, knock, and seek which is what Bartimaeus does with all his might. His faith is shouted aloud by the public roadside, crying out for what he cannot see but hears is near as he endures those hostile voices around him which ask him to be quiet. This he refuses to do until he receives the attention of the Lord. Jesus responds in his typically merciful and compassionate way as he does with all people and stops and pays the man attention. In so doing, the man's prayer is answered.

I wonder what we might boldly want to say to Jesus at this time? Are we willing to step out in faith and ask for what it is that we really want? Do we believe enough in the mercy and compassion of God as we see it demonstrated in Jesus? Perhaps reflecting on the model of Bartimaeus this coming week, and seeking the Lord's mercy, may lead us to healing and transformation in ways which until now we have not believed possible.

With love and blessings, *Fr Paul*

St Michael's District Church Council (DCC)

Each church in its living in service to one another and to the wider world has its business and governance to which it has to attend. The DCC meets this month on **Thursday 28 October at 7pm** and the minutes of the last meeting of 23 September together with my Team Vicar's report are on the Notice Board. Should you have any questions please do speak with me, one of the Churchwardens, or Hilary Clare, our DCC Secretary. Many thanks, *Fr Paul*

CHANCEL FLOOD LIGHTS One of the floodlights failed, on or around our Patronal Festival. The Fabric Committee will be meeting on Wednesday 3 November and this will be discussed as part of our Agenda to decide how to move forward with repair. *Fr Paul and the Churchwardens*

STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL Thanksgiving Offering Cards for the coming year will be presented at Mass on the Feast of Christ the King, Sunday 21 November. The plan building up to that is after the DCC on Thursday 28 October an announcement will be made as to when the budget will be presented for the forthcoming year.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE Vernon Butt died on 5 April 2020 during the first Covid-19 lockdown. There will be a thanksgiving service for his life on Sunday 31 October at 11.30 in St. Michael's, following the Sunday Mass for All Saints. Coffee will be served after Mass before the service and Glynne warmly invites people to stay for this occasion as we celebrate Vernon's life and give thanks for all he shared with us and meant to us.

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT ST HELEN'S CHURCH

St Helen's will live-stream their 10.30 am Eucharist through Zoom. The Zoom link is available from the Parish Administrator. A recording of the sermon will be made available after the service on the Parish Resources page on the St Helen's web site https://www.abingdon-st-helens.org.uk/Parish/P_resources.html

Morning Prayer has begun again and will be said publicly in St Helen's every weekday at 9.10am. *All Welcome*

MUSIC FOR A SUNDAY AFTERNOON The final concert in this series will be on **Sunday 14 November 3.00pm** Pavlova Winds with Glynne Butt (piano) will play trios by Poulenc and Glinka. Some exhilarating and tuneful music! We are delighted that all four players are available to repeat a concert they performed recently in Oxford.

CHRISTMAS FAIR: SATURDAY 20th NOVEMBER FROM 10.30 AM TO 2 PM With only a few weeks to go before this event, please could you to start rooting out possible donations of books, bric-a-brac (china, glassware, ornaments etc.) full bottles, good quality puzzles and games, plants and unopened toiletries. Fr Paul has given permission for donations to be left at the back of the church after 1 November. Many people have volunteered to help but more stall-holders will be needed so please let Nicola or Louise know if you are able to help. The Fair will raise money for church funds with a 10% donation to charity.

ALL SOULS DAY *Tuesday 2 November 7pm.* As we remember our loved ones, and those who have died in the past year, there will be a Mass to pray for all the faithful departed. Keith Bowman is collating the list of people to be remembered. There are forms at the back of the church for you to add names. For logistical reasons we ask that names be provided by today, **Sunday 24 October** at the latest. If you are not able to come to church, please give names to Keith either by email keithdm.bowman@btinternet.com or phone 01235 528962. *Fr Paul.*

ON SATURDAY 6 NOVEMBER ST HELEN'S CHURCH will be open between 10 am until 3 pm, to welcome in anyone who wishes to remember those who have lost their lives through the Covid pandemic by lighting a candle and if they so wish, saying a prayer. A card of suitable thoughts and prayers will be available. A Priest will also be available for pastoral support if requested. *Canon Charles Mashedor*

SILENT REFLECTIONS will be held on Tuesday 26 October at 7.30 pm. Entry will be through the North door (opposite Albert Park). The wearing of masks is still recommended in areas of close contact. Final prayers will be at 8.30 pm and refreshments will be available. Rosalind Rutherford will introduce material on the theme: *A child in the midst*. A copy will be emailed to all those on our list, and made available on St Michael's website. Paper copies will be available in church.

ABINGDON DEANERY SECRETARY The Abingdon Deanery is seeking an adaptable person to provide secretarial and administrative support to ensure the smooth running of the Deanery. The secretary will work closely with the Area Dean, the Lay Chair and Deanery Treasurer in leading the work of the Synod, especially by providing information and documents. The hours are flexible (average 18 per month but varies through the year) and the rate of pay depends on qualifications and experience. For further details of the post (self-employed/freelance) and submission of applications see the <https://www.abingdondeanery.org.uk/jobvacanciesinandaroundthedeanery.htm> or speak to Sue Scott. A copy of the advertisement has been posted on a notice board in church. Closing date: 8 November 2021.

THE BEAUTIFUL COLOUR OF VOCATION is the title of an event in Oxford Cathedral on Saturday 30 October. "Black History Month is a moment to focus our minds once again on the injustice that UK minority ethnic people are currently underrepresented in church leadership, lay and ordained ministry and church officer posts. Revd Poly Falconer, our Diocesan UKME Enabler, has curated a series of events during October that are not to be missed, culminating in a special event at the Cathedral on Saturday 30 October." The series includes four on-line lectures, the first being on Monday 4 October from 6pm to 7pm, *Structures, Barriers, and Authenticity - UKME people's vital contribution through the church* by Mr Raj Patel. For further details and booking information please see <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/called-as-we-are/>

SWEET SLICES OF HISTORY The next Friends of St Helen (FOSH) event takes place at 7.30pm on Thursday 4 November in the Parish Centre. Marjory Szuko will be telling us the story of the creation of sweet dishes and cakes from historical recipes. There will be wine, and tasters of some of Marjory's creations. We are also hoping that she will sign copies of her book of the same name, which was shortlisted for the Fortnum & Mason Food and Drink Awards in 2019. Attendance is free for members, £5 for non-members. Numbers are limited, so if you would like to come please contact the Administrator by 1 November (administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk).

CHRISTIAN AID QUIZ An Autumn Puddings Quiz is planned for Saturday 6 November 2021 at 7pm at All Saints Methodist Church, Appleford Drive (**NOT** Trinity Church as previously advertised). The quiz will be in two halves with a range of seasonal puddings to choose from during the interval. Teams will be set up ad hoc on the night. Please wear a facemask at this event (except when eating!) Please do not attend if you, or anyone in your household, have symptoms of Covid-19. Donations welcome for the work of Christian Aid. For more information, please contact Cliff Marshall at candpmarshall@btinternet.com.

THE ABINGDON PASSION PLAY COMMITTEE is a small interdenominational group whose aim is to continue the production of an Abingdon Passion Play, with the next one fixed provisionally for June 2024. We are in urgent need of new members from local churches within the Church in Abingdon who are helpful, enthusiastic and full of suggestions, as well as a Publicity Officer. If you would like to find out more or would like to get involved, please contact Jane Cadogan at jane.cadogan@tinternet.com. It is hoped to begin fundraising in January 2022 for the next production.

CHURCH TWINNING The committee would welcome new members from any of the interdenominational churches of the Church in Abingdon. Committee members enjoy meeting Christians from other countries as well as discussing ecumenism. We plan visits to Abingdon from a twin town annually, as well as arrange and take part in these visits. We also organize an away visit to a twin town each year. The twin towns are Argentan and Colmar (France), Lucca (Italy), Sint Niklaas (Belgium) and Schongau (Germany). There are only four committee meetings a year, plus an informal planning meeting for any visit here. If you are interested in this outreach, contact Eileen Bontempelli on 01235 526331 or at epkbontempelli@gmail.com.

A CANDLE IN THE WINDOW Issue 8 of the Parish Magazine is now available to download from <http://www.abingdon-st-helens.org.uk/DNR/window.php>. The November issue is being planned. We would welcome contributions including pictures of Autumn colour. Also do contact us if you would like to write a puzzle for future issues. Candle@abingdonparish.org.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 27 November 7pm: Abingdon Passion Play AGM at Christ church Barns with entertainment. Further details to follow.

THE CHURCH IN ABINGDON A number of new publications are available to download from the CiA web site <https://www.church-in-abingdon.org.uk/#ReportsandNewsletters>: the Autumn 2021 issue of Christian Focus (the first issue in over a year), CiA News for October 2021 and the Annual Report for 2020. [The Editor has only just spotted that the CiA website has been redesigned and that these publications are now easier to find on-line.]

Worship

This Week The celebrants and preachers for the next six weeks are: 24 October Fr Paul/ Mrs Beryl Clements, Fr Paul/ the Revd Elizabeth Birch on 31 October (All Saints Sunday), Fr Paul on 7, 21 and 28 November and Fr Paul/ Mrs Beryl Clements on 14 November (Remembrance Sunday).

Thursday is the festival of Simon and Jude, Apostles. Commemorations include Crispin and Crispinian, martyrs, c. 287 on Monday, Alfred, king, scholar, 899 and Cedd, abbot, bishop, 664 on Tuesday, and James Hannington, bishop, martyr, 1885 on Friday.

Cedd was born in Northumbria in the late sixth century. He joined the monastery of Lindisfarne where he served for many years. Sometime later he was sent with another priest to Essex. They landed at Bradwell and found the ruins of a Roman fort. They probably first built a wooden chapel, but with so much stone in the area this was replaced with the chapel that survives to this day (after as one would expect extensions and restorations). Holy Communion is celebrated in the chapel on the last Thursday of every month and there is also an annual pilgrimage to the site. There will be a service in the chapel for St Cedd's Day, with the Bishop of Bradwell in Chelmsford Diocese (a bishop with a slightly unusual background having been brought up in the ancient Syrian Christian community in Kerala South India and later ordained in the Church of North India). Readers with internet access might like to view the chapel's web site <https://www.bradwellchapel.org/>.

After returning to Lindisfarne, Cedd was consecrated bishop of the East Saxons and he returned to the province to carry on the work he had started. He also had responsibility for the monastery at Lastingham on the southern edge of the North York Moors National Park. He contracted the plague during a visit to the monastery after attending the Synod of Whitby, became ill and died. He was buried initially outside the walls of the monastery but after a church had been built to honour the Mother of God his body was reburied in the church. This is now the crypt of St Mary's Church. There are some photographs on the church's web site <https://www.lastinghamparishchurch.org.uk/>.

Climate Change COP26

UKRI (UK Research and Innovation), the non-departmental public body that brings together nine UK Research Councils, is running an extensive (virtual) events programme alongside COP26 to demonstrate 'the role and impact of research and innovation in climate action'. There is also an extensive programme of public events which will be streamed on YouTube in due course. Links to these programmes, which might interest some readers, can be found on the *Prayer and Worship resources* page.

From *Seeing Differently – Franciscans and Creation* by Simon Cocksedge, Samuel Double and Nicholas Alan Worsam (2021):

... the challenge for each of us, and for all humanity, is first to hear the instruction given to St Francis to 'repair my house' as this applies to each of us. This involves accepting that the house in need of repair is the whole of God's creation on this planet, and that we have an ethical obligation to correct the ecological injustices in creation that humanity has caused. If the Covid-19 pandemic of 2020 with all its many consequences has taught us anything, it must be that we cannot self-isolate from God's creation. We are an integral and interconnected part of this world with corresponding responsibilities for its care, past, present and future.

From A.M. Ramsey *The Glory of God and the Transfiguration of Christ* (1949):

To glorify God is both to rejoice in His works, and to own their absolute dependence upon the Creator.

Please pray for:

- Steven and Gavin our bishops, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury;
- the work of our deanery, Revd Helen Kendrick our Area Dean, Sue Scott, Lay Chair all our Deanery Synod representatives;
- our District Church Council (DCC) meeting on Thursday this week;
- the challenges the increasing number of Covid infection rates are causing, especially in schools;
- forthcoming COP26 summit in Glasgow;
- the suffering, all who mourn, the recently departed, and all whose year's mind falls at this time;
- people living in Bath Court, Bath Street, Bergen Avenue and Blacklands Way.

Eucharistic Lectionary

Sun	Jeremiah 31.7-9	Ps 126	Hebrews 7.23-end	Mark 10.46-end
Mon	Romans 8.12-17	Ps 68.1-6,19		Luke 13.10-17
Tues	Romans 8.18-25	Ps 126		Luke 13.18-21
Wed	Romans 8.26-30	Ps 13		Luke 13.22-30
Thur Simon & Jude	Isaiah 28.14-16	Ps 119.89-96	Ephesians 2.19-end	John 15.-17-end
Fri	Romans 9.1-5	Ps 147.13-end		Luke 14.1-6
Sat	Romans 11.1-2, 11-12, 25-29	Ps 94.14-19		Luke 14.1,7-11

Collect (Last Sunday after Trinity)

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Prayer after Communion (Last Sunday after Trinity)

God of all grace, your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of his life and the word of his kingdom: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your true and living bread; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect (Simon and Jude, Apostles)

Almighty God, who built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Jesus Christ himself as the chief cornerstone: so join us together in unity of spirit by their doctrine, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, ... Amen.

Prayer after Communion (Simon and Jude, Apostles)

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Some On-line Resources for Worship

Parish resources page

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

Oxford Cathedral: Livestream events will appear on the cathedral's YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqz9I9-LbZJAPGtje0gQbbg/videos>

Community of the Resurrection: live streaming and recordings of the community's daily round of prayer and praise

<https://www.facebook.com/Join-with-us-103095121647089>. Details of services at the facebook page and also at the

Community web site, <https://mirfield.org.uk/community-of-the-resurrection/our-life-and-work/worship/> On

Sundays Mass starts around 8.10 am, after Matins at 7.30 am.

Walsingham In addition to the daily live-streaming of Shrine Prayers at 6 pm (5pm on Fridays). the Sunday Mass is live-streamed (usually at 7.30 am, but check the web site), <https://www.walsinghamanglican.org.uk/>