

Dear Friends. Today we share fellowship across our group as the parishes of Mark, West Huntspill, East Huntspill and Highbridge, all join together. It is good to be part of this slightly larger gathering and to remind ourselves that our fellowship goes way beyond our immediate church family. Later today in the Cathedral it is likely that the gathering will include visitors from around the world. The choir is from St Thomas's Episcopal Church, New Haven, USA.

<http://www.stthomasnewhaven.org/> We really do belong to an incredibly large and diverse church. And yet even when we are two or three, there is Christ amongst us. *Rev Preb Sharon Crossman*



The Summer Sermon Series

Once again, this year we are following a sermon series that helps us explore our faith drawing on a theme. This year our theme is from one of the Pilgrim Courses: Church & Kingdom. This is about how we live day by day as followers of Christ. As Christians we seek to be "Christ-like," to be like Jesus. We shall be exploring what this means for us each day as a member of his church. At home, at work amongst our family and friends. How we use our gifts of time, talents, passions, resources and money. How our faith affects our sense of justice in our community and in our world. You will see the themes for the summer and the main reading in the table below. If you would like to go a bit deeper you may like to visit the pilgrim website: <http://www.pilgrimcourse.org/> you will be able to listen to other speakers talking on the subjects. You can also buy a booklet of the series from Rev Sharon for £5.

5th August	Praying through life Reading: Psalm 40:1-8
12th August Family Service	At home and at work Reading: Deut 5:12-15
19th August	Living generously Reading: 2 Cor 8:1-15
26th August	In all my relationships Reading: Luke 10:25-37
2nd September	Confronting the injustices of the world. Reading: Psalm 85:7-13
9th September Family Service	Treading lightly on the earth. A Green Communion

COLLECTS AND READINGS

29th July Trinity 9

Readings: Ephesians 3.14-end; John 6.1-21

Collect: Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy, strong and faithful, for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion: Holy Father, who gathered us here around the table of your Son to share this meal with the whole household of God: in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace, gather people of every race and language to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.

5th August Trinity 10

Readings: Psalm 40:1-8. John 6.24-35

Collect: Lord of heaven and earth, as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer, give us patience and courage never to lose hope, but always to bring our prayers before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion: God of our pilgrimage, you have willed that the gate of mercy should stand open for those who trust in you: look upon us with your favour that we who follow the path of your will may never wander from the way of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Pastoral Prayers



Baptisms

We pray for parents, godparents and those preparing to be baptised, especially Aoife, Keiron & Persie being baptised today.

Marriages

Couples recently united and those preparing for marriage. Especially for Kim & Liam, Joey & Colette. And those celebrating special anniversaries, Mandy & David.

Those in need of our prayers:

Margaret Moyle, Hazel, Betty Montgomery, Stevie, Betty Player, Josie Dolan

For those who have died

Michael Warner, Billy Conibeer, Dot Denman, Mary Draper

Those whose anniversary falls this week:

Noreen Nicholson, David Ring, Julie Barrett

PRAYER FOCUS

Sunday:

Find a few moments today to pause and celebrate God's creation

Monday:

At the start of the summer holidays pray for all families

Tuesday:

For the baptism friends as we welcome families at the preparation this evening

Wednesday:

For the Apex Family Fun Day And those running the church tent

Thursday:

For our midweek communion service And the sense of fellowship it offers

Friday:

For all who use the foodbank this week

Saturday:

For all visitors and tourists to our region, for fun and safety

PREACHING TODAY..

...in Wells cathedral at 3pm - our very own Rev Preb Sharon on the topic of "patience" (!). All warmly invited to attend.

YOUR VIEWS

We have been trialling the new Weekly Signpost in place of the monthly Signpost and Weekly sheet for four weeks now. Is it working for you? If you have been taking the monthly Signpost to friends/neighbours – are you happy to keep doing so either weekly, or gathering them up and taking them monthly? Would you like to receive them by email?

Please let Shirley or Sharon know your views – it's your communication tool!

APEX FAMILY FUN DAY

Wednesday 1st August
10am till 3pm

This year we shall have a story tent at the family fun day. A small group of volunteers from local churches will be reading stories and having fun with simple craft activities.

If you are taking children or grandchildren along, do come and find us.



Your plastic bottles

Please start collecting your plastic bottles and bringing them to church (washed please!!). Creative people will be building something amazing out of them over the school holiday ready for the family "Green Eco" Service on 9th September.

Jars needed



Jam & Chutney jars required please for preserve making. Pass to Pat Burge, or leave in the church / hall.

Deanery & Diocesan News

DIOCESAN OFFICES TO RELOCATE - The diocesan offices are to relocate from The Old Deanery on Cathedral Green in Wells to an alternative site on the outskirts of the city. The decision was made 'in principle' last year and formally decided at Bishop's Council recently. You can read more on the diocesan website at the following address:

<http://www.bathandwells.org.uk/2018/06/diocese-confirms-plans-to-relocate-offices-from-old-deanery/>

CALENDAR

Who's Who at St John's:

Vicar: Rev'd Preb Sharon Crossman 789290
 Associate Priest: Rev'd Tonya Nixon 793950
 Training Curate: Rev'd Dan Crouch 325194
 Churchwarden: Chris Perry 783753

Sun 29th 10am Team Service at St John's
 Noon Baptisms

3pm Rev Preb Sharon Crossman preaching in Wells cathedral

Please come to the Cathedral at 2pm for a tour before the service, especially laid on for the parishioners of Highbridge.

Tues 31st 7.30pm Baptism Preparation

AUGUST

Wed 1st **Said Communion transferred to Thursday this week

10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

10am - 3pm Apex Play Day

Thurs 2nd 9.30am Said Communion followed by Coffee & Chat (**NOTE CHANGE OF DAY FOR THIS WEEK ONLY**)

Sat 4th 4pm Renewal of vows

Sun 5th 8am Said Communion 9.30am Sung Communion 2pm & 3pm Baptisms

Wed 8th 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

Sun 12th 8am Said Communion 9.30am Family Communion

Wed 15th 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

Sat 18th 12 noon & 2pm Wedding

Sun 19th 9am Said Communion 1.30pm Baptism 3pm Shorter Communion followed by tea

Wed 22nd 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

Sun 26th 8am Said Communion 9.30am Sung Communion 3pm Baptism 5pm Creative Worship

Tues 28th 7.30pm Baptism preparation

Wed 29th 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

SEPTEMBER

Sun 2nd 8am Said Communion 9.30am Sung Communion

To submit an article for the Signpost Weekly please e-mail Shirley (Parish Administrative Assistant) via office@stjohnshighbridge.org.uk or leave a message on 01278 780633

Normal Office opening hours (please ring before visiting)

Wednesdays: 8am-3pm Thursdays: 8am-10am Fridays: 8am-12noon

August hours from w/b 6th August: Wednesdays 8th & 29th only 8am-2pm

Normal office hours resume 3rd September