

St John the Evangelist Signpost Weekly

Harvest Festival 13th October 2019

Dear Friends,

Today we celebrate Harvest and we welcome our Archdeacon the Venerable Anne Gell to preach and preside. Archdeacon Anne is the first of several clergy who will be joining us for worship in the coming months supporting myself and Rev Lynne to sustain our weekly worship through the vacancy. Harvest is an interesting festival for many of us. While we find ourselves surrounded by wonderful farmland, many of us feel increasingly detached from the land which provides our food. With the global market enabling us to eat food in and out of season it can be tempting to wonder whether celebrating Harvest is relevant in our modern world. While we may be increasingly distant from the source of our food the emphasis on gratitude, thanksgiving, trust, and acknowledging that God is our provider, all recognised at Harvest, are core Christian truths. *Rev Dan*



Journeying together

I was on the train today and a South Western Railway poster caught my eye. The headline was 'Our Promise to You'. It then said: 'We are passionate about delivering a great service for you and are here to make travelling easier.' It went on to spell out what that meant in these words:

- Be visible and available to you when you need us
- Offer information and answer questions you may have
- Make announcements about the destination and its calling point
- Keep you informed should things be delayed during your journey

Obviously this was talking about trains, but it got me thinking as some of those things could also be applied to my role as Bishop. My role, and that of Bishop Ruth, the archdeacons, our other colleagues and the central support staff in the Old Deanery is to support the work of mission and ministry which takes place across the parishes, chaplaincies and schools of the diocese. And we are all passionate about doing the best we can to support you and to 'make your travelling easier'.

And by 'travelling' we mean the walk that we have with Jesus as his followers and his disciples.

One way we seek to support you by being visible and available. Bishop Ruth and I like nothing better than getting out and about across the length and breadth of the diocese, meeting people and hearing all that you are doing to live and tell the story of Jesus. Every month we meet hundreds of new people and we try, as and when we can, to answer questions and let people know what is going on.

These parish magazine articles are another way in which we try to keep in touch and share what we are up to. The diocesan website, our e-newsletter, Connect, Manna magazine and our social media feeds on Facebook and Twitter are other places you can catch up with what we are doing, but more importantly to hear and read about what God is doing among us and within the communities we serve.

The train poster ended with the words 'Let us know how we are doing'. And that is another important reason why we love to get round the diocese so that we can hear what else we can do to support you and to share with you in living and telling others about the love of God.

With my prayers and very best wishes
The Right Revd Peter Hancock
Bishop of Bath and Wells

COLLECTS AND READINGS

13th October Harvest Philippians 4.4-9; John 6.25-35

Collect: Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion: Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in 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.

20th October Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity Genesis 32.22-31; 2 Timothy 3.14-4.5; Luke 18.1-8

Collect: God, our judge and saviour, teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love, that we may live each day with confidence in the salvation which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion:

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you, here the memory of your passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here a pledge of future glory is given, when we shall feast at that table where you reign with all your saints for ever.

Our Pastoral Prayers



To include somebody on this prayer list please let Liz in the office know by 8am on Thursday, making sure the person you wish to be included wants their name in print.

Marriage

Couples preparing for marriage, and those recently married.

Baptisms:

We pray for all parents and godparents and we welcome Rupert, Vinnie and Max who have recently been baptised

Those in need of our prayers:

Margaret Moyle, Hazel, Betty Montgomery, Betty Player, Christine Marston, Val & George Crawford Maureen & Ian Thompson, Gloria and Ken Vivash, Pete, Brenda,

For those who have died:

Those whose anniversary falls this week:

Graham Gillies, Terry Coulson

PRAYER FOCUS

Sunday:

Take a moment today to thank God for all his blessings on your life

Monday:

For the teachers, staff, governors and all involved in Churchfield school

Tuesday:

For our Bishops, Peter and Ruth, our Archdeacon Anne and her colleagues Simon and Adrian as they lead our diocese

Wednesday:

For all who will use the Foodbank today

Thursday:

For the Diocesan Go Team and the Inspire Evening at Draycott

Friday:

For our neighbours in Mark and the Huntspill's as the closing date for applications for their new Rector passes

Saturday:

For all with leadership responsibility during the vacancy





We have been supporting the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal for many years and we are hoping to do so again this year.

Please see the details in church for what to pack in the boxes (Please note that due to customs regulations toothpaste and sweets are no longer allowed) or check out their website for more info www.samaritans-purse.org.uk

A date for collection will be arranged soon.

FOODBANK

Our local foodbank continues to need our support.

They are particularly in need of the following items

Tins of Meat, Toilet Rolls, Dog Food, Nappies

Diocesan Courses

The Diocese are offering some training courses for those who may want to go deeper into their faith.

Exploring Christianity: Bridgwater starting in October (evenings)

Exploring Christianity: Shapwick starting in January (evenings)

Exploring Spirituality: Wells Thursday starting October (day time)

Exploring Spirituality: Burnham-on-Sea starting October or January

There are leaflets at the back of church with more information about these courses for you to take away

CALLING ALL KNITTERS



It's time to get those knitting needles out again as the pattern for this year's knitted gift is now available in Church or from the parish office



INSPIRE EVENING

All Things New

Brand new ways of resourcing your youth and children's ministry

Thursday 17th October

7pm – 9pm

St. Peter's Church, Draycott,

BS27 3SD

FREE! All Welcome

Rev Dan is going and would be happy to offer a lift to anyone else who would like to come along. Just let him know.

CALENDAR

Who's Who at St John's:

Vicar: Vacant

Curate: Rev'd Dan Crouch 325194

Churchwarden: Chris Perry 783753

OCTOBER

Sun 13th **Seventeenth after Trinity HARVEST 8am Communion 9.30am Family Communion**

Tues 15th 10am Toddlers in church hall

Wed 16th 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

7.30pm PCC in church hall

Thurs 17th 10.30am Little Angels in church hall

Sun 20th **Eighteenth after Trinity 8am Communion 3pm Communion & Tea**

Tues 22nd 10am Toddlers in church hall

Wed 23rd 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

Thurs 24th 10.30am Little Angels in church hall

Sun 27th **Last Sunday after Trinity 8am Communion 9.30am Communion**

Tues 29th 10am NO Toddlers in church hall (half term break)

Wed 30th 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

Thurs 31st 10.30am NO Little Angels in church hall (half term break)

NOVEMBER

Sun 3rd **Fourth Sunday before Advent 8am Communion 9.30am Communion**

5pm All Souls Service

Tues 5th 10am NO Toddlers in church hall (half term break)

Wed 6th 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

Thurs 7th 10.30am Little Angels in church hall

Sun 10th **Remembrance Sunday 8am Communion 9.30am Family Communion**

3pm Remembrance service

Tues 12th 10am Toddlers in church hall

Wed 13th 9.30am Said Communion & 10.00am Foodbank Listening Place in church hall

Thurs 14th 10.30am Little Angels in church hall

To submit an article for the Signpost Weekly please e-mail:

**stjohnsofficehighbridge@gmail.com or leave a message on 01278 780633 by 8am on
Thursday**

Parish office opening hours

Wednesday 9.30am – 2.30pm, Thursday 12 noon – 2.30pm, Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm

Term time only

Please ring in advance