



St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh
WORSHIPPING AT HOME
Seventh Sunday after Trinity
Sunday 26th July 2020

WELCOME

. . . . to our Church at Home resources for this Sunday. We hope you will feel connected to the life of the Church Community, with these resources. Thank you to the Reverend Patricia Hislop for our Sunday Worship this week.

Opening of St Nicolas Church

The pattern of Worship, in and out of Church, which we will be adopting for the foreseeable future is as follows, but before coming, please read the safety guidance below:

Sundays:

8am: Said Holy Communion (1662)

10am: Worshipping at Home (live via Zoom)

11am: Said Holy Communion (Common Worship)

Tuesdays:

12noon: Said Holy Communion (1662)

Thursdays:

10am: Time of led Prayer

4.30pm: Said Holy Communion (Common Worship)

During which next Sunday's online Service will be recorded

During this time of transition, as things gradually ease, we are trying to take things slowly and safely, and are very aware that there will those of you who are not yet comfortable with coming back to church. As long as this continues, we assure you that online and printed worship for home use will continue for those who need it (*see below for more details, and for comprehensive notes about what safety features we have in place and what coming to church will be like*)

If you do have internet access, you will find a video version of a said Communion Service, with the sermon on the Church Website www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk and on the St Nicolas Church Face Book page.

There is also an opportunity to join church friends for a **Virtual Afternoon Tea and Chat on Tuesdays at 4pm!** The Zoom joining code for this is ID: 804-694-233

*This Week we continue to welcome Home
Worshippers from the Churches at Dunsfold and Hascombe – it's
a pleasure to have you join with us!*

Coming to St Nicolas – Safety Guidelines:

- Numbers will be restricted in order that social distancing is observed. We have decided to work for now on the 2 metre rule, as we think this will be a lot safer for all of us. Bearing that in mind, we believe that we can safely accommodate 45 people in a service, in addition to the leaders and stewards.

If a service reaches the limit, we regret that we will have to turn people away, but please do not arrive early to be at the front of the queue, as this would be a risk to yourself and others – **ideally, we would not want congregation to arrive more than 20 minutes before a service** is due to start.

- You will be asked to sit in particular spaced places (a couple from the same household will be able to sit together).
- No singing will be permitted at services at present, though at the Sunday 11am service we may listen to music.
- We will not be using any books or notice sheets – all words will be projected on the screens.
- Your name and telephone number will be recorded as you come in, and in the event of a known case of Coronavirus, NHS will be given a list of those who have attended (Track and Trace).
- At Holy Communion, members of the congregation will only receive the bread and not the wine. Communion will be brought to you in your seat.
- The Choir Vestry Toilet will be available but only for emergency please, as if it is used it will need to be deep cleaned before it can be used again.
- No refreshments will be served after the service.
- Some of this will feel strange and unfamiliar, but we do ask you to show respect, and to follow the instructions of the Stewards at all time.
- **You should not come to a service if you are feeling ill.**

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY:

COLLECTS:

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Romans 8.26-end

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written;

'For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 13.31-33, 44-52

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is

the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

SERMON (*Written by Reverend Patricia Hislop*)

Lockdown has been eased but many people still need to shield and be cautious. This is a strange time of wearing masks and 2 metre distancing. Hiding part of one's face seems strange, but none of this inhibits the Gifts of the Spirit, The Holy Spirit, The Comforter which Jesus gave us - those 9 Gifts of the Spirit. Love; Joy; Peace; Patience; Kindness; Generosity; Faithfulness; Gentleness and Self Control can still abide with us, and in us, to be shared with those we meet, or speak to on the 'phone.

Today, our Lord Jesus gives us five commendably concise parables which he says tell us about the Kingdom of Heaven. Each involves a time of 'waiting'. The kingdom of heaven is like each of these:

The mustard seed is a very tiny seed taking some years to mature into a tree, by which time birds can shelter and make nests in the branches. (Quite different from the mustard seeds Mr Colman grew in Norfolk which produce a much smaller plant!)

The kingdom of heaven is like yeast, which Jesus says the woman mixed into flour until all of it was leavened – making bread after 'proving'. Yeast is still very relevant in our lives today as we realised during lockdown when there was a shortage.

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid, then in his joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great beauty and value, he sold all that he had and bought it.

Those who discover the love and presence of God in a flash of inspiration, or at the end of a long search, realise that value and unhesitatingly accept it.

And this last of our parables is rather different.

The kingdom of heaven is like a net cast into the sea and when it was full, they drew it ashore with fish of every kind, the good they collected into baskets, but threw out the bad.

We learn this is what it will be like at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire. Here we learn, possibly with relief, that it is not our task to separate or judge between evil and righteousness, that is for God to decide.

Each of these short parables involves a waiting time, and perhaps this is relevant for us at present. Too often in our lives we feel we must 'take control' and 'act well' and get things done. Perhaps a time of quietly waiting is helpful so that we slow down and take time to assess our lives, to savour and think about what is good.

Jesus calls us and invites all who follow him simply to bear witness, to act well in moments of challenge and controversy, by opening ourselves up to the equipping and empowering of actually being still in His presence.

And in the final verse of our reading, we realise what Jesus is saying:

'therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out his treasure what is new and what is old.'

When we come to Jesus we are called with all our gifts, just as we are. We are called to spend our lives from now on using all our gifts, old and new in His service in our Christian lives now. We do not need to cast out any of our gifts; we must use them all in this new life with Jesus Christ.

There is also an historical need and that is to bring with us the teaching of The Law and the Prophets and interpret them in the light of the teaching of Jesus, because all is relevant, Old and New, along with the new and developing gifts of the present Age. Jesus came to earth to enrich and empower our lives. Paul, in his Letter today, ends with these powerful words of faith and comfort:

'For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.'

May we continue to go forward with courage and hope and may we each discover joy in our lives each day.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Lord God,
whose Son is the true vine and the source of life,
ever giving himself that the world may live:
may we so receive within ourselves the
power of his death and passion that,
in his saving cup, we may share his glory
and be made perfect in his love;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

Weekly Prayers of Intercession:

Church and Christian Ministry:

- For all who hold the Bishop's Permission To Officiate in the Diocese, and for chaplains (lay and ordained) working in Education (especially for those with PTO living in Cranleigh: Paddy Beresford, Martin Booth, James Cooke, Tricia Hislop, Peter Poole, giving thanks for their huge contribution to the life of our churches in the deanery)
- For Tim Lewis (Chaplain of Cranleigh School)

National and World Affairs:

- For greater tolerance between nations, cultures and religions

- For all affected by Coronavirus, and for the Governments and scientists across the world, seeking to find ways of combatting the virus
- For the world's most vulnerable people

Community and Family:

- For those who live in Cranleigh Mead
- For the Cranleigh Arts Centre and all who work in the Theatre business
- For all those who continue to work in public service, especially for NHS staff, police, fire and rescue, paramedics, and shop workers, keeping us well, safe and fed

The Sick and those in Need:

For Robin Burnett, Stella Goldsmith, Michael Hart, Tony Kenison, Libby O'Brien, Brian Pettyfer, Jean Quallington, Marion Tomkins, Mac Walker, Henry Young *(And from Dunsfold and Hascombe: Amanda and Hugh, Sandra Baxter-Brown, Barbara and Des Crabb, Jenny Glover, Sally Rivett, Sue Simper, Judith Wheeler, Jackie Williams, Judy Bolt, Sue and Dennis Evans, Peter Hutley, Sally Davis, Lorna Thompson, Francesca, Paul Wiltshire, Sami Bennewith, Dru Ridley)*

The Departed:

All we have known and loved, and especially Joan Roberts and Peggy Martin *(and from Dunsfold and Hascombe: Henry and Bishop John Neale, Former Rector of St Peter's Hascombe).*

NOTICES:

Emotional Helpline: 01483 901493 - Lines are open 11-3 Monday to Friday if you would like to chat to a friendly helpful voice!

Zoom Church Live: Next Sunday, 2nd August (weather permitting) we are inviting those who have been doing Zoom Church during lockdown to come to a live service in the Churchyard at 4pm. Please contact Gabrielle if you would like to come, but please don't just turn up, as we need to know in advance how many will be there!

Paying Money to the Church: If you wish to pay any monies to St Nicolas, cheques should be made payable to 'Cranleigh PCC'

Parish Magazine: You will all be very pleased to know that the next edition of the Parish Magazine will be a printed copy that will be distributed and delivered through your letterbox! Unfortunately, we are unable to leave any copies in church so please contact me if you need a copy delivered. Electronic copies will be on the Church website and Roy will continue to post copies to those who do not receive a delivered copy. Gordon Cheesman.

Traidcraft: Sue Knight is now offering Traidcraft goods for sale by appointment or would be willing to deliver to Cranleigh on receipt of an order. She will have catalogues or you can go on line at traidcraftshop.co.uk to see the whole range and if she has to order it in, this usually takes about a week. You can pay for any

orders by BACS or she will accept cheques. Call Sue on 275032 or 07950 025137.

Cranleigh's Own 'Captain Tom'!



90 year Rotarian and Church member, John Menlove, will be doing a sponsored walk around the Cricket Green between 20th-31st July, aiming to complete a lap per day! Raising money for Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care, donations can be made on Just Giving by following this URL:

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/menlovesponsoredwalk>

John's target was to raise £1,000, but we are told that he has raised over £800 before he has even started! Well done and good luck John!

Plant Sales: A huge hanks you! ToWin Bracking and friends, whose plant sales this year have raised n excess of their normal takings at The Rectory Fete!



SEEKERS, EXPLORERS, ADVENTURERS
JOIN THE ADVENTURE!

**SEA CHURCH
EVERY SUNDAY IN
AUGUST!
11:15-11:45**

**02/08: David and Goliath
09/08: Walking on water
16/08: Feeding the 5000
23/08: Jesus and the Children
30/08: Daniel and the lion's den**

**Join us on Zoom for games,
stories, crafts, sweets, music,
puppets and prayer!**

To sign up, contact Gabrielle at 07427
748408/ Gabrielle@stnicolascranleigh
.org.uk

St Nicolas Church: During these changing times you can still keep in touch with us in the following ways

The Rector, Canon Roy Woodhams: 01483 800655 or email

roy@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Curate, Tim Clifford Hill: 01483 276267 or email

tim@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Parish Office: 01483 273620 or email

elise@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Young People's Minister: 07427 748408

gabrielle@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Church Website:

www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk and on FaceBook

Please send notices for next week to Margie Nursey at 1, Elm Cottages, Smithwood Common (01483 273693) notices@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk by **7pm on Tuesday**

MORE RESOURCES:

- DAILY HOPE The Church of England has set up a Telephone Worship Service with Hymns, Reflections and Prayers – the content changes every day and it is totally FREE TO CALL on 0800 804 8044
- Diocese of Guildford Website www.cofeguildford.org.uk/
- Premier Christian Radio www.radio.net/s/premierchristian
- Guildford Cathedral Website www.guildford-cathedral.org
- Website www.churchmissionsociety.org/

- Bible Society Website www.biblesociety.org.uk/

If you know of anybody who would like to receive a printed communication like this each week, please call us on one of the numbers above! Alternatively, with the church re-opening, if you no longer require this weekly publication delivered to you, please can you let Elise know?