



**St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh**

**WORSHIPPING AT HOME**

**Fifteenth Sunday after**

**Trinity**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 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 Canon Roy Woodhams and Tim Clifford Hill for our Sunday Worship this week.**

### **Safety Notice**

**The risk from the Coronovirus is still significant. The social distancing guidelines for church services are:**

- Stay 2 Meters apart at all times**
- Please wear face coverings at all times in church**
- Do not engage in conversations inside the church at the beginning and end of services, but do meet each other outside**
- Always show respect and please do as the Steward asks you**
- Go straight to the seat you are asked to sit in and stay in the same place throughout the service**
- Avoid touching surfaces if possible**

## Pattern of Worship at St Nicolas Church

**We are live streaming the 11am service each Sunday morning, which will then be available to watch on FaceBook and Youtube for the rest of the week.**

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

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.

If you do have internet access, you will find the live-streamed version of a said Communion Service, with the sermon on the and on the Church Website [www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](http://www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk) and

on the St Nicolas Church Face Book page each Sunday from 11am onwards.

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

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***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!***

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**Coming to St Nicolas – Safety Guidelines:**

- **If you are coming to church services you must wear a face covering.**
- **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 congregational singing is 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 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.**

# **FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY:**

## **COLLECTS:**

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:

Grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the Gospel, that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;

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 forever.

*Or*

Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**FIRST READING:** Philippians 1: 21 – end.

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

**GOSPEL READING:** Matthew 20: 1-16.

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the

first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

**SERMON** (*Written by Tim Clifford Hill*)

May I speak in the name of the living God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Some of you will know that I spent a few years singing in the Choir at our Cathedral in Guildford. The room where the singers in the choir robe (put on their cassocks and surplices) is downstairs in the crypt of the cathedral. At any big diocesan service, like an Ordination, I would walk up the stairs, all dressed up, and find myself in the midst of a huge procession of choir and clergy and I had to work out where my place was in this long line of people. Every time this happened, I found myself reciting the words from our Gospel today, 'the last will be first and the first will be last.'

At the head of this procession was the most junior chorister – one might say the last in the pecking order. Not being eight years old, I knew that my place in the procession wasn't in that direction. Looking to the other direction, at the end of this long procession, was the Bishop – one might say they are the first in the pecking order. Knowing that I wasn't – and will never be – 'The Bishop,' I realised that my place in the procession wasn't at that end. So I promptly found my spot in the middle.

Now I stand before you as a Licensed Lay Worker Curate and, until I am Ordained, the Bishop and the Diocese are my employer. And in our Gospel today, Jesus tells his Disciples the Parable of the Good Employer.

I have to let you into a little secret now. My working life, before training for Ordination, was in the world of Independent Schools and Cathedrals and as a Self-Employed Performer. Unlike my Curate Colleague, Rutton, I've never really worked in the commercial, business world. So I don't know what makes a 'good' employer. Thankfully I have friends who work in the business world and many of you, here in Cranleigh, have experience of commercial life too. So this week, I've been cycling around the Parish and phoning my friends, asking people to tell me what they think makes a good employer, in one word.

Some of the answers have been:

Integrity, Respect, Gratitude, Communication, Delegation, Trust, Maturity.



Finally, my friend Kate, who works in employment law, said that, for her, what makes a good employer is 'care.' Employers have a duty of care for their employees.

These answers reminded me of St Paul and the fruits of the spirit. Our first lesson today comes from his letter to the Christian community he had established in Phillipi. In another letter, which he wrote to the Galatians, he wrote about the key attributes that help us live a good Christian Life, which he called the 'Fruit of the Holy Spirit.' These attributes are joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control and, above all, love. Employers have a duty of care for their employees. We, the Christian family, have a duty to love our fellow people.

What my previous working life does have in common with the commercial world is interviews. For any permanent post, singing in a cathedral choir, you have to have an audition and an interview.

I have a friend, called James, who was being interviewed for a singing post in a cathedral choir. At the interview he was seated, on his own, facing a panel of four interviewers, one of whom was a priest. When it came for that Priest to ask a question, he looked James straight in the eye, took off his glasses and said, "James, where are you on your journey with God?" James replied honestly, saying "I don't quite know, but I hope I find out before I get to heaven." In our first lesson, St Paul wrote that he desired to

depart and be with Christ. A reminder that our Christian journey looks toward the heavenly kingdom.

Part of the beauty of that journey of the Christian life is that we are all equal in the eyes of God. Whether if we are new to faith or if we have been Christians since we were in the cradle. There is no first or last in the pecking order, like those big processions at cathedral services.

As Bishop Christopher Herbert said in his sermon, at the Christian Women in Fellowship Service two weeks ago - standing in this church and on this very spot – ‘the very nature of God is to pour himself out in love upon the world.....a waterfall of continuous, self-giving, self-emptying, love.’

May I add to that, it is a love where there are no firsts of lasts. It is a love that is equal.

**Amen.**

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

Keep, o Lord, your Church with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Weekly Prayers of Intercession:**

### **Church and Christian Ministry:**

- For the Diocesan Discipleship, Vocations and Ministry team, who encourage those seeking God's calling.
- For Gabrielle Clarke, our Young People's Minister, as she discerns a call to ordained ministry.

### **National and World Affairs:**

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

### **Community and Family:**

- We give thanks for Elise, our former Parish Administrator, who finished this role on Friday. We pray for her and her family as they begin a new chapter in their lives.
- All who live in Ilford Court and Theydon Court.

### **The Sick and those in Need:**

For Robin Burnett, Mike Ford, Stefan Godier, Stella Goldsmith, Michael Hart, Louise Harbutt, Tony Kenison, Amy Loveless, Libby O'Brien, Betty Parry, Brian Pettyfer, Jean Quallington, Chrissie Thomson, Marion Tomkins, Mac Walker, Henry Young (*from*

*Dunsfold and Hascombe: Amanda and Hugh, Barbara, Jenny Glover, Doreen Nunney, Sally Rivett, Sue Simper, Jacky Williams, Judy Bolt, Sue and Dennis Evans, Peter Hutley, Sally Davis, Lorna Thompson, Paul Wiltshire, Sami Bennewith, Dru Ridley)*

**The Departed:**

All we have known and loved, John Parry. *(from Dunsfold and Hascombe: Des Crabb)*

## NOTICES:

**Rescheduled APCM:** The Church Annual Meeting which had to be cancelled in March will be held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm – The meeting will be in hybrid format – you will be able to come to the Church in limited numbers or take part via Zoom from the comfort and safety of your own home. More details to follow.

**Parish Office:** From 1<sup>st</sup> October, the interim Parish Administrator will be Nicola Craven-Smith. From 18th September until then please continue to use [elise@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:elise@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk) to contact the Parish Office. This address will be redirected to Roy and Tim.

**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](http://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.

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

**Curate Visiting:** Our Curates, Tim and Rutton, continue to safely visit parishioners during this time of change and uncertainty. If you would like one of them to visit you, either socially distantly in your garden, on the telephone or on Zoom/Facetime, please contact them.

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

**The Rector: 01483 800655 or email**  
**[roy@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:roy@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)**

**The Curate: 01483 276267 or email**  
**[tim@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:tim@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)**

**Parish Office: 01483 273620 or email**  
**[elise@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:elise@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)**

**Young People's Minister: 07427 748408**  
**[gabrielle@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](mailto:gabrielle@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk)**

**Church Website:**

**[www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk](http://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](mailto: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/](http://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/)
- Premier Christian Radio [www.radio.net/s/premierchristian](http://www.radio.net/s/premierchristian)
- Guildford Cathedral Website [www.guildford-cathedral.org](http://www.guildford-cathedral.org)
- Website [www.churchmissionsociety.org/](http://www.churchmissionsociety.org/)
- Bible Society Website [www.biblesociety.org.uk/](http://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, if you no longer require this weekly publication delivered to you, please let us know.**