



St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh

WORSHIPPING AT HOME

Trinity 18

Sunday 11th October 2020

**CONGRATULATIONS to Reverend Tim, ordained
deacon yesterday morning at St Bartholomew's Church,
Haslemere, by Bishop Andrew!**



WELCOME to our Worshipping at Home resources for this week, provided for us by The Rector, Canon Colin Hill, and Revd Tim Clifford Hill

THIS WEEK *(Events in red will be 'virtual' events!)*

Sunday 11th October – Trinity 18:

8am: Said Holy Communion (1662)

10am: Church at Home

11.15: SEA Church (for young people)

(the Zoom joining code for these is ID: 148-785-166)

11am: Said Holy Communion (Common Worship)

The Preacher will be Canon Colin Hill (Tim's Grandfather)

(This Service will be live streamed on our Youtube Channel)

Tuesday 13th October:

12noon: Said Holy Communion (1662)

4pm: Virtual Afternoon Tea and Chat

(the Zoom joining code for this is ID: 804-694-233)

Thursday 15th October:

10am: Quiet Time for Prayer

Sunday 18th October – St Luke the Evangelist:

8am: Said Holy Communion (1662)

10am: Church at Home

11.15: SEA Church (for young people)

(the Zoom joining code for these is ID: 148-785-166)

11am: Said Holy Communion (Common Worship)

(This Service will be live streamed on our Youtube Channel)

*****IMPORTANT UPDATE*** Coming to Church During COVID-19:**

The risk from the Coronavirus is still significant. Please read our safety notices before coming to worship at Church! Face Coverings must be worn at all Church events! Things change very fast, and what you are reading here was correct at the time of going to press, but could easily have changed by the time you read it! For all up to date guidance and regulations, always refer to the St Nicolas Church Website. We recently believed that we would have to open all doors and windows in the church whenever worshipping throughout the winter, and last Sunday we issued dire warnings about the need to bring blankets etc! However, further clarification has been received from the Diocese in this week's COVID- 19 briefing, that means we will not be significantly increasing ventilation by leaving doors open. In practice, our lovely church building is large enough, and has sufficient built in draughts to satisfy concerns about air flow. But in order to allow maximum heating, across the winter months we do ask you to arrive no more than 15 minutes before the start of the service.

TRINITY 18:

COLLECTS:

Almighty and everlasting God,
increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your commandments

and win the crown of everlasting joy;
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.

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.

FIRST READING: *Isaiah 25: 1-9.*

O Lord, you are my God;

I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;

the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.

Therefore, strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 22:1-14.*

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, “Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.” But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves,

maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.” Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

‘But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?” And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

SERMON (*Written by Canon Colin Hill*)

Prayer: May the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and actions.

Friends, I am very delighted to be with you and very honoured, by your kind Rector, to be your Preacher, after the Ordination of my Grandson, Tim, yesterday.

He was, as you may already know, on the staff of Guildford Cathedral for some years and now is to be your Curate, under the care of your Rector. But all of you are the people of God in this place and you are called to engage with the wider world and you

all share the commitment to be the lips and hands of God – where ever you are – with faithful witness and service.

63 years ago, I was ordained in Sheffield Cathedral by a wonderful Bishop – Leslie Hunter – and after he had laid his hands on my head, he gave me a copy of the New Testament. In his own writing he wrote inside, ‘To Colin Arnold Clifford Hill, made a Deacon in the Church of God, on the feast of St Michael and All Angels 1957. From Leslie Sheffield.’ And he gave me two texts which I have remembered on most days of my ministry of 63 years.

The first wonderful text was this: *“For we are the aroma of Christ to God, among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. To one a fragrance from death to death, to the other a fragrance from life to life. Who is sufficient for these things.”*

The second text was a reminder to me of God’s promise: *“My Grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness”*

I have for ever been thankful to that bishop because he had a set of brain marbles. He was also generous, kind and compassionate. With these gifts he appointed me to that great and ancient parish of Rotherham. To my surprise the Vicar of Rotherham was another bishop and that Vicar/Bishop trained me to be a priest. And I shall never forget the first meeting when my new vicar/bishop introduced me to the PCC

when he said, *“Ladies and Gentlemen this is Colin Hill the 19th curate under whom I have served!!”*

Yes of course my own marbles soon got the message and my ministry under that good vicar/bishop’s care over the years began to take shape: and so some years later at a tender age I was made Vicar of Brightside – right at the heart of Sheffield’s steel industry.

So for every priest - including Tim in due course - and for all the people of God, all our ministries will be amongst the living and perishing and those words the Bishop of Sheffield wrote (*“Who is sufficient for these things”*) is a wake up call! But as we all engage in the wider world we must be aware of that promise: *“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made in your weakness.”*

Now whether we catch a train or bus or work at home, or as a priest we minister to the sick or to the great and good, we all have to move on.

And in time I was aware that I was asked to make a visit to the Dean of Christ Church Cathedral in Oxford, in order to look at a parish that was soon to become a new town. When I knocked on the Deanery door – in Tom Quad - it was opened by a gentleman in a smart black jacket and striped trousers. Later, as I was to discover, he was the Dean’s Butler!

The time was 11.45 & the Dean and I talked very briefly. At 12 noon the bell in Tom Quad sounded and into the Dean’s study

walked 6 Residential Canon's – the brain boxes of Oxford's theological power - and they were followed by the Butler with a large silver tray with full sherry glasses.

The Dean and I then found ourselves in their midst and soon I heard the Dean say, *“Well Gentlemen, Colin Hill has decided that he would like to go Easthampstead.”* But I thought to myself that I hadn't even been asked!

So here was Barchester Towers in the 1950's. Now of course its all short lists and interview committees! But the thought of a potential new town reminded me of the Bishop of Sheffield's texts - *“Who is sufficient for these things”* & *“My power is made perfect in weakness”*

So to Easthampstead I went and after 10 years creating a new town with a good staff, I picked up an envelope over breakfast and on the back was the crest of No. 10 Downing Street. A note from Edward Heath, then Prime Minister, asking me if I would like to consider the job of Vicar of Croydon and, if so, a visit to No. 10 would be required.

Again the highs and lows of a priest's life and ministry - as Tim will discover in years to come – very often have to take lots of pressures, not only for himself but for his family. The crisis of moving schools, taking on a new big job, new churchwardens, new PCC's, new civic leaders, new MP's.

So into today's priesthood many of us - including Tim in days to

come - have come to see that the Church of England has been and still is under threat. A secular culture has become a feature of our nation and the Christian model of our nation has been weakened. A divide has taken place between the community of the church and that which is NOT church. It means that both priests and people have to use new skills and aptitudes as we work across the boundaries of time and place.

Our task is Mission and Evangelism – to live, proclaim & demonstrate the Good News - and to bring folk into the church community that God has called into being to do this work. Growing the church is what all of us are about! So to witness and serve in this new environment, priest and people need to be equipped with faithful and loving service.

And to do this I am reminded of that great Archbishop Michael Ramsey, who told us that a priest is called to be 3 things. To be a man of prayer, a man of theology, a man of reconciliation. In today's climate that means men or women. In a real sense we all - clergy and the people of God – need these three great gifts.

So today - now! – let all ask the good Lord to bless our marbles, as we all learn to engage with wisdom in an unknown wider world. As we do so, let us be reminded of our gracious Queen as she quoted her own father who once quoted to the nation these words:

“I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, ‘Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.’ And he replied ‘Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God.

That shall be to you, better than light and safer than a known way.” Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

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.

WEEKLY PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:

Church and Christian Ministry:

- For Bishop Andrew, Bishop Jo, Archdeacon Martin Breadmore, Archdeacon Paul Davies and their staff that they may transform the lives of those in this diocese into a closer relationship with God.
- For all those ordained as Priests and Deacons this weekend, and especially for Revd Tim in his new role and status as Deacon, and for Caroline Lazenby as she is ordained Priest.

National and World Affairs:

- For all in the world who lack the basic needs of food, water, shelter, healthcare and education.

- 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:

- For those who live in Roberts Way, Hilliards View and Nuttall Gardens.
- For the Cranleigh Parish Council and Waverley Borough Council.

The Sick and those in Need:

- Mike Ford, Stefan Godier, Stella Goldsmith, Michael Hart, Louise Harbutt, Amy Loveless, Libby O'Brien, Brian Pettyfer, Jean Quallington, Maureen Steele, Dennis and Rosemary Talbot, Marion Tomkins, Mac Walker, Angela Wild, Henry Young (*and from Dunsfold and Hascombe: Amanda and Hugh, Barbara Crabb, Sally Rivett, Jacky Williams, Alli, Judy Bolt, Sue and Dennis Evans, Peter Hutley, Sally Davis, Lorna Thompson, Sami Bennewith, Dru Ridley, Tim Bailey*)

The Departed:

- All we have known and loved, and especially: Robin Burnett, James Fawley. Tony Kenison, Mike Maxwell, Charlie O'Rourke, Wally Starling

NOTICES:

Church Office: Nicola Craven Smith is now fully at work in her role as Interim Administrator. She is largely working from home, so the office remains closed for the foreseeable future. Nicola's working hours are different (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.30am – 2.30pm, but you can leave her messages outside those hours and she will get back to you when she is next working. For anything urgent please contact The Rector or Curates, whose contact details are on the back cover of the magazine. The office Telephone number remains 01483 273620 and Nicola can be emailed on the new address nicolas@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Two messages from Elise Whittington: Elise would like to say a big thank you to everyone at St Nicolas for their very kind messages, emails and cards. Thank you for my £50 M&S voucher which is very useful and the lovely sunflowers. It was lovely working with you all and hope to see you all again soon in Church and around the village.

Elise has now begun her new venture as a registered counsellor. She is doing online (Zoom, Skype, WhatsApp) or telephone counselling sessions. £20 donation to the Church for every new client who mentions St Nicolas Church, Cranleigh when booking their first session. Experienced and qualified humanistic counsellor in a wide range of issues including anxiety, depression, bereavement and couples therapy. 07971 338964

www.elisewhittingtoncounselling.com

All Souls Commemoration of the departed: On the nearest Sunday to All Souls Day we normally hold our Annual Service for the Bereaved, when we also remember the names of loved ones who are now in God's keeping. As it will not be possible to hold a large service in Church this year, we will be recording an Evening Service of Remembering, which you will be able to view from the Church Website on and after Sunday 1st November. During that Service we will read the names of all those whose funerals we have conducted in the Parish across the past 2 years, and if you would like other names read out, please email them to the Church Office: nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk, or call during the new office hours

Plants: From Win Bracking (275573) – If you are dividing perennials that have outgrown their allotted space please remember the Church Plant Stall. I do not need any more Alchemilla, Sedum (Ice Plant) or the ubiquitous Crocosmia (Montbretia) but last year someone gave me some beautiful Hemerocallis (Day Lilies) which were red/bronze. I would love some more of those as they were popular in the sales

Traidcraft: Sue Knight is 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.

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.

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**

Keep in touch:

The Rector (Roy): 01483 800655 or email
roy@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

The Curate (Revd Tim Clifford Hill) 01483 276267 or email
tim@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

The Part time Curate (Revd Rutton Viccajee,
works Wednesday, Friday, Sunday)
rutton@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Interim Administrator (Nicola Craven-Smith): 01483 273620 or
email nicola@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Young People's Minister (Gabrielle Clarke): 07427 748408
gabrielle@stnicolascranleigh.org.uk

Church Website:

www.stnicolascranleigh.org.uk and on FaceBook

Some more pictures from Tim's Ordination





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, please can you let Nicola know