



St MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH

ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

28th July 2024
9th Sunday after Trinity

Regular Service Times

Sundays: Sung Mass, 9.30 am
Tuesdays: Silent Reflections, last Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm (except December)
Thursdays: Said Mass, 12.30 pm
Moving into Stillness, Taizé circle dancing with silent interludes, usually first Thursday of the month, 9.45 am to 10.45 am.

Contacts

Team Rector: The Revd Dr Charles Miller (520144)
Team Vicar: The Revd Paul Smith (534654)
e-mail: paul315smith@btinternet.com

Churchwardens: Miss Joyce Kelly (533555)
(07833 535768)
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Mrs Louise Heffernan (01235 525412)
(07779 650968)
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Bookings*: Miss Joyce Kelly (as above)

Parish Office: The Parish Centre Office is normally open from Monday to Thursday, **10 am to 1 pm.**

Administrator: During normal working hours phone or leave a message on:
Telephone (520144) *or*
Mobile (07395 943957)
e-mail: administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk

Web site: <http://www.stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk>

If you would like to receive this pew leaflet electronically, please email pewleaflet@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk with the subject line SUBSCRIBE

Items for inclusion in the next pew leaflet to be sent to David Duce by midday on Tuesday.
Telephone 522591
pewleaflet@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk

[*for Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals please contact the Parish Office]

We welcome The Team Rector, the Revd Dr Charles Miller, as our President and Preacher this morning

Dear Friends

**'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?'
(John 6.8)**

What could such a little amount contribute to feed so many people? One small packed lunch would not arouse much hope. But the disciples did not understand what Jesus was about to do. We do not always appreciate what can happen as a result of the immeasurable nature of divine grace.

There is much happening in this well-known story which appears in all four Gospels. At the heart of the story lay essential truths of which we need to be constantly reminded, not least at a time when the divide between those who have much and those who have very little is an ever-widening gulf; not least when we fail to grasp what God can still do in the most challenging of circumstances. Is this story not reminding us that when human endeavour and divine grace meet, the situation changes beyond our expectations? Gifts that are brought in love are not only accepted, but multiplied. Those who obey the command to sit and trust are not sent away empty. God's bountiful resources are not simply adequate, but overflowing, leaving more to be gathered up than was there at the beginning.

Finally, in this story we can see in the actions of Jesus with the food a figure of what is done at the Eucharist. When we come to the altar, when bread and wine are taken, and given that we may receive the very life of Jesus, we remember with thanksgiving – which goes beyond any words – the greatness of his love for us.

With love and blessings

Father Paul

THE RT REVD DR JOE KENNEDY Fr Joe's Ordination & Consecration as the Bishop of Burnley took place in York Minster on Friday 19 July at 11.00 am. A recording of the service is available on the Minster's YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@YorkMinsterOfficial/streams>. Photographs of the event are available from the Blackburn Diocesan web site <https://www.blackburn.anglican.org/news/952/joyous-day-as-rev-dr-joe-kennedy-becomes> as well as on other web sites listed there.

Interestingly, the last Bishop "produced" by St Michael's (rather than the Parish) was Bishop Gordon Roe who was priest-in-charge at St Michael's in the 1960s. He studied for ordination at St Stephen's House, then after a curacy in Bournemouth came to St Michael's and was then appointed Vice Principal of St Chad's College Durham. After that he became a vicar in Durham before being consecrated Bishop of Huntingdon in 1980. Not a dissimilar trajectory to Fr Joe! The second interesting connection is that Bishop Gordon died on 19 July 1999, 25 years to the day before Fr Joe's consecration.

PEW LEAFLET DURING AUGUST

The pew leaflet for 4 August will be a double issue covering the period 4 to 17 August (no issue on 11 August). The 18 August issue will be published as usual. Then the 25 August issue will also be a double issue covering the period 25 August to 7 September. The normal weekly schedule will resume from Sunday 8 September. Because of other commitments, electronic versions of some of these issues might appear later in the week than usual.

The publication deadlines will thus be noon on Tuesdays 30 July, 13 August, 20 August and 3 September.

NORTH DOOR On two occasions recently the North Door has been found to have been left unlocked. If locking up after a service or event please could you ensure that the door is locked, preferably by checking it from outside.

Thank you. *Louise*

PARISH LUNCH There will be a **Parish Lunch** to mark the retirement of the **Team Rector**. A lunch is booked to mark the occasion, and make any leaving presentations, at the **Hilton Hotel, Abingdon for 1pm on Sunday 22 September**. There is an opportunity to sign up on the attendance sheet on the **Welcome Table**, and to give your menu choices on the booking forms provided. Cost £25 pp or £12.95 for under 12's. The booking form includes details of how to pay by bank transfer. Cash and cheques along with completed forms should be given to the church wardens, Joyce or Louise. **The closing date for bookings is next Sunday 4 August.**

SUNDAY WORSHIP AT ST HELEN'S CHURCH

St Helen's will live-stream their 10.30 am Eucharist through Zoom. The Zoom link is available from the Parish Administrator. A recording of the sermon (audio and video) will be made available after the service on the St Helen's web site (https://abingdonparish.org.uk/StH/StH_publications.html).

MORNING PRAYER is now suspended for the summer break and will be said publicly again from Monday 2 September at 9.10 am on weekdays at St Helen's Church.

THE ABINGDON GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME is trying to recruit more volunteers. Churches in Abingdon are being approached as members might be interested in becoming volunteers. There are cards available in church that give details of how to become a volunteer.

SILENT REFLECTIONS will be held on **Tuesday 30 July at 7.30 pm** in the church room. Fr Paul will provide material on 'Come apart and rest awhile': Some Important Words of Jesus for our reflections and there will be the opportunity to walk the labyrinth. Final prayers will be at 8.30 pm and refreshments will be available. Parking permits are available in the church room for use in Park Road.

MOVING INTO STILLNESS Please note there will be no circle dancing of any kind during August.

ABINGDON MOTHERS' UNION invites you to a Cream Tea at **St. Nicolas' Church on Tuesday, 6 August from 3-4.30 pm**. There will be a raffle and a Bring and Buy. Cost £5. The proceeds will be for the Mothers' Union "Away From It All" (AFIA) holiday fund, which helps needy families have a break. Money is also made available for a parent or parents to have a day away, and for helping children to go on school visits. Parishioners are very welcome to join us.

CHILDREN HEARD AND SEEN The Mothers' Union and the parish, have been asked, once again to provide the cakes for the "Children Heard and Seen" (CHAS) residential at Hill End Camp from 15 to 18 August. There is an article about this in July issue of *A Candle in the Window* (page 12). Elizabeth Dawson will be taking the cakes up to Hill End on the morning of the 15 August. Please see *A Candle in the Window* for more details and contact details for Elizabeth.

IMAGES OF MARY Exploring the names of Mary through the writings of St Bernard of Clairvaux, a pivotal figure in the development of the Cistercian Order, a retreat organised by the Community of St Mary the Virgin, Wantage **Friday 16 – Sunday 18 August 2024**, led by the Revd Sue Blagden. For more information and booking see

<https://csmv.co.uk/images-of-mary-16-18-august-2024/>

ABINGDON FOOD BANK needs your support more than ever now, with the increasing cost of living adversely affecting those already struggling to make ends meet. A typical food parcel might contain: cereal, soup, pasta, rice, tinned tomatoes/pasta sauce, lentils, beans and pulses, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tea/coffee, tinned fruit, biscuits, UHT milk, fruit juice. Also toiletries, nappies and household cleaning items. Food can be placed in the collection box in church or taken to either Preston Road Food Bank or Christ Church Food Bank. Some supermarkets also have collection baskets. Financial donations are also welcome. See <https://abingdon.foodbank.org.uk/>

CiA NEWS A printed copy of the **July issue** is now on display on the notice board by the Welcome desk. It should also be available to download from <https://www.church-in-abingdon.org.uk/#ReportsandNewsletters>

PATHWAYS There are printed copies of the Spring 2024 issue of the Diocesan magazine available at the back of church and it is also available on-line <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/pathways/>

A CANDLE IN THE WINDOW The July issue of the Parish Magazine is available to download from

https://abingdonparish.org.uk/P_window.php. Paper copies (*in addition to those pre-ordered from the Editor*) are available from the Parish Office or from St Nicolas' Church if need be. Do read it!

Rob Rutherford

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Saturday 9 November: Our annual **Christmas Fair** will take place on Saturday 9 November. This event is an important part of our fundraising so please keep the date free if at all possible as we will be looking for lots of help. It's also usually a day to enjoy.

Saturday 5 July 2025, **Wantage Academy Brass** are booked to give another concert in aid of The Abingdon Bridge, TARIRO and St Michael's Church.

Worship

This Week The celebrant and preacher on 28 July will be The Revd Dr Charles Miller. At the time of writing, the clergy rota beyond 28 July had not been published, but on Sunday 4 August Fr Paul will preside and preach.

Commemorations this week include Monday: Mary, Martha and Lazarus, companions of Our Lord; Tuesday: William Wilberforce, social reformer, Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson, anti-slavery campaigners, 1833, 1797 and 1846; Wednesday: Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, 1556.

William Wilberforce From a speech delivered to the House of Commons in May 1789 on the total abolition of slavery:

"Sir, the nature and all the circumstances of this trade are now laid upon us. We can no longer plead ignorance. We cannot evade it. We may spurn it. We may pick it out of the way. But we cannot turn aside so as to avoid seeing it. For it is brought now so directly before our eyes that this House must decide, and must justify to all the world and to its own conscience, the rectitude of all the grounds of its decision."

The Clewer Initiative The Clewer Initiative is the national work of the Church of England to combat modern slavery. Beginning initially in 2016 as a three year project, funding is now in place from the Clewer Sisters to continue until

2030. The Clewer Sisters, the Order of St John the Baptist, moved to Ripon Theological College in Cuddesdon in 2012 and the two remaining sisters are now cared for by the Sisters of St Margaret at their nursing home in Chiswick. The Sisters were able to provide the new chapel at Ripon College as well as Harriet Monsell House (named after the foundress of the community).

For more (much more) information about the Clewer Initiative, including work in this diocese, see their web site <https://theclewerinitiative.org/>

Prayers for Israel and Gaza A prayer from Winchester Cathedral’s web site.

Heavenly Father, we pray for the many people whose lives have been torn apart by conflict in Israel and Gaza. We pray especially those who have died, those who are grieving, the injured and those now without food, shelter or medical supplies. Strengthen and support the work of all relief organisations.

We pray also for those who have the power to bring peace. May they be touched by a spirit of compassion and kindness.

Lord hear us as we pray in the power of your Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

King Charles III Following the announcement of the King’s cancer diagnosis, the Church of England issued the following prayer for the King:

Father of mercies, grant to Charles our King, comfort and sure confidence in you, and keep him in perpetual peace and safety, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Please pray for:

- Steven and Gavin our bishops, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury;
- King Charles, Her Majesty Queen Camilla, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and all the royal family;
- our government and the opposition following the opening of Parliament and all who serve in public office;
- the peace of the world, especially in the Middle East, Ukraine and Sudan;
- all who run Foodbanks especially in Abingdon;
- all families during this summer holiday, especially those who cannot afford to go away;
- the Revd Georgina Bondzi-Simpson, successor to the Revd Ian Griffiths at Trinity and All Saints’ Churches, as she prepares to move to Abingdon;
- the PCC meeting on Tuesday evening;
- the suffering, especially those who are known to us and who are on our prayer list;
- all who have recently departed, and all whose year’s mind falls at this time;
- people living in Juniper Court, Kempster Close, Kensington Close and Kimber Road.

Eucharistic Lectionary

9th Sunday after Trinity	2 Kings 4.42-end	Ps 145.10-19	Ephesians 3.14-end	John 6.1-21
Mon	Jeremiah 13.1-11	Ps 82		Matthew 13.31-35
Tues	Jeremiah 14.17-end	Ps 79.8-end		Matthew 13.31-35
Wed	Jeremiah 15.10, 16-end	Ps 59.1-4, 18-end		Matthew 13.36-43
Thur	Jeremiah 18.1-6	Ps 146.1-5		Matthew 13.47-53
Fri	Jeremiah 26.1-9	Ps 69.4-10		Matthew 13.54-end
Sat	Jeremiah 26.11-16, 24	Ps 69.14-20		Matthew 14.1-12

Collect (9th Sunday after Trinity)

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, ...

Post Communion (9th Sunday after Trinity)

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.

Some On-line Resources for Worship

A Church Near You Live Streamed events

https://www.achurchnearyou.com/live-stream/?tags=Live_stream&diocese=27

Parish Communications and Links

http://www.abingdonparish.org.uk/P_communications.html

St Michael's Prayer and Worship resources page

https://abingdonparish.org.uk/StM/StM_worship_resources.html

Oxford Cathedral: Livestream events will appear on the cathedral's YouTube channel, see

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqz9I9-LbZJAPGtje0gQbbg>.

The University Church of St Mary the Virgin (Oxford) live stream services on YouTube, see

<https://www.youtube.com/c/UniversityChurch/featured>

Community of the Resurrection: live streaming and recordings of the community's daily round of prayer and praise

<https://www.facebook.com/Join-with-us-103095121647089>. Details of services can be found at the facebook page

and also at the Community web site, <https://mirfield.org.uk/live-streaming/>. On Sundays Mass starts around 8.10 am, after Matins at 7.30 am.

Walsingham In addition to the daily live-streaming of Shrine Prayers at 6 pm (5pm on Saturdays). the Sunday Mass is live-streamed (usually at 7.30 am, but check the web site).

<https://www.walsinghamanglican.org.uk/whatson-2/livestream/>