

St. Mary's, Stoke D'Abernon

Third Sunday after Trinity



June 20th 2021

A Message from Godfrey

The disciples were worried, and seemingly rightfully so. The wind and the waves were growing and tossing their boat to and fro. The dark waters spelled out a treacherous demise if this boat ended up capsizing. All the while, Jesus, this one whom they have chosen to follow lie asleep in the boat. The disciples wake him and ask, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" (Verse 38) Jesus then rebuked the wind and the sea, creating a great calm surrounding their boat. He then turns to his disciples and asks two simple questions. "Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?" (Verse 40).

This story illustrates so accurately our disposition in the faith as we learn to walk with Jesus through life. Circumstances, the wind and the waves, capture our attention and cause us to lose focus on the things that truly matter. And when we worry and are afraid, we start to question whether Jesus truly does have what is best for us in mind. "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" It begins to feel like we are all alone when our gaze is captured by circumstances rather than by Jesus. The situation at hand is a rougher sea than we have ever experienced before. The waves are taller than we could have imagined. The wind seems to be relentless, with no hope of letting up any time soon. That family situation is just too difficult, that child is too hard, that co-worker is so hard to be around, that situation is just too much. The wind and the waves are always threatening.

And that will always happen if that is where we choose to focus. If our eyes remain fixed on the situations at hand rather than on our Saviour, our lives will remain filled with worry and fear. But if we look to Jesus who is in the boat, traversing the storm with us, we can be confident in his power and his direction in our lives. The situations of life and circumstances of life will continually present themselves full of trouble and trials. But Jesus is in the boat!

Faith is a gift and it is a choice. It is a gift given by the grace of God for us to believe beyond what our circumstances present. Faith is also a choice. We have the choice of whether or not we are going to believe in this Saviour who overcame the grave. We get to choose in the midst of the circumstance whether or not we are going to trust in the one who saves. The wind and the waves will rise up, but Jesus is walking through with us and his voice can still the storm. Are your eyes fixed on your circumstances or on Jesus? Do you trust Jesus no matter what your circumstance? Are you willing to choose to have faith?

Thoughts and Prayers

Godfrey



Bible References 20th – 26th June 2021

Year B	Psalm	First reading	Second reading
Trinity 1 June 20	Psalm 107 1-3, 23 - 32	2 Cor 6 : 1 - 13	Mark 4 : 35 - end
Monday June 21	Psalm 71	Job ch 27	Rom 11 : 25 - end
Tuesday June 22	Psalm 15	Gen 13 : 2, 5 - end	Matt 7 : 6, 12 - 14
Wednesday June 23	Psalm 105 : 1-9	Gen 15 : 1-12, 17-18	Matt 7 : 15 - 20
Thursday June 24	Psalm 85 : 7 - end	Acts 13 : 14 - 26	Luke 1 : 57 – 66, 80
Friday June 25	Psalm 128	Gen 17 : 9-10, 15 - 22	Matt 8 : 1 - 4
Saturday June 26	Canticle : Luke 1 : 46 - 55	Gen 18 : 1 - 15	Matt 8 : 5 - 17

Hyperlinks to Guildford Cathedral Services :

<https://www.guildford-cathedral.org/worship/services>

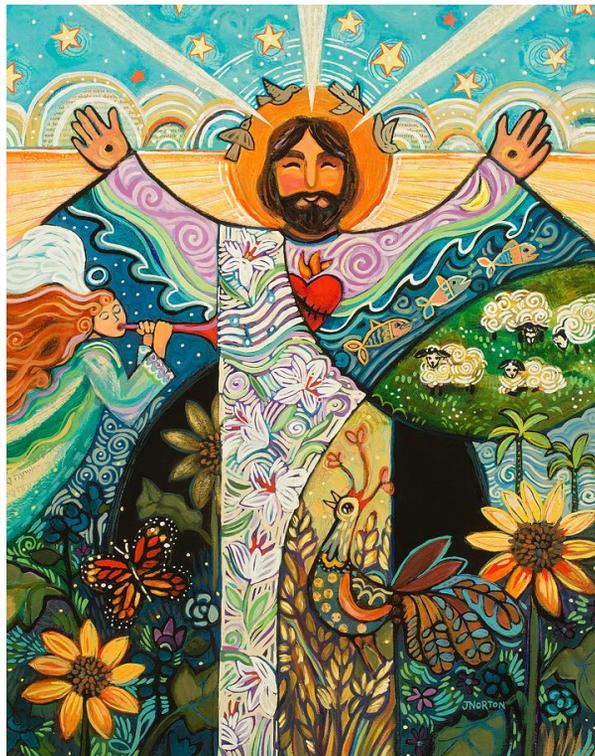
St Mary's, Thorpe website :

<https://www.stmaryschurchthorpe.co.uk/>

Collect 20th June 2021

Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts whereby we call you Father: give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that we and all creation may be brought to the glorious liberty of the children of God; 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



Music for Sunday

Communion voluntaries :

Pastorale : To a wild rose : Melodie : To a water-lily – Edward MacDowell

Edward MacDowell, a nineteenth century American composer who had studied in Europe, published his Woodland Sketches Op. 51 in 1896 through his German publisher Breitkopf and Hartell, to whom he had been introduced by Franz Liszt. Perhaps inspired by his move to a farm in Peterborough, NH, and its peaceful woodland surroundings, these ten short pieces originally for piano have remained the composer's best-known works.

“To a Wild Rose” (No 1) and “To a Water Lily” (No 6) are the most frequently played of the set. They are gentle works with mildly impressionistic harmony and a simple rhythmic profile. “To a Wild Rose” is based on a tune sung by the Brotherton Native American tribe.

Postlude

Fugue in Eb “St Anne”, BWV 552 – JS Bach

The “St Anne” Fugue is the closing movement of Bach's Klavierübung III, a set of organ mass movements and chorale preludes published in 1735. The nickname “St Anne” refers to the coincidental resemblance of its main theme to William Croft's tune for the hymn “Oh God, our help in ages past” which, however, was almost certainly unknown to Bach.

The form of this fugue recalls a 17th-century three-art rivercar or canzona, such as those of Froberger and Frescobaldi : firstly in the way that the themes become progressively faster in successive sections; and secondly in the way one theme transforms into the next. Each of the sections has a new theme, and all three themes are skilfully combined in the final section. There is a climactic point near the end with the final resounding entry of the first subject in the pedal. It brings the work to its brilliant conclusion, with a unique combination of the backward looking stile antico in the pedal and the forward looking stile moderno in the upper parts. It has been described as “the grandest ending to any fugue in music”.

Parish Notices

Sunday Services at St. Mary's

With the easing of lockdown measures, we are delighted to have restarted services of communal worship at St. Mary's.

A single Said Communion service will be held on Sunday mornings starting at 10:00am. Communion will be in one kind and offered at the Chancel steps.

Limited organ accompaniment has now also resumed. Usually, this will be on the first and third Sundays of each month. With the prospect of a further easing of social distancing measures, we hope to be able to welcome our choristers back soon.

The pattern of services will be reviewed in line with Government regulations and Diocesan guidance. Meanwhile, social distancing and other virus transmission preventative measures will continue to be observed. The maximum number of worshippers admitted into church remains in the order of 35-40 but is dependent on size and numbers of family groupings. Duty Wardens and Sidesmen will be on hand to assist with seating arrangements.

In support of the Government's Test and Trace programme, worshippers are required to pre-register their attendance and give a contact telephone number to a Duty Warden on arrival. Service attendance records will be retained for 21 days and then be destroyed.

In order to assist us in observing social distancing guidelines and avoid the potential disappointment of being refused entry we ask all worshippers who wish to attend on successive Sundays to notify the Parish office **each week**, either by telephone on 01932 866005 or by email at: admin@stmarysstokedabernon.org.uk

Opening Hours for Private Prayer

St. Mary's will remain open until 2pm on Sundays for private prayer.

Hall Opening

We are again taking provisional hall bookings for events, consistent with Government guidelines. Please contact Polly with your enquiries about hall availability for private or group functions
admin@stmarysstokedabernon.org.uk or Tel. 01932 866005

Parish Communications

The weekly Parish leaflet will continue and be issued on regular email distribution to those on the electoral role and others who have specifically requested it. Similarly, the St Mary's website will be updated as appropriate to advise of any changes to services or other significant news.

The St Mary's Chat WhatsApp Group will continue to allow people to share their prayers and thoughts and for Godfrey to post his personal messages.



Lunchtime Concerts

We are delighted that lunchtime concerts are starting again on Thursday 8th July at 1pm when the pupils from Yehudi Menuhin will be visiting us. On the basis that social distancing will still be required please register your intention to attend with Polly.



- Readers
- Intercessors
- Chalice Assistants
- Coffee makers after the service (when we are allowed)
- Coffee makers for Mothers and Others
- People to help run Mothers and Others
- Church Guides for the odd Saturday afternoon
- Duty Wardens People to assist with Parish Lunches – not just cooking but setting up rooms and helping clear away
- An Eco Champion

St Mary's cannot survive unless we have more volunteers. No job is onerous and can be fitted around other commitments. **The more help we get the less everyone has to pitch in.**

For more information please contact either Sue on 07710 205395 or Ian on 07543 057840. If you feel you can put your name down for something please let Polly know.



Lunchtime concerts

- Thursday 8th July – pupils from Yehudi Menuhin School
- Thursday 30th September – Callum Alger organ recital
- Thursday 28th October – Giacomo Susani guitar recital
- Thursday 25th November – Christmas Concert by pupils of Yehudi Menuhin School
- Thursday 27th January 2022 – Peter Cigleris – Clarinet and piano recital

Farewell to Godfrey and Helen

For those of you who have not attended Church recently, Godfrey announced his retirement a couple of weeks ago. He is leaving us after 8 fruitful years at St Mary's and he and Helen are moving to the South Coast.

On **Sunday 19th September** we will be saying goodbye to Godfrey and Helen as it will be their last Sunday in the Parish.

Please keep the date free as we are planning a farewell lunch at St Mary's. More details to follow.

Parish Lunches

Tuesday 12th October – Parish Harvest lunch

Hey! Don't forget the ...

Here is the list of items most needed for our Foodbank. Please can you help local families in need by buying an item and putting it in one of our donation bins, listed below? Thank you very much for your help.

Please do not donate out-of-date not be used.



- Sugar 500g
- Honey
- Chocolate spread
- Laundry powder
- Jam
- Sponge puddings
- Sweet biscuits
- Shampoo