



The Chase Benefice

Sunday 28th May 2017 Sunday after Ascension Day

This week's theme

Glory is not a word we use much in everyday conversation. It tends to be a 'churchy' word. In his gospel, John sees glory present in the cross. Connecting glory and suffering can be a difficult idea to get our heads around, but glory can be seen as an antidote to suffering and a hope in times of adversity. After the Ascension the first disciples were waiting in Jerusalem for something to happen. They were probably not sure what or when, but Jesus had promised to send his Spirit and the power of his Spirit was to be revealed to them, in extraordinary ways at the festival of Pentecost. We pray for God's glory to be revealed by the Holy Spirit to those suffering and in need.

Praying that people come to know Jesus Christ

The Archbishop of Canterbury is calling Christians to join a wave of prayer across the UK and around the world - praying that people you know might know Jesus. This year, it's happening between Ascension and Pentecost from 25th May – 4th June 2017.

Notices continue over page

In our prayers this week

The letter after a name in the prayers refers to the parish from which the person comes. If there is no letter, they come from outside the Benefice.

Those who are unwell including: Nick Fane; David Bates [E]; Sarah Fay [S]; Alan Partridge; Diane; Ebba Cameron; Gill Sheldon; Sally Owens [E]; Michelle [E]; Lesley Speke [E]; Doreen Gaynor; Emma Bradford; Heather and all those recovering from surgery, undergoing tests or awaiting treatment

Those who need our continuing prayer, including: Lynne & Pat Zielinski; Ken Lumb; Barbara Wilson [C]; Charlotte Hogsden [C] and Mary Taylor [S]

We give thanks for God's presence with us day by day

We remember with love those who have died especially Nellie Clatworthy [E], Mollie Peel [formerly of Enstone] and Reg Cox [S]

Those whose anniversary occurs at this time: Reggie Evans, John Eeles [C], Colin Shrumer [S], Aubrey Morris [C], Lady Mona Chalfont [C], Dorothy Byrom [E] and Hilda Bassett [E].

Also in our prayers:

- For those suffering persecution because of their belief in Christ: that they might have strength to persevere
- For all victims of violence and extremism, and especially at this time those affected by the Manchester bomb
- For the Church: that the Archbishop's prayer initiative between Ascension and Pentecost, 'Thy Kingdom Come', may draw people to God
- For our national politicians: that they might be guided by the commandments of God
- In the Benefice we pray for all who work in our village shops
- For ourselves: that we may never lose sight of Christ's commandment to love one another

Details of all future services and events in the Benefice can be found on our online calendar: www.thechasebenefice.org.uk

Sunday 28th May

**0800 Holy Communion [BCP]
at Ascott**

President & Preacher Marian Needham
**1000 Holy Communion [CW] at
Chadlington**

President & Preacher Marian Needham

Thursday 1st June

1230 Jesus Prayer at Charlbury

Saturday 3rd June

**Visiting bell ringers at
Chadlington & Spelsbury**

Sunday 4th June

**0800 Holy Communion [BCP]
at Enstone**

President & Preacher Marian Needham
**1000 Holy Communion [CW] at
Spelsbury**

*President Mark Abrey & Preacher
Marian Needham*

1400 Baptism at Spelsbury

Minister: Mark Abrey

Readings:-

Sunday 28th May

Acts 1. 6-14, 1 Peter 4. 12-14; 5. 6-11, John 17. 1-11

Sunday 4th June

Acts 2. 1-21
1 Corinthians 12.3b - 13
John 20. 19-23

Many people want to pray, but then get stuck. Life gets busy, or God seems distant, or we have a nagging feeling that we're somehow not getting it 'right'. The Diocese has partnered with Discovering Prayer to provide some innovative resources for this, called 'Thy Kingdom Come for Busy People'. You can explore what's available here.

From Ascension to Pentecost we will be sending out a daily email with some ideas that you might like to try and to encourage you to pray for five people - that they might come to faith.

Sunday 10th June 7.00 pm – Organ Recital by Thomas Trotter at St. Michael & All Angels, Great Tew

Concert includes organ works by Bach, Elgar, Vaughan Williams and Mendelssohn – to celebrate the restoration of the historic Williams organ. Admission Free – to book your place please contact Patrick Thomas – 01608 683584 or email: r.patricktea@gmail.com

Gatherings

As there seems to be a lot of things happening over the next few weeks we have decided to drop the idea of the series of Summer Gatherings. Instead, we hope to hold a Summer Drinks Party at some point over the coming months. More details to follow.

'Old £5.00 notes'

Shops can now refuse to accept the old £5.00 notes but we will be very happy to receive any that you have hidden away. As the advert says, every little helps!

Banns of Marriage

We publish the banns of marriage between Timothy John William Goodwin & Sophie Alice Manning Arkle, both of St. John's Church, Knutsford. This is for the third time of asking. Please pray for these couples as they prepare for their marriage.

Reflection

Pentecost

It was late spring and the buds still refused to open.
Tightly wrapped up in themselves,
they were as hard as stones.
The wind shook them. The hail beat them.
The frost squeezed them in a fist of iron.
All three shouted, "Open up! Open up!"
Instead of opening up,
the buds reinforced their shells,
and retreated even more deeply into themselves.
Then along came the sun.
It issued no threats and made no demands.
It just created a more friendly climate.
And what happened?
Almost overnight the buds began to soften and expand.
Then their shells cracked, and they burst out.
If you love, you are gentle.
And there are certain tasks
Which only gentleness can accomplish.

A Personal Prayer

Prayer of St. Francis

A meditation on the call to live lives of love in a difficult and often painful world

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;
where there is darkness, only light;
and where there's sadness, ever joy.
Amen

A way into Prayer

Light a candle.

Sit quietly and give thanks
for all the ways God has been made known to you.

Entrust to God any worries you have
about things you don't know,
or areas where you feel
absence and doubt.

The Rector: Revd Mark Abrey, The Vicarage, Church Rd, Chadlington, Oxon OX7 3LY

Tel: 01608 676572 email: rector@thechasebenefice.org.uk [Mark's day off is on Friday]

Associate Priest: Revd. Marian Needham, The Vicarage, Little Tew Road, Enstone. OX7 4NL

Tel: 01608 678424 email: marian@thechasebenefice.org.uk [Marian normally works Sun + 2 days; Mon is her day off]