

## News and Prayer Update for 27<sup>th</sup> September

### **Rostherne with Bollington, St John High Legh and St Paul Over Tabley**

[www.rosthernewithbollington.co.uk](http://www.rosthernewithbollington.co.uk)  
[www.stjohnshighleggh.org](http://www.stjohnshighleggh.org)  
[www.stpaulsovertabley.co.uk](http://www.stpaulsovertabley.co.uk)

**Vicar:** Revd Philip Robinson, Tel: 01565 830 595  
Email: [robinsonpj50@gmail.com](mailto:robinsonpj50@gmail.com)

**Assoc. Priest:** Revd Trish Cope, Tel: 07703 470101  
Email: [trishcope2012@btinternet.com](mailto:trishcope2012@btinternet.com)

**Curate:** Revd Patricia Robinson, Tel: 01565 830 595  
Email: [pmrobinson51@gmail.com](mailto:pmrobinson51@gmail.com)

**Reader:** Mrs Chris Stanisstreet Tel: 01925 755 559  
Email: [stanbess2003@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stanbess2003@yahoo.co.uk)

**Pastoral Worker:** Mr Stewart Jackson Tel: 07835 249 835

**Do You Need to Talk To Someone?** Call any of the above, we have other people who are also experienced in listening who are willing to help, so **please do call, we are here for you.** All conversations are in strict confidence.



## News and Prayer Update for 27<sup>th</sup> September

Link for this week's Service: <https://youtu.be/HiXGVhPrh2g>

**HYMN: Meekness and Majesty** (Graham Kendrick)

Meekness and majesty manhood and deity  
In perfect harmony the Man who is God  
Lord of eternity dwells in humanity  
Kneels in humility and washes our feet

*O what a mystery meekness and majesty  
Bow down and worship for this is your God  
This is your God*

Father's pure radiance perfect in innocence  
Yet learns obedience to death on a cross  
Suffering to give us life  
Conquering through sacrifice  
And as they crucify prays Father forgive

*O what a mystery meekness and majesty.....*

Wisdom unsearchable God the invisible  
Love indestructible in frailty appears  
Lord of infinity stooping so tenderly  
Lifts our humanity to the heights of His throne

*O what a mystery meekness and majesty....*

CCLI Church Copyright Licence Nos. 281787 and 104431  
Streaming Licence Nos. 67528 and 1156910 LOML Licence: LE-0021616

### READINGS FOR 16<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

**Psalm:** Psalm 25: 1 – 8

- 1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; O my God, in you I trust; ♦  
let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies triumph over me.
- 2 Let none who look to you be put to shame, ♦  
but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.
- 3 Make me to know your ways, O Lord, ♦  
and teach me your paths.
- 4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, ♦  
for you are the God of my salvation; for you have I hoped all the day long.
- 5 Remember, Lord, your compassion and love, ♦  
or they are from everlasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions, ♦  
but think on me in your goodness, O Lord, according to your steadfast love.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; ♦  
therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.
- 8 He will guide the humble in doing right ♦  
and teach his way to the lowly.

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, material from which is included here, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000 and published by Church House Publishing.

## News and Prayer Update for 27<sup>th</sup> September

### **First Reading:** Philippians 2: 1 – 13

<sup>1</sup> If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy,

<sup>2</sup> make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

<sup>3</sup> Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.

<sup>4</sup> Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

<sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,

<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form,

<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

<sup>13</sup> for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

### **Hymn: Salvation Belongs to our God**

(Adrian Howard & Pat Turner)

Salvation belongs to our God  
Who sits upon the throne  
And unto the Lamb  
Praise and glory, wisdom and thanks  
Honour and power and strength

*Be to our God, forever and ever  
Be to our God, forever and ever  
Be to our God, forever and ever  
Amen*

And we the redeemed shall be strong  
In purpose and unity  
Declaring aloud  
Praise and glory, wisdom and thanks  
Honour and power and strength

*Be to our God, forever and ever  
Be to our God, forever and ever  
Be to our God, forever and ever  
Amen*

## News and Prayer Update for 27<sup>th</sup> September

### **Gospel Reading:** Matthew 21: 23 – 32

<sup>23</sup> When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?'

<sup>24</sup> Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things.'

<sup>25</sup> Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?"'

<sup>26</sup> But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.'

<sup>27</sup> So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.'

<sup>28</sup> 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today."

<sup>29</sup> He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went.

<sup>30</sup> The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go.

<sup>31</sup> Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.'

<sup>32</sup> For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.'

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicised Edition, copyright © 1989, 1995 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

### **REFLECTION ON THE READINGS** Chris Stanisstreet

Jesus had upset the Pharisees in so many ways by challenging their actions and authority and in so doing was a target for their aunts. In asking Jesus where his authority had come from they were trying to catch him out because if he had said he was the son of God they would have immediately arrested him for blasphemy and Jesus could not allow that to happen as his work on earth had not yet been completed.

So Jesus counters the question with his own which placed them in a dilemma. If the Jewish authorities had said that the ministry of John the Baptist was from God they would have to accept that Jesus was the Messiah because John had publicly said so. If they said John's ministry was not from God, they would have angered the many people who were convinced that John was a messenger from God.

By saying they did not know they embarrassed themselves because in being members of the Sanhedrin they were expected to be able to distinguish between true and false prophets.

## News and Prayer Update for 27<sup>th</sup> September

They responded out of expediency, thinking about what it was safe to say rather than what was the truth. This may also apply to all of us when in similar situations, when we think about what it is safe to say rather than speaking the truth. However, as Christians if we know the truth we should speak it.

We may of course feel that there are some grey areas such as when someone asks us what we think about their new hairstyle, which was actually think doesn't suit them at all but choose to say 'lovely' in order not to hurt their feelings, but at the end of the day telling the truth, in as kind a way as possible, is what is important.

The Jewish leaders - scribes and Pharisees, are the people who said they would follow and obey God but then did not do so. On the other hand, the tax collectors and prostitutes were the people who were going their own way and who then chose to take God's way.

In this situation, no-one is really being praised. What we have is two imperfect sets of people, one set being better than the other. Neither son in the parable was the kind of son to bring great joy to his father. Both were unsatisfactory but the one who eventually obeyed was clearly better than the other. An ideal son would have accepted his father's orders and then have shown his respect by obediently carrying them out with good grace.

In our world there are two classes of people.

Firstly there are those who promise the earth but then do not deliver on the promises – somewhat reminiscent of some politicians prior to an election.

Secondly there are those who practice is far better than their lack of promises. They claim to have no interest in religion and the church yet live more Christian lives than many people who profess to be Christians. I'm sure that we have all encountered such people.

One such friend of mine often visits people in hospital and always phones or visits to take a plant or bunch of flowers to someone who is lonely or going through a hard time, yet would not want any involvement with religion and the church.

The second class of people is preferable to the first class, yet neither is perfect. The really good person is the one in whom their professed beliefs and their practice match.

The school motto on blazers and documents where I last taught was: 'facta non verba', Latin for 'acts not words', in other words, actions speak louder than words.

In our parable the first son, who agreed to go showed respect and courtesy towards his father - even calling him 'sir'. But courtesy that never gets beyond words is a falsity. True courtesy is obedience, willingly given and of course, we should always be mindful that good deeds should be carried out graciously - 'it isn't what we say or do but how we say or do it that matters.'

## News and Prayer Update for 27<sup>th</sup> September

As Paul said to the Philippians: "God is at work in us enabling us to will and work for his good pleasure."

So this week, are we all ready to say yes to God through our actions, to be obediently, willingly and graciously carried?

### **Collect for 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity:**

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers  
of your people who call upon you;  
and grant that they may both perceive and know  
what things they ought to do,  
and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them;  
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.

### **HYMN: Lord I Come to You** (Geoff Bullock)

Lord I come to you  
Let my heart be changed renewed  
Flowing from the grace that  
I have found in you  
And lord I have come to know  
The weakness I see in me  
Will be stripped away  
By the power of your love

*Hold me close let your love surround me  
Bring me near draw me to your side  
And as I wait  
I'll rise up like an eagle  
And I will soar with you  
Your spirit leads me on  
By the power of your love*

Lord unveil my eyes  
Let me see you face to face  
The knowledge of your love  
As you live in me  
Lord renew my mind  
As your will unfolds in my life  
In living everyday  
By the power of your love

**Storytelling Service Link:** <https://youtu.be/d-aBUwWhcZA>

(If you would like the service sheet for this please email [pmrobinson51@gmail.com](mailto:pmrobinson51@gmail.com))

## News and Prayer Update for 27<sup>th</sup> September

### **PRAYER in the coming week:**

**Monday** – pray that as the country faces another six months of restrictions, we would all be able to do our part in following the rules and to do so with resilience. Pray that we would demonstrate our Christianity to those around us by asking ourselves “What would Jesus do?” whenever we are in doubt about how to act.

**Tuesday** – pray for all those who have suffered from loneliness over the last six months as they fear what the next restrictions will bring. Pray that we will be especially alert to those around us who are isolating at home and need our help, whether this is by providing a practical service or simply listening on the phone.

**Wednesday** – pray for all in physical or financial need at this time, especially those who have lost their jobs or who work in sectors not yet able to return to work; many individuals who struggled over the last six months are now facing many more months of uncertainty. Also, many local businesses are still trying to get back on their feet after the lockdown and need our support to keep going.

**Thursday** – pray for the organisations and charities who try to help people by providing the support or resources they need to survive, such as mental health services, food banks and homelessness charities. Many of these have been struggling to support many additional people on reduced incomes and rely on financial gifts from the public to keep going.

**Friday** – pray for all with health needs at this time. Pray that as hospitals again need to focus on the effects of the pandemic, that all who work in the Health Service would have the energy they need and not be overwhelmed. Pray for those who have had treatment delayed from the Spring that they would be able to get the treatment they need, that cancer treatments will be able to go ahead and that all will be able to seek health support safely.

**Saturday** – pray for wisdom for all those advising and making decisions about health and necessary restrictions (such as those contributing to the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies, Public Health England etc and the Government). Pray also for all those involved in the development of vaccines and treatments.

### **SERVICES IN OUR CHURCHES:**

**FACE COVERINGS** – These are now mandatory in places of worship. Please come prepared.

**Please inform the clergy if you are exempt from wearing a face covering and do let the service leader know if you lip read.**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September:** (Please note the change to the services)

10.00 Holy Communion St John High Legh

11.00 Holy Communion Holy Trinity Little Bollington\*

\* Not the same as was published in last week's Update or September's magazine.

## News and Prayer Update for 27<sup>th</sup> September

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October:** (Please note that booking is essential)

10.00 Harvest Communion – St John High Legh

10.30 Harvest Thanksgiving – St Mary Rostherne\*\*

18.30 Harvest Thanksgiving – Holy Trinity Little Bollington\*\*

There will be a Harvest Thanksgiving online service as well.

\*\*If you are going to attend either of these services please will you let Revd Patricia know in advance (by first thing Saturday if possible). This is because numbers are limited so we need to allocate seats in the best possible way with the Covid-19 rules in mind, making sure we can safely seat all who wish to attend. Please let Patricia know how many are in your party and which Church you will be attending.

Call her on 01565 830595; call or text on 07854 418 488 or

email: [pmrobinson51@gmail.com](mailto:pmrobinson51@gmail.com) Thank you.

*Please understand that there is a possibility that if you come without letting us know, we may not be able to accommodate you.*

### **Wednesday Mornings**

09.00 Celtic Morning Prayer at St John High Legh

*We regret that we are unable to open St Paul's just yet because of building work taking place.*

**It is important that no one feels they must come to services if they are reluctant to.**

We stream a service each Sunday which is often recorded at St Paul's.

Some services from St Mary Rostherne will be live streamed.

### **NOTICES**

#### **❖ Sunday Morning Coffee 27<sup>th</sup> September 11.00**

Make your coffee and bring your biscuits as well if you wish.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88929588955?pwd=RTJ2WXQrdkJMUXVXUVd0WkF5bFRjUT09>

#### **❖ Coffee and Chat Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September**

We are having a Zoom Coffee and Chat meeting every Wednesday morning from 11.00 am to 12.00 noon. Just click on the link below.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88989360564?pwd=TUlmS3ZpeTh2RFIMUXFuak9JTTVVQT09>

If you need the meeting ID and Password for either of these meetings please contact Patricia. Email: [pmrobinson51@gmail.com](mailto:pmrobinson51@gmail.com) or Tel: 01565 830 595



## News and Prayer Update for 27<sup>th</sup> September

### ❖ HARVEST FESTIVALS Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October

For service times please see information above and please note that places need to be booked in advance because numbers in Church buildings need to be limited.

#### Harvest Gifts:

We would like to support two local food banks and alternatively, as we are a rural area we also want to support the farming community, some of whom are facing difficulties because of the pandemic. Gifts of money are welcome, and these will be passed on to the Cheshire Agricultural Chaplaincy. Please bring any donations in an envelope if possible.

Please bring gifts to church if you are coming to one of the services.

If you would like to give and are not planning to come to a service you may bring your gift (whether food items for the food bank or money for the Farming charity) on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October to Holy Trinity between 10.00 and 12.00. or St Mary's between 14.00 and 16.00 or Holy Trinity between 10.00 and 12.00. You can bring gifts to St Paul's on Monday or Wednesday during the day. Alternatively, you can drop gifts in at the Vicarage at any time this week.

#### Join the Prayer Chain:

Our Reader, Chris Stanisstreet has organised a **Prayer Chain** which is done by email and telephone. The idea behind this, is that when a specific prayer request is made, it is passed on by group e-mail to the people on the list who then pray for the particular situation.

If you would like to receive prayer requests or would like to make a prayer request, please let Chris Stanisstreet know:

Tel: 01925 755559; Mob 07918 981 723; [stanbess2003@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stanbess2003@yahoo.co.uk)

#### Offering and Fund Raising – Please continue to give if you can

**The best and safest way to give is** by monthly Standing Order or direct payment into the bank account and to do this please contact the Treasurer of the Church you attend for the account details. You may also send a cheque – please contact the relevant Treasurer.

St Mary's Treasurer: Mr Christopher Tetlow Tel: 0161 928 2137

St John's Treasurer: Nick Whimpany Tel: 07905 741969

Holy Trinity Treasurer: Mrs Hilary Girardier: Tel: 01925 754 717

St Paul's Treasurer: Judy Hancock Tel: 01565 733246

*If your income has been adversely affected by the current situation, please do not worry about giving to the Church just now.*

## News and Prayer Update for 27<sup>th</sup> September

### **Homemade Jams For Sale:**

There are various Jams and Marmalade available at prices between £2.00 / £3.00 per jar depending on size, either from St Mary's or by telephoning the Vicarage- we will deliver them to you.

St Paul's are offering: Strawberry, Gooseberry, Damson or Strawberry and Gooseberry jams.

St Mary's are offering: Strawberry, Rhubarb & Ginger, Rhubarb Jelly, Redcurrant Jelly, Marmalade. Yellow Raspberry.

### **Morning and Night Prayer**

*If anyone does not yet have access to the "Worship at Home" booklet containing the Order of Service for Morning Prayer or Night Prayer, please contact the Vicarage, as there are large print copies and ordinary size ones that can be posted out or versions that can be e-mailed.*

### **Bible Readings and Psalms for the Coming Week from the Lectionary.**

*Here are some suggestions for more Psalms and Bible readings to use with Morning and Night Prayer:*

These readings usually follow on from each other so you get a bit more of the story each day (except on special Saints Days).

**Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Psalm 44; 1 Kings 12: 25-13: 10; Acts 19: 8-20

**Tues 29<sup>th</sup> Sept: Michael & All Angels:** Psalm 34; 150; Daniel 12: 1-4; Acts 12: 1-11

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> Sept:** Psalm 119: 57-80; 1 Kings Chapter 17; Acts 20: 1 - 16

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Oct:** Psalm 57; 1 Kings 18: 1-20; Acts 20: 17-end

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct:** Psalm 51; 1 Kings 18: 21-end; Acts 21: 1-16

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct:** Psalm 68; 1 Kings Chapter 19; Acts 21: 17-36

### **Night Prayer from the Day of Pentecost to All Saints Day**

*This Collect can be used at Night Prayer on any day throughout the year.*

Lighten our darkness, Lord we pray,  
and in your great mercy  
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night,  
for the love of your only Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Psalms:

Sunday: Psalm 104: 1, 21-33; 134

Monday: Psalm 4

Tuesday: Psalm 143

Wednesday: Psalm 31: 1-5 [19-end]

Thursday: Psalm 16

Friday: Psalm 139: 1-18

Saturday: Psalm 91 (this is the one in the Worship at Home Booklet)