

## Prayer

### Prayer and Healing Ministry

As a Church Family, God calls us to “pray without ceasing” for one another and for our neighbourhood. With this in mind, a Calendar of Prayer covering the whole of The Parish Of Three Saints has been drawn up. Each Sunday we will be highlighting a particular road or street, plus an organisation or group of people in our Parish or Diocese and encouraging you to pray for them during the week. The Calendar of Prayer will also be available in the prayer corners of each of our church buildings.

This week please pray for....

- Those living in Portland Place, Brent Knoll.
- The Clergy and all those who serve in the Axbridge Deanery.
- The LEBE Café in Lympsham.

### Don't be afraid to ask for Prayer!

If you or a loved one are going through a difficult time and would like prayer, please contact our Prayer Group Co-ordinator **Gwen Hatton 01934 750416**. The Friday Prayer Group will support you in prayer for as long as you need and everything is absolutely confidential.

Alternatively, if you or a loved one would like to be included in this public prayer list in the Sunday Link and prayed for by the whole Church Family, please contact Carole in the Church Office 01278-769082 or Ginnie Soffe 01278-769117. Please ask for the person's permission beforehand.

Please continue to pray for Iona, Caroline, Mervyn, Luke, Ben, David, Carole, Kathryn, Peter and Marcus.

## Diary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>4th August</b> 08.00 St Michael's Holy Communion  10.00 St Michael's Parish Eucharist	<b>5th</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b> 09.00-10.30 Coffee Time St Mary's	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b> 10.00 Refresher Session (Readers) St Mary's  11.00 Refresher Session (Chalice) St Mary's
<b>11th</b> 08.00 St Michael's Holy Communion  10.00 St Mary's Parish Eucharist (Plans displayed after worship)	<b>12th</b>	<b>13th</b>	<b>14th</b> 09.00-10.30 Coffee Time St Mary's	<b>15th</b> 14.00 Comfort Group	<b>16th</b> 10.00 Prayer Group	<b>17th</b>
<b>18th August</b> 08.00 St Christopher's Holy Communion  10.00 St Michael's Parish Eucharist (Plans displayed after worship)	<b>19th</b>	<b>20th</b>	<b>21st</b> 09.00-10.30 Coffee Time St Mary's	<b>22nd</b> 14.30 Bereaved Friends Group	<b>23rd</b> 12.00 East Brent Harvest Home	<b>24th</b>

## Contacts

**SAFEGUARDING:** We take safeguarding very seriously. If you have any concerns for a child or a vulnerable adult please contact our parish Safeguarding Officer (a voluntary position) Kathy Quinnell (01278-760031) or contact the central diocesan team <https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/diocese/safeguarding/rep>

Priest in Charge	Rev. Kevin Wright	priest.tpots@gmail.com	The Rectory, 3 Ash Trees, East Brent, Highbridge, TA9 4DQ	Tel: 01278 760844
Please Note that Friday is the "Vicar's Day of Rest". Thank you for your understanding.				
Reader	Nikki Burns	reader.tpots@gmail.com		Tel: 01278 760860
Church Administrator	Mrs Carole Carter	office.tpots@gmail.com	Church Office, Church Road, East Brent, Somerset. TA9 4HZ	Tel: 01278 769082

For further contact information please see our parish website - [www.theparishofthreesaints.org.uk](http://www.theparishofthreesaints.org.uk)

If you would like to submit anything for the Sunday Link please email it to Carole at [office.tpots@gmail.com](mailto:office.tpots@gmail.com) by **Thursday**. Please also send anything for **The Parish of Three Saints** website to the same address.

## First in a series of four special issues, written by women about women

Heather Smith *reflects on* Colossians 3:1-11 and Luke 12:13-21

What holds you back? The most likely answer is fear – fear of failure, or fear of what other people think, perhaps. In both cases, the emotion is the same.

The rich man in the reading from Luke wants to store up plenty so he can relax and enjoy life. Perhaps that doesn't sound much like fear, but if pressed he might admit that deep down he thinks that if he doesn't hoard, he could end up in need. What looks like greed and self-centredness is actually deep-seated fear. Jesus points out his foolishness. We can never know how long we have left on earth and we might just find that all the work we do to try to alleviate our fears is wasted.

A better way is to change our focus. Instead of working feverishly to find "security", which only fuels fear, we should work to become spiritually rich. As Paul suggests, we should seek those things that are above. "But that takes courage," you might object, "that I don't have." But notice that Paul doesn't say, "Work on your courage." When people find that fear prevents them from doing something they really want or need to do, psychologists sometimes suggest that they act as if they are courageous. To our surprise we find we are. If we ignore the fear and behave as courageous people, one action at a time, our lives will be infinitely richer, as we find the path that God intends for us. 🙏

# Freedom from fear



Eternal God, teach us how to think like you, leaving fear behind and focusing on the exciting opportunities that life offers to further your kingdom. Amen.

## Women in Christianity

by Georgina Byrne

If we read the history of the Church as the story of theological disputes, liturgical and doctrinal development, monasticism and the Mass, then we will see it heavily populated with men. This is unsurprising; over the course of two thousand years, bishops, monarchs and university teachers have been overwhelmingly male.

We might try to spot women in their company – writers like Catherine of Siena, or social champions like Mary Sumner – but they are rare.

Since the beginning of Christianity, millions of women have taught the faith to others, offered hospitality, visited those who are sick and cared for those who are poor. The spread of the Gospel is due in very large part to women we cannot see – women who were not considered significant or notable. To acknowledge their constant presence is to remind ourselves that the growth of the Church is due to so much more than the actions of its leaders. 🙏

## “Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tyre?”

Corrie ten Boom (1892-1983), Dutch watchmaker who gave refuge to many Jews during World War II

## Mary Sumner

*Mary Sumner, founder of the Mothers' Union, is commemorated on Friday. Lisa Tulfer looks at her life and legacy.*

Mary was born in 1828 into a middle-class family, to a mother who took her faith seriously and held mothers' meetings. Mary married an Anglican clergyman, and started leading meetings herself. In 1876, when her own daughter gave birth, inspired by her memories of how difficult she had found motherhood, she set up a group bringing

together mothers of all social classes for mutual support in bringing up their children in the Christian faith. In 1885 she was invited to speak at a congress in Portsmouth, and women took her ideas back to their own parishes. The movement soon spread to other dioceses; by 1892 there were sixty thousand members in twenty-eight dioceses. The Mothers' Union expanded into the British Empire and beyond, and now there are some four million members in eighty-four countries. Mary's organisation is a powerful worldwide influencer around gender equality, poverty and community transformation. [www.mothersunion.org](http://www.mothersunion.org) 🙏

## Bible Readings

### First Reading

Hosea 11. 1-11

God's Compassion Despite Israel's Ingratitude  
When Israel was a child, I loved him,  
and out of Egypt I called my son.  
The more I called them,  
the more they went from me;  
they kept sacrificing to the Baals,  
and offering incense to idols.  
Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk,  
I took them up in my arms;  
but they did not know that I healed them.  
I led them with cords of human kindness,  
with bands of love.  
I was to them like those  
who lift infants to their cheeks.  
I bent down to them and fed them.  
They shall return to the land of Egypt,  
and Assyria shall be their king,  
because they have refused to return to me.  
The sword rages in their cities,  
it consumes their oracle-priests,  
and devours because of their schemes.  
My people are bent on turning away from me.  
To the Most High they call,  
but he does not raise them up at all.  
How can I give you up, Ephraim?  
How can I hand you over, O Israel?  
How can I make you like Admah?  
How can I treat you like Zeboiim?  
My heart recoils within me;  
my compassion grows warm and tender.  
I will not execute my fierce anger;  
I will not again destroy Ephraim;  
for I am God and no mortal,  
the Holy One in your midst,  
and I will not come in wrath.  
They shall go after the Lord, who roars like a lion;  
when he roars,  
his children shall come trembling from the west.  
They shall come trembling like birds from Egypt,  
and like doves from the land of Assyria;  
and I will return them to their homes, says the Lord.

### Gospel Reading

Luke 12. 13-21

The Parable of the Rich Fool  
Someone in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.' But he said to him, 'Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?' And he said to them, 'Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.' Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.'

### Second Reading

Colossians 3. 1-11

The New Life in Christ  
So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.  
Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!



Watch out for details of  
Open-Air Pop-up Celtic  
Worship during  
August/early September.

To be a Christian without prayer  
is no more possible than to be  
alive without breathing.

Martin Luther

### Collect for Today

Lord of all power and might,  
the author and giver of all good things:  
graft in our hearts the love of your name,  
increase in us true religion,  
nourish us with all goodness,  
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;  
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 forever

## What's On



office.tpots@gmail.com  
www.theparishofthreesaints.org.uk



### Our Vision for the Parish of Three Saints

*Our desire is to deepen our spiritual awareness and relationship with God so that we can serve our communities more effectively as His hands and feet, and also to develop our sacred spaces to make them welcoming, flexible and suited to the broad ranging needs of our communities.*

(Taken from The Parish Profile 2018)

### Teas in St Michael's Church SUNDAYS THROUGHOUT AUGUST

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED BETWEEN  
2.00PM AND 4.30PM IN  
ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH  
VESTRY



PROCEEDS TO FRIENDS  
OF ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH



### Stewardship/Church Life Giving Champion

Regular monetary income is essential for the church to function and pay its way day to day, week by week. The parish urgently needs a Stewardship/Church Life Giving Champion to work with me, the Treasurer and diocesan adviser to encourage people to commit to consistent generous support of the Church Life funds, as there is a substantial shortfall in this budgeted area.

The continuing mission and outreach of the church family needs funding.

While interpersonal skills are paramount, no financial knowledge is needed; training and resources are available.

#### What you can do...

1. Pray that the right person comes forward;
2. Listen quietly for God's prompting;
3. Ask yourself if you could do this, or if there is someone you think might be good at it;
4. Speak to the Vicar or Wardens or Treasurer.

Thank you, Revd Kevin Wright (Incumbent)

The East Brent Parish History Group are pleased to announce that

#### The George Reed Display

Will be up in St Mary's Church, East Brent  
from 25th July for two weeks.

George Reed was the Lord of the Manor of East Brent and Burnham's greatest benefactor of the Victorian era.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all Creation; through your goodness we have this money to offer  
..... to do your work in the world.

During our worship an offering will be collected. If you wish to join with our offering there is a yellow envelope nearby for your contribution or you can, of course, simply add your donation to the bag that will be passed along the pew during our offertory hymn. Many of our Church Family make a regular contribution to the running and work of the Parish by Standing Order. If this is something you would like to find out more about, please see one of the Stewards or a Churchwarden.

### An opportunity for everyone to have a look at the proposed improvements to our church buildings.

Plans for each particular church building will be displayed after our 10am worship there during August.

11th August at St Mary's

18th August at St Michael's

25th August at St Christopher's

Everyone is welcome to view the plans and chat about them over coffee. Suggestions welcome.

### COME ON BOARD FOR CANCER SUPPORT



MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT  
RIGHT THERE WITH YOU

#### We're in your area.

No appointment necessary. Come and talk to our friendly specialists.

Monday 19 August

10am to 4pm

Burnham on Sea, by Tesco,  
Ben Travers Way. TA8 1EZ

Tuesday 20 & Wednesday 21

August - 10am to 5pm

Weston-super-Mare,  
Princes Royal Square,  
near Bistrot Pierre. BS23 1AT



### Highbridge Area Foodbank

We are currently short of..

Tinned Fruit  
Small bags of Sugar  
Tinned Rice Pudding  
Small jars of Coffee  
Tinned Fish  
Custard

#### Can you help??

Donations can be dropped off in any of our three churches in TPOTS.