

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 Watersmeet Close and Gills Lane, Rooksbridge.
- The Women’s Institutes in our parish.

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 Barbara, Iona, Caroline, Mervyn, Luke, Ben, David, Carole, Kathryn, Peter and Marcus.

Diary

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| 29th September 10.00 St Mary's Holy Communion | 30th 09.00-10.30 Church Explorers Group Brentcombe House, East Brent | 1st October 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church | 2nd 08.45-10.00 Coffee Time St Mary's | 3rd 09.15 St Michael's Parish Prayer 19.30 All Sorts Choir St Mary's | 4th | 5th 19.00 St Michael's Raise the Roof Concert |
| 6th October 08.00 St Mary's Holy Communion 10.00 St Mary's All Age Communion | 7th | 8th 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church 19.00 Deanery Synod St Mary's Church, | 9th 08.45-10.00 Coffee Time St Mary's 14.00 Emmaus Church Office | 10th 09.15 St Michael's Parish Prayer 14.15 BK School at St Michael's 19.30 All Sorts Choir | 11th | 12th |
| 13th October 08.00 St Michael's Holy Communion 10.00 St Mary's Holy Communion | 14th 09.00-10.30 Church Explorers Group Brentcombe House, East Brent | 15th 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church | 16th 08.45-10.00 Coffee Time St Mary's | 17th 09.15 St Michael's Parish Prayer 19.30 All Sorts Choir St Mary's | 18th 10.00 Prayer Group 2 The Worthings | 19th |

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 | Revd. 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**

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

SUNDAY



Connecting faith and daily life

29 September 2019

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity/Michael and All Angels

Concluding our series of special issues written by men about men and masculinity

Entertaining angels



Andrew Lyon *reflects on* Genesis 28:10-17; Revelation 12:7-12; Hebrews 1:5-end and John 1:47-end

The image of angels that we see represented on greetings cards and in popular culture are of the plump cherubim and seraphim of Michelangelo, or of a serene, elegant, clad-in-white female with long blonde hair and wings. At the risk of offending the modern, well-adjusted, twenty-first-century man, angels, in the Bible at least, all appear as men. Or I should say male, as they are not human, but another species in God’s created order, in which humans were made “a little lower”, as it says in Psalm 8.

Today’s reading from Revelation gives a very masculine image of an angel. Michael is a warring angel, a fierce and victorious warrior working for God – a real man’s angel, you might say.

These angels are sent to protect us and guard us, as we hear in today’s reading from Hebrews.

The letter to the Hebrews also says that we might not always recognise angels when we meet them, entertaining angels unawares, as we read in Hebrews 13. Let today’s feast of St Michael and All Angels be a reminder to us all that we are not alone, that God actively works within creation to be alongside us, to aid and protect us, and that we no longer need to shoulder the responsibility of that all by ourselves. 🙏

Lord God, thank you for the presence of angels – both those we recognise and those we entertain unawares. Sharpen our awareness of your messengers, whatever form they take, and guide our words and deeds, to behave like angels towards others. Amen.

Jerome

Jerome (c. 347-420), translator and teacher of the faith, is commemorated tomorrow. Julian Smith looks at his life and legacy.

Jerome is a towering, influential figure in the life of the Church. He was, variously, a hermit (maintaining a lifelong leaning to the ascetic life), a monk, priest, papal secretary and spiritual director. He also served as spiritual guide to a group of influential Christian women.

Throughout his long life Jerome maintained a wide, often controversial, correspondence, translated theological writings and wrote commentaries; his work was based on rigorous scriptural scholarship. Jerome is best remembered for his widely used translations of the Old and New Testaments, known as the Vulgate. Though fluent in Greek he learned Hebrew to better understand Jewish scripture and its background.

Perhaps Jerome reminds us that if we want to understand what God is saying to us today, we need to understand what those who wrote scripture understood of God’s word to them. 🙏

Men and masculinity in the Bible

Trevor Dennis concludes his series by considering God.

The Bible always speaks of God as “he”, never as “she”. Most of the language it uses of God is drawn from the world of men of power. Sometimes “he” is portrayed as utterly ruthless, enabling Joshua and his men to wipe

out the population of Jericho, or as relishing the prospect of throwing the wicked into the fires of hell. There is enough in the Bible to put the fear of God into us.

But then we look again at Jesus in the Gospels, or at the exquisite poem of Hosea (11:1-4): “When Israel was a child, I loved him... I took them up in my arms... I bent down to them and fed them.” God is pictured as a mother here, full of tenderness. Such a passage reminds us that God is not male (nor, of course, female), but a mystery beyond the human that calls us all, men and women, to share in a life of love. 🙏

“I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.

John 10:14-15

Bible Readings

First Reading

Jeremiah 32. 1-3a, 6-15

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar. At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah, where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him. Zedekiah had said, 'Why do you prophesy and say: Thus says the Lord: I am going to give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall take it;

Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came to me: Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, 'Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours.' Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the Lord, and said to me, 'Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself.' Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord.

And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales. Then I took the sealed deed of purchase, containing the terms and conditions, and the open copy; and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. In their presence I charged Baruch, saying, Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.

Gospel Reading

Luke 16. 19- end

'There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames." But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us." He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment." Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead."'

Second Reading

1 Timothy 6. 6-19

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honour and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Ride and Stride Somerset Churches Trust (SCT)

Thanks to Mark, Rachel and Louis Newson and David Wilford over £700, plus Gift Aid, was raised for the SCT. Very well done to them and thanks to their sponsors!!

TPOTS will receive 50% of this and we also will be receiving a grant from SCT towards some of the St Michael's Church roof repairs.

Date for 2020: Saturday 12th September – put it in your diary now.

Collect for Today

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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)

Raise the Roof!

Charity concert of popular music

In aid of
St Michael's Church, Brent Knoll
7.30pm at the Church

Saturday 5th Oct

Tickets £5

Featuring:

- Burnham Rock Choir
- Brent Knoll C of E Primary School,
- 'Simply Squeezers'
- The Ukelele band



Tickets available from Ged Keele

- gerard.keele@btinternet.com
- tel 01278 769010 or
- Brent Knoll Village Shop

Deanery Gathering (Synod)

**Tuesday 8th October at
St Mary's Church, Berrow,
(newly re-ordered)**

**7pm for 7.15pm worship time
(ends about 9pm)**

**Everybody is welcome at these
open meetings.**

Gluten-free wafers are available for communion. Please speak to a Steward or Churchwarden before the service.

**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.



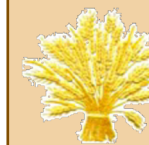
T.P.O.T.S.

Harvest Festival Thanksgiving

With All-Age Communion

**Sunday 20th October
10am**

St Michael's Church



Please bring gifts for the local Foodbank:-
any in-date, non perishable foods and toiletries.
Please see Facebook or Foodbank Appeal posters
for the latest requirements.

All welcome.



New! Mental Health First Aid Course

Reverend Jonathon Philpott, Priest in Charge of Berrow and Brean, is currently in the process of setting up this training in our Deanery.

It will be run by a tutor from Somerset Skills and Learning (SSL) and is open to anyone in the Church Family.

If you feel this is for you, or would like more details, please speak to Kevin or Anthony.