

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 South Road, South Close and Purving Close Lane, Lymsham.
- Those who work with children and their families 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
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, Berrow	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 St Mary's	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 14.00 Emmaus Church Office	17th 09.15 St Michael's Parish Prayer 14.00 Comfort Group 19.30 All Sorts Choir St Mary's	18th 10.00 Prayer Group 2 The Worthings	19th
20th October 08.00 St Christopher's Harvest Thanksgiving and Holy Communion 10.00 St Michael's Harvest Thanksgiving and Holy Communion	21st 16.00-17.30 Alzheimer's and Dementia Carers Group Brentcombe House, East Brent	22nd 10.30 Toddlers Brent Knoll Methodist Church	23rd 08.45-10.00 Coffee Time St Mary's 14.00 Emmaus Church Office	24th 09.15 St Michael's Parish Prayer 14.30 Bereaved Friends Group 19.30 All Sorts Choir St Mary's	25th 09.00 St Mary's EB School Collective Worship	26th

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**

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.

A mustard seed of faith

Gillian Cooper *reflects on*
Luke 17:5-10

Faith should be easy shouldn't it? We make our commitment to God and to Christ, and that should be it. We believe the story of salvation. We put our trust in the God who loves us. If only it were that simple. Sadly, there is always real life to contend with, distracting us, filling our heads with anxieties and our hearts with doubts. Who can look at what happens in the world and not have a moment's doubt about God being in charge?

So it is encouraging to find Jesus' first disciples asking him for more faith. They have heard Jesus' teaching, they have seen miracles, they have shared the mission, but still they are unsure. They have just been told that the forgiveness they offer to others must be limitless. Will they have enough faith to maintain that attitude? Or will they slip into the old human tendency towards condemnation and vengeance?



God of our salvation, increase our faith and give us hope, that we may continue as your disciples, and play our part in revealing your love to the world through our words and our deeds. Amen.

Is their faith strong enough for what is to come?

A grain of faith, Jesus says, is enough to move a tree. But faith is not a conjuring trick. Nor is it something to be proud of. It is a habit of mind and heart that we are called to nurture, a little grain that will grow in us if we let it. 🌱

Faith and disability

Mental health
by Heather Smith

It is unlikely that your congregation has no members who suffer from mental illness. Around ten million people are diagnosed with a mental illness in the UK every year and one in four British adults will be diagnosed during their lifetime. Mental health problems are often hidden. Depression, anxiety, obsessive-compulsive disorder

(OCD), and self-harm are just a few that may go unnoticed by friends and family. Some mental health issues may prevent people from getting to church at all. Anxiety may be about social situations, or simply so overwhelming that attending to anything apart from the feeling is impossible.

It is vital that someone suffering from mental illness has support. The Christian think tank Theos has reported a strong correlation between good mental health and participation in group religious activities. The church family can be a part of this, making God's caring heart present for those who suffer and those who care for them. 🌱

Grandparents' Day

by Caroline Hodgson

Happy Grandparents' Day! Grandparents' Day is promoted by Age UK and aims to encourage people to celebrate grandparents. It's also an opportunity to highlight the needs of older people, who may be affected by loneliness, the crisis in care and a whole range of other issues.

But for all the problems that grandparents and older people face, there is plenty to celebrate. Grandparents come in all shapes

and sizes – young and old, those we may not have had a chance to meet, those we are related to, and older people who just inspire and encourage us.

Everyone is a grandchild in one way or another, and you can get involved no matter what your own circumstances. So why not celebrate Grandparents' Day by giving a bit of thought, reflection and prayer to the generations that have gone before you? And there's no better way to celebrate Grandparents' Day than by committing to do one thing this coming week, no matter how small, to improve the life of a grandparent or older person. 🌱

“Understanding is the reward of faith. Therefore, seek not to understand that thou mayest believe, but believe that thou mayest understand.

St Augustine of Hippo (354-430 AD)

Bible Readings

First Reading

Lamentations 1. 1-6

How lonely sits the city
that once was full of people!
How like a widow she has become,
she that was great among the nations!
She that was a princess among the provinces
has become a vassal.
She weeps bitterly in the night,
with tears on her cheeks;
among all her lovers
she has no one to comfort her;
all her friends have dealt treacherously with her,
they have become her enemies.
Judah has gone into exile with suffering
and hard servitude;
she lives now among the nations,
and finds no resting-place;
her pursuers have all overtaken her
in the midst of her distress.
The roads to Zion mourn,
for no one comes to the festivals;
all her gates are desolate,
her priests groan;
her young girls grieve,
and her lot is bitter.
Her foes have become the masters,
her enemies prosper,
because the Lord has made her suffer
for the multitude of her transgressions;
her children have gone away,
captives before the foe.
From daughter Zion has departed
all her majesty.
Her princes have become like stags
that find no pasture;
they fled without strength
before the pursuer.

Prayer for the Nation

God of Hope,
in these times of change and instability,
we earnestly ask you to
unite our nation
and guide our leaders with your wisdom.
Give us courage to overcome our fears
and help us build a future
in which we all prosper and share;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Gospel Reading

Luke 17. 5-10

The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' The Lord replied, 'If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.'

'Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, "Come here at once and take your place at the table"? Would you not rather say to him, "Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink"? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, "We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!"'

Second Reading

2 Timothy 1. 1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,
To Timothy, my beloved child:
Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

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

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 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)



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.





HARVEST APPEAL

HELP SUPPORT YOUR FOODBANK WITH FOOD AND FUNDS THIS HARVEST

DONATE FOOD

Help by donating an item or two from our shopping list to ensure we can provide food to help people in crisis.



DONATE MONEY

Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects.



SHOPPING LIST TOP TEN ITEMS

- Tin Meat or Fish
- Pasta Sauces
- Tea Bags/Instant Coffee
- Tinned vegetables
- Instant Mash
- Soups
- Tin Rice pudding or fruit
- Long life Milk or Juice
- Jam, biscuits or, snack bars
- Tin Sponge pudding

*Don't forget...
You can help transform
more lives with a financial
donation too.*





Highbridge Area Foodbank

highbridgearea.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1147076)

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.

Parish Prayer

**9.15 -9.45 am Thursday 10th October
St Michael's**

30 minutes of quietly being in God's presence,
listening to him and bringing before him the needs
of our parish, nation and world.

Everyone is very welcome

**"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction,
faithful in prayer"**

(Romans 12.12)