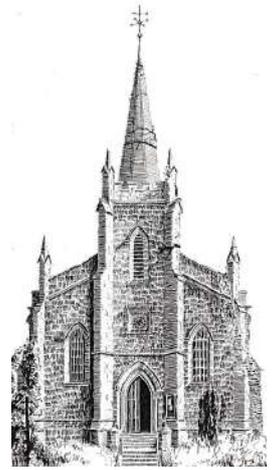


St Mary the Virgin Riverhead with Dunton Green



Sunday 13th September 2020 - 14th Sunday after Trinity

Genesis 50.15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Romans 14.1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew **Glory to you, O Lord**

Matthew 18.21-35

Peter came and said to Jesus, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

For your information

Team Rector On the 8th of August the Revd Mark Bridgen was instituted and inducted as the new Team Rector of the West Sevenoaks Team Ministry, which comprises the churches of St Mary's Kippington, St Mary the Virgin, Riverhead and Dunton Green and St Luke's, Sevenoaks.

Mark can be contacted, for whatever reason, by email: mark.bridgen@btinternet.com

By phone: 01732 452112

By mobile: 07375299944

As Team Rector he is available for all in the team and wants to make sure that he can be easily contacted by all.

The start of the process for the recruitment of the new Team Vicar posts in the West Sevenoaks Team Ministry

From your Team Rector: Dear friends, from September we will begin the process of the recruitment for the Team Vicars in the life of West Sevenoaks Team. I would like to thank all those from St Mary the Virgin and St Luke's who have worked tirelessly and faithfully to prepare parish profiles. Advertising, shortlisting and interviews will take us to the beginning of November. As we begin the process, I offer a prayer below for your personal and corporate prayers throughout this time. God bless this team and each of you. Mark

Our gracious God, we thank you for your guidance thus far in the birth of our new Team Ministry. We pray now that you will guide us as we come to the recruitment of our new Team Vicars. Come alongside all those who will make applications and all those who will discern, that your will be done and your kingdom come. Amen.

West Sevenoaks Team – Fortnightly Tuesday prayers by Zoom: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays

On every second and fourth Tuesday there will be half hour prayers offered for our new Team and an area, in turn, of the life of its ministry. People will be invited to join us care of Zoom and the meeting id and passcode will be:

Meeting ID: 974 868 8695

Passcode: 7bEsdU

People are invited to Zoom from 6:45pm for a 7pm start. We will always end at 7:30pm.

Dates this year are:

Tuesday 8th and 22nd of September; 13th and 27th of October; 10th and 24th of November; and the 8th of December. (No prayers on the 22nd of December)

On every Saturday in September at 11am we are having an

ALL AGE WORSHIP SERVICE BACK IN CHURCH

PLEASE do be praying it will be a meaningful and encouraging service and

please do COME AND JOIN US if you possibly can.

* A full risk assessment has been carried out and is available for viewing. Full safety measures have been put in place.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT WHETHER YOU ARE ATTENDING THE CHURCH FOR PRIVATE PRAYER OR ATTENDING ANY SERVICE YOU WILL NEED TO WEAR MASKS AND FOLLOW THE GUIDANCE

PCC there will be a Zoom PCC meeting on Tuesday 15 September at 8pm. Login and password will be sent separately to PCC members.

Bennet and Suzanne's Wedding We were very moved by all the love shown to Bennet and Suzanne on their wedding day last week. Thank you so much for joining us and supporting us and for your prayers on their special day. Iain, Christine, Charlotte, Ravi and Woody .

St Lukes are now holding an 8.00am BCP Holy Communion Service, people will be asked to enter and exit via the North Porch. At 10.15am there is also a Parish Eucharist which is being zoomed for those not able to attend, but the code is not generally circulated until Saturday afternoon as a new one is used each week for security purposes. For this later service people arrive at 10.00am and are ushered to a seat, leaving promptly at the end, but can distance chat outside. There is no criteria for attending and anyone is welcome.

St Mary Kippington – services

SUNDAYS

8:00am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10:30am

1st Sunday: Family Service, usually in the Parish Centre (or outdoors weather-permitting)

2nd Sunday: Holy Communion

3rd Sunday: Morning Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)

4th Sunday: Holy Communion

5th Sunday: Holy Communion with Healing or Morning Prayer in the Celtic tradition

THURSDAYS

A Common Worship Communion service is held at the Church every Thursday from 10am. In the winter this service takes place in the Centenary Room – which is adjoined to the church

Services for the week For Compline on the 16th I am both leading and inviting people via my Zoom

Mark Bridgen's Zoom Compline Meeting

Time: Sep 16, 2020 07:45 pm

Meeting ID: 974 868 8695

Passcode: 7bEsdU

Coffee following Services Each Sunday for the time being we are staying on Zoom after the service - giving people a couple of minutes to pop out and make a coffee - and then come back and have a chat and catch up with some of the congregation you have not seen, just as we would if we were able to be in the church.

Sponsored Bike Ride in aid of Kent Churches This is taking place on Saturday 12th September. There will be a table set up outside the church with the form for visitors to sign in, Christine and Margaret Holman will set out after the 11am service an endeavour to do all eleven churches working up the hill into Sevenoaks.

I plan to put on my walking shoes and pace round Sevenoaks again dragging my Mum with me to raise some money for St Marys and Kent churches. We are hoping to find 10 churches open and maybe a kit kat or 2 along the way! I would really appreciate your sponsorship please. Thank you. Love Woody x

Link for sponsorship as follows:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/EdwardRakhit>

However if you would prefer to sponsor him offline please do contact me:

Crakhit@hotmail.co.uk

07739521583

Tess Fox and family. Are the third intrepid group taking part. They would all be very grateful for sponsorship and this link should hopefully take you to a form where you can sign up at the website for Tess and family <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-portal/fundraiserPage?pageId=1199212&newPage=true#stickyAnchor>

Virtual Coffee Morning We now meet for a virtual half hour coffee morning on Thursdays at 11.00am. Come and have a chat with some people you have not seen for some time. This week there will be different signing on instructions which will be circulated later in the week

Loaves and Fishes There is probably an even greater need for this service during these very difficult times for us all. If you are shopping for food etc if you can pop something extra into your basket I am sure it would be greatly appreciated. Margaret Holman at 2 Cranmer Road has a basket in her porch into which goods can be placed and she will undertake to deliver them to St John's

Please pray for Sarah Seuwing - The daughter of Peter Flynn's friend Pat who is very seriously ill

Opening Hymn:

Lead, us, heavenly Father, lead us

**Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing,
if our God our Father be.**

**Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.**

**Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.**

Music after Communion:

The anthem, Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake, by Hilton

*Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake,
lay not our sins to our charge,
but forgive that is past,
and give us grace to amend our sinful lives:
to decline from sin
and incline to virtue,
that we may walk in a perfect heart,
before thee now and evermore.
Amen*

Final Hymn: Let us build a house (All are welcome)

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand in witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the word and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

**Closing music: Finale from Petite Suite for organ
by Gerald Bales**