

Newsletter – 6th October 2019



St. Mary the Virgin, Hartfield
Holy Trinity, Colemans Hatch

Today's Readings

Psalm 139 v 1-18



You have searched me, LORD,
and you know me.
You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.
You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.
Before a word is on my tongue
you, LORD, know it completely.
You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.
Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,
even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.
If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me
and the light become night around me,"

even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to you.
For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.
My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes saw my unformed body;
all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.
How precious to me are your thoughts,^[a] God!
How vast is the sum of them!
Were I to count them,
they would outnumber the grains of sand—
when I awake, I am still with you.

2 Corinthians 12 v 1-10

Paul's Vision and His Thorn

I must go on boasting. Although there is nothing to be gained, I will go on to visions and revelations from the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know—God knows. And I know that this man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows— was caught up to paradise and heard inexpressible things, things that no one is permitted to tell. I will boast about a man like that, but I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses. Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say, or because of these surpassingly great revelations. Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited,

I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

From our Bishops: A call for respect on both sides



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

"As Bishops of the Church of England, we make this statement conscious of the great challenges to our nations and to their leaders. In writing, we affirm our respect for the June 2016 Referendum, and our belief that the result should be honoured.

"In the last few days, the use of language, both in debates and outside Parliament, has been unacceptable.

"We should speak to others with respect. And we should also listen. We should do this especially with the poor, with the marginalised, and with those whose voices are often not heard in our national conversation. We should not denigrate, patronise or ignore the honest views of fellow citizens, but seek to respect their opinions, their participation in society, and their votes.

"The teachings of Jesus Christ call for us to be generous and humble servants; virtues which are for all leaders, whatever their faith.

"We call on politicians to adhere rigorously to the rule of law and on all to respect and uphold the impartiality of the courts and our judiciary.

"Our concern is also for the structure and the constitution of the United Kingdom. To use the words of Jesus, we must renew the structures that enable us to "love one another". Changes to our principles and values of government, if necessary, should be through careful planning and consultation."

It is easy to descend into division and abuse – climbing out and finding unity again takes far longer. Further entrenching our divisions, whether from uncertainty or from partisanship, is not worthy of our country nor the leadership we now need. We are a body that understands from our own experience the dangers of division. It is our view and most solemn warning that we must find better ways of acting.

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour..."

1 Timothy 2:1-3

Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

Revd Julie writes:

Over the past six years. I have conducted many funerals and services of Thanksgiving.

Living in a village, one can't help but be aware that loss and sadness affects us both individually and corporately. In November, we have a special day of Remembrance to remember all who have died at the hands of war. We remember those who fought bravely in our own parishes. But on a more personal level, we sometimes feel we need to have an opportunity to remember loved ones who have died. To have an opportunity to give thanks for all that they have meant to us.

We come seeking to learn of God's love and to open our lives to the strength that he can give us as we continue on the journey of life

without them. To pray for ourselves and all who mourn that we would be comforted.

We will be holding a service on the **1st November at midday in St Mary's Church**. This service is for everyone who has experienced loss recently or in the past. It may be that you haven't been to church for a while but I want to invite you to come and have an opportunity to listen to the words and music. To give thanks for the life you remember as we light a candle and offer prayers.

There will be a Book of Remembrance as you come in. These names will then be read out during a time of reflection and remembrance.

At the end of the service you are invited to stay for a simple lunch of bread and soup.

Please let me know if you are coming. Rev Julie 01892 770 436 or revjulieseal@gmail.com

Verse for the Week

'Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus' (Philippians 4:6-7).

I am trying hard not to worry but to pray instead. So, whenever a thought, during the day or night, comes into my mind (it could be about someone who is sick, a decision I have got to make, someone in my family), I am trying not to waste a lot of time worrying about it, but instead say a prayer and trust that God has heard and will answer. **Revd. Julie**

New! Together @4



Just a reminder that our new tea time service will commence on October 20th. Guest speaker will be Lloyd Harp from Rudgwick. Hot chocolate/coffee/lots of cake/Everyone welcome.

Administrator

If you have items for our newsletter please contact Trevor Sear on 01892 770 436 email: tgsear57@outlook.com Working days Tuesday am and Thursday.

Forthcoming Services

October 5th - 16th Sunday after Trinity

St Mary's 9:30am Holy Communion, Sunday Discoverers,
Big Breakfast

Readings: 2 Corinthians 12.1-10 Psalm 139.1-18

Holy Trinity - 11am Sunday Praise

Readings: 2 Corinthians 12.1-10 Psalm 139.1-18

Reader: Elizabeth Barker Prayers: Andy Kent

6:30pm Choral Evensong

October 13th - 17th Sunday after Trinity

St Mary's 8am Holy Communion BCP*

9:30am Morning Praise

Readings: Philippians 4: 1-9 Psalm 98

Holy Trinity 11am Holy Communion BCP

Readings: Philippians 4: 1-9 Psalm 98

Reader: Janet Scott Prayers: Pauline Maynard

October 20th - 18th Sunday after Trinity

St Mary's 9:30am Holy Communion and Sunday Discoverers

Readings: Acts 16: 11-15 2 Timothy 1: 1-10

NEW! 4pm Together@4

Holy Trinity 11am Matins

Readings: Acts 16: 11-15 2 Timothy 1: 1-10

Reader: Jane Luckhoo Prayers: Keith Luckhoo

October 27th - 19th Sunday after Trinity

St Mary's 8am Holy Communion BCP

9:30am Morning Praise

Readings: Genesis 18.23-32 Ephesians 4.17-32

Holy Trinity 11am Holy Communion BCP

Readings: Genesis 18.23-32 Ephesians 4.17-32

Reader: John van Maurik Prayers: Caroline Daszewska

November 1st - All Saints Day

St Mary's 12noon Healing Service and Lunch

November 3rd - 20th Sunday after Trinity

St Mary's 9:30am Holy Communion, Sunday Discoverers, Big
Breakfast

Readings: Proverbs 9.1-6 Ephesians 5.15-21

Holy Trinity 11am Sunday Praise

Readings: Proverbs 9.1-6 Ephesians 5.15-21

Reader: Penny Dickens Prayers: Andy Kent

6:30pm Choral Evensong

Websites

www.hartfieldchurch.org

www.colemanshatchchurch.org

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