

St David's with St Michael's and All Angels, Mount Dinham, Exeter

Newsletter for Sunday 18 July 2021 – Trinity 7

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our newsletter for the 7th Sunday after Trinity.

We are awaiting further advice from the Church of England about how church life might look after the lifting of legal restrictions on 19th July. But following a diocesan webinar this week and our PCC meeting last Thursday we have decided to keep all Covid precautions in place for the time being. This will be reviewed by our Standing Committee in the second half of August. The alarming rise in cases and hospitalisations with Covid across the country means that businesses and organisations are having to take responsibility in the absence of legal restrictions. The Bishop of London, who is heading up the church response has said "We all must exercise personal responsibility and carefully manage the risks from Covid-19. As Christians, called to love our neighbour as ourselves, we must also exercise collective responsibility and continue to take appropriate precautions to protect others."

So our existing Covid precautions (outlined below) will continue for the time being – sadly with no congregational singing. Face coverings will not be a legal requirement but continue to be recommended (except for those exempt, of course). In the meantime, thank you for helping to keep everyone as safe and well as we can be during this time of continued uncertainty.

Our services today are:

9.30am Service of the Word at St David's (live streamed on St David's Exeter Facebook page) led by Belinda Speed-Andrews with speaker from the Clewer Initiative, Chris Forster

11am Mass at St Michael's with celebrant and preacher, Robin Eastoe

4pm Thrive Online

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88685738289?pwd=WEh1dINCY3NRQTlCcXFjK2ZlejR0UT09>

Meeting ID: 886 8573 8289

Passcode: 159821

Services in church and online this week

Tuesday 20 July, 9.30am Zoom Morning Prayer. Please join us using this code:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6602261392?pwd=VzdOaU1XUFBjWk9jV0xvMDZWajZBQT09>

Meeting ID: 660 226 1392

Passcode: 196651

(prayers are from Common Worship Book or Daily Prayer app which can be downloaded here:

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.aimermedia.dailyprayer&hl=en_GB&gl=US).

Wednesday 21 July, 9.30am Mattins and 10am Mass (live streamed) at St Michael's Church

Thursday 22 July, St Mary Magdalene, 10.30 Holy Communion at St David's Church

Friday 23 July, 9.30am, Morning Prayer, on St David's Facebook Page

Sunday 25 July – Trinity 8, St James the Apostle

9.30am Parish Communion at St David's with celebrant, Belinda Speed-Andrews, and preacher, Nigel Guthrie

11am Mass at St Michael's with celebrant and preacher, Nigel Guthrie

4pm Thrive

Celebrating St James' Day. Whether you're already a regular or have never been before, we'd love to welcome you and look forward to you joining us at Thrive.

Covid-19 Safe for Public Worship

Please avoid touching door handles – Thank you.

Hand sanitizer must be used on entering and leaving church.

Please wear a face covering in church unless you are exempt.

At St David's we are encouraging people to wear face coverings to come forward to receive Holy Communion and then to consume the host after moving away from the altar rail.

At St Michael's the priest will distribute Holy Communion to people in their seats.

Seating will be distanced to approximately 2 metres. Please sit on the seats where service books are placed. Seating is also marked by white labels at St Michael's.

Services should be 'no longer than necessary'; and there will be no congregational singing indoors.

Toilet facilities will be available and please follow the instructions for use.

Please avoid mingling inside church before or after services.

Please do not attend church if you are feeling ill or are shielding. Although we will do all we can to make the church safe you attend at your own risk.

Food for the Vulnerably housed in Exeter

Working through St Petrocks we have now agreed to take on the provision of suppers on Thursday evenings for those in transitional accommodation at the Crescent. We will be providing 16 packed suppers each week and a small team has got together to buy/make them. We don't need any additional support at the moment as there is a significant amount in our 'Soup Evening' kitty which can fund this for the time being.

Time for Quiet Reflection

Belinda will be leading times of corporate Silent Reflection on Friday 23rd July and 6 August at 5.30pm in person and on Zoom. Please email her for further details and joining link at bspeedandrews@gmail.com

Help with Churchwarden tasks

Often Churchwardens pick up tasks which could be done by others. We have already had some kind offers but there are a number of jobs which we will advertise in the coming weeks.

Would you be willing to help with one of these, please, even if you can't do every week?

Opening and closing the church on Sunday (weekly)

Clearing the churchyard on Sunday mornings before the service (equipment provided).

Thank you!

Prize Draw – thank you!

Thank you very much for your support of our Prize Draw, both those of you who donated prizes and everyone who bought tickets or helped on the day. We will announce how much it raised in due course!

August Open Church at St David's

We plan to open St David's Church from 11am -12noon on Saturdays during August. Please have a word with Glynis if you would be willing to help staff one of these occasions so that we can have the church open and perhaps have a small stall, too.

Visiting Speaker from Clewer Initiative

Today we welcome Chris from the Clewer Initiative. The Clewer Initiative enables Church of England dioceses and wider church networks to raise awareness of modern slavery, identify victims and to help provide victim support and care. Earlier this year during Lent, a group of women from our parish came together to learn more about modern day slavery in some of its forms; district lines, sexual exploitation, employment exploitation and many more.

We have invited Chris to come and talk about the work they do, specifically in and around Exeter, and how we as a community can become more involved and work alongside the Clewer Initiative to raise awareness of this insidious disease in our communities. Please watch the introductory video from the Course we followed during Lent, 'Women in the Shadows' which you can see by following this link <https://youtu.be/7iXsZeGHFuM>

Part of the service is Q&A with Chris and so please come with your questions or email Belinda (bspeedandrews@gmail.com) a question you would like to ask. Please do come along and join us as we hope Chris will be able to hang around after the service to chat with people as well and perhaps continue to answer questions that we weren't able to air during the service.

St David's Women's Group

We are planning to get together at 2pm on Tuesday 3 August at the Imperial. If you are not happy to walk into the pub on your own then meet Helena at the St David's Church east-end notice-boards at 1:45 and we can walk over together. Please bring some cash. If you are on the St David's Women's Group email list you will know about this already. If you don't get the Women's Group email then please let Helena or Mollie know if you would like to be added to that mailing.

Men's Breakfast

We have booked the next Men's Breakfast for Saturday July 24th at 10am at the Farmers' Union. We may have to be on two separate tables depending on arrangements on the day.

The next 5 years - who are we and where are we going?

Belinda is leading us in a group study based on the book 'A Future that's bigger than the past' (https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B07YNTLDKB/ref=dp-kindle-redirect?_encoding=UTF8&btkr=1) as we think and discern what God is calling us to for the next 5 years.

If you are interested in joining in the conversation please do email her directly at bspeedandrews@gmail.com

The dates for the meetings at 7.30pm are: Thursday 22 July 9 (at St Michael's Church), Thursday 26 August, Thursday 23 September and Thursday 14 October, before a parish meeting with Archdeacon Andrew Beane at St Michael's about future patterns of ministry in the city of Exeter.

Heritage Open Days at St Michael's

We are planning these days for Saturday 11th September from 9am until 6pm and Open Church on Sunday 12th afternoon with Cream Teas. We plan to run a bookstall at these days so please hold on to your books so that they can be sold in aid of church! We can store them in church if it would help.

Parish Magazine – New Leaves

Please pick up your magazine for July & August. Thank you to our magazine team and distributors!

Green Team

Survey on travel to St David's Church

St David's Church is seeking to encourage the most sustainable forms of transport where possible. We hope to achieve Eco church status. This survey will help identify better ways of travelling to church. Car parking near the church is already difficult and unlikely to improve, so we need to consider and seek other solutions.

Please help by completing the survey (which takes about one minute) online at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TJY7SHP>

Paper forms are also available in church. The Survey will run until 15th August. Best wishes, Clive

The Green Team are planning an event focussed on the environment, with lunch of locally sourced food, for 11th September 2021. Please keep the date!

The team would like to invite volunteers to staff stalls at the event especially for 'home and handicrafts' and 'harvest'. Tickets for the local produce lunch will be

available in the second half of August. If you have green photos of local wildlife and plants or environmental projects that could be part of display on the day please send them to Neil: mrpragnell@gmail.com

Phone Networks

Many of you appreciate phone calls from other members of the church community. If you would like to be phoned by someone and haven't had any contact, or would just like to talk, please let me know at nigel.guthrie1@gmail.com or by ringing me on 01392 660226 or Ash on 07855305519.

St Michael's services and prayers

If you would like to access the services details and prayer list for St Michael's please contact Oliver Nicholson at virtualsaintmichaels@gmail.com and he can add you to their weekly mailing.

Your Prayers are asked for...

Please remember those who have died recently including:

Rachel Maycock

In the **Parish Cycle of Prayer:** All businesses in the Parish. The Communications Group and the Vision and Safeguarding Meetings this week. Leavers from St David's School as they receive their bibles from the parish on Thursday.

Please also pray for:

Those who have lost homes and loved ones in the floods in Germany and western Europe

the people of Ethiopia and Southern Sudan facing conflict and famine;

those suffering from the unrest and violence in South Africa;

the worldwide vaccination programme, giving thanks for all those who have enabled a rapid roll-out in this country;

those working in care homes, hospitals and hospices - giving thanks for their commitment and courage;

those suffering from Covid around the world, especially in India and Brazil; for those anxious about the lifting of restrictions and for wisdom for those making arrangements for worship under the new regime;

May God bless you and those you care for,

Nigel Guthrie

Prayers and Readings for Trinity 7, 18 July 2021

Collect

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 for ever.

First Reading – Jeremiah 23: 1-6

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore, thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

Gospel Reading - Mark 6: 30-34, 53-end

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, 'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the market-places, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

Closing Prayer

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life,
ever giving himself that the world may live:
may we so receive within ourselves
 the power of his death and passion
that, in his saving cup,
 we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Do join us next week for our services in church and online!