

Notices for Week Commencing 3rd October 2021

SERVICES FOR SUNDAY 10th October (19th Sunday after Trinity)

The following are the planned services:

- ◇ 9.30am Holy Communion plus Zoom at Great Witley Church
- ◇ 3.00pm Afternoon Worship at Shrawley Church, followed by Wedding Workshop

Zoom Morning and Evening prayer continue weekdays at 8am and 5pm respectively.

Booking is no longer required for Sunday Worship, but please remember that, for everyone's safety, we ask that you continue to wear a face covering in church buildings.

You are also requested that you maintain whatever social distancing you can to keep one another safe and also be sensitive to those who would prefer to keep distancing in place; however, it is no longer a requirement that you socially distance.

During Communion Services, alternate pews will be kept free for the distribution of the sacrament, which will continue using the same practice as now.

Wedding couples will be asked to book for services and Vickie will alert local churches to ensure there is space allocated for them.

There is a tiny possibility, in the smaller churches, that you could arrive and find the church is at capacity and you cannot get into the service; this situation will be monitored over the next weeks to see if it is a problem. For those of you who remain cautious about distancing, it is recommended that you attend worship in the larger of the church buildings (Great Witley, Abberley St Mary and Lindridge).

Anyone is welcome to book with Vickie if you would also like to ensure that there is space for you. (Vickie Melling: 01584 881086/office@4rivers.church)

As always, continue to check the 4Rivers Churches website (www.4rivers.church/services) for the up-to-date information about services and events over the next week.

All SOULs and CANDLES IN REMEMBRANCE 31st October

There will be a service of Holy Communion for the "Commemoration of the Faithful Departed" at 10.00am on Sunday 31st October at Great Witley Church.

There will also be two Candles in Remembrance services:

- ◇ 4.00pm at Abberley St Mary
- ◇ 6.00pm at Lindridge St Lawrence

Candles of Remembrance is a service where we remember, and give thanks for, loved ones who are no longer with us and where we are invited to light candles and offer prayers to pay tribute to them.

KAINOS POTAMOS (Fresh River)

For those on the Covid Recovery distribution, please note that KAINOS POTAMOS (KP) cannot take place on Sunday 21st November as intended, due to the Cathedral Confirmation service at which we hope to be present.

Instead, as a one-off, KP will take place at Abberley St Mary's, on Sunday 5th December at 6.00pm.

Theme 'Being Fools for Christ' (cf. 1 Corinthians 4:10)

4RIVERS CHURCHES FACEBOOK GROUP To join the group, contact Christine (christine.clarke@4rivers.church).

4RIVERS CHURCHES WEBSITE: (www.4rivers.church) for details of church events and services.

Notices (cont)

FRIENDS OF ST MICHAEL'S LITTLE WITLEY HARVEST FESTIVAL CELEBRATION 17th OCTOBER

Everyone is invited to join in this seasonal celebration of Harvest on Sunday 17th October at Little Witley Village Hall. This year in particular, we thank all our local farmers, growers and farm shops, who over the last eighteen months have grown, harvested and supplied us with wonderful local produce.

The celebration will comprise a traditional 2 course Harvest Lunch, 12.30pm for 1.00pm at Little Witley Village Hall

Cost: £12.50 per adult (to include a welcome drink), £ 5.00 per child (under 5's free)

Contact: John Gorton 01886 888551 or Peter Hill 01299 896950

R.S.V.P. Please ring in advance to book tickets for the lunch to assist with catering. If there are any dietary requirements please advise when booking. Please note we may not be able to admit anyone who has not booked, due to numbers and planning. N.B. As Covid restrictions may still be changing, full refunds will be made if postponed or cancelled.

COFFEE AND CHAT GREAT WITLEY VILLAGE HALL—Tuesday 26th October

Julia, Mary and Linda look forward to welcoming you to Great Witley Village hall for coffee, cake and a chat with friends old and new Tuesday 26th October 2021 from 10am until midday. If you would like to come but haven't got transport please ring Julia on 01299 896412 to arrange a lift. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you there.

Sunday 17th October, 5pm

Archdeacon Robert

United Benefice Service of Holy Communion

Come and join together for a united service of Holy Communion at
Lindridge St Lawrence Church at 5pm on Sunday 17th October.

BIBLE READINGS

HEBREWS: 1:1-4; 2:5-12

¹ Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,

² but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³ He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵ Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶ But someone has testified somewhere,

'What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
or mortals, that you care for them?

⁷ You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned them with glory and honour,

⁸ subjecting all things under their feet.'

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, ⁹ but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰ It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹² saying,

'I will proclaim your name to my
brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will
praise you.'

MARK 10:2-16

² Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?' ³ Jesus answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' ⁴ They said, 'Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.' ⁵ But Jesus said to them, 'Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶ But from the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female." ⁷ "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸ and the two shall become one flesh." So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹ Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.'

¹⁰ Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹ He said to them, 'Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹² and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.'

¹³ People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.

¹⁵ Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' ¹⁶ And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

PRAYERS

Prayer of St Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life.

Amen.

Collect

God, our judge and saviour,
teach us to be open to your truth
and to trust in your love,
that we may live each day
with confidence in the salvation
which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen