



# The Parish of Thorpe St Andrew

## Weekly News with Service Sheet

Trinity 14 – 13 September: Message from the Rector

### What does forgiveness look like?

The picture here by the 17<sup>th</sup> century French artist Claude Vignon, in all its baroque majesty, perhaps seems a long way from what we might imagine forgiveness looks like. It depicts the Parable of the Unforgiving (or Unmerciful) Servant. To put it in simplistic terms – the



servant owes a huge debt and is forgiven by the king, who shows mercy, only for him to go immediately from having received forgiveness to refuse forgiveness of a much, much smaller debt owing to him. A sadly familiar tale? How often do we expect everything to be provided perfectly to us only to begrudge even the slightest leeway the other way round?! There are times when it may seem hard to forgive people for things that have been done or said – but as Jesus teaches his disciples this parable he teaches us that God does not have a score to settle and that neither should we. It is easy to feel hard done by but we are reminded that the infinite mercy of God far outstretches anything we can possibly forgive anyone for. The news of a re-tightening of some of the restrictions with the 'Rule of 6' gives us a nudge this week that this pandemic is not over and that perhaps 2020 (a year we will never forget) is the time to wipe slates clean and let bygones be bygones and in some small way reflect the abundant and loving mercy of our God. That's what forgiveness looks like! Let us all say Amen to that.

God bless you all.

Fr James

# THE PARISH EUCHARIST – Trinity 14

**Organ Voluntary** Improvisation – Andrew Hayden

**Welcome** *Words of welcome to the congregation and those watching online.*

## **The Greeting**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

**Prayer of Preparation: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Prayers of Penitence** God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life. Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**The Collect.** Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; 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. **Amen.**

## **Reading 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 judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment 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 judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment 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.

## **Gospel Reading Matthew 18:21-35**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.** Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening. You have the words of eternal life. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.** Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.**

## **Sermon**

### **The Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

*The response to the bidding* Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

### **The Peace**

Once we were far off but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## **The Preparation of the Table**

*The table is prepared, and bread and wine are placed upon it.*

**Organ Music** *Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of All Nature*, H Schroeder (1904-1984)

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation. **Blessed be God for ever.**

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour. By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Andrew and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**The Breaking of the Bread** *The minister breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

**Agnus Dei** *The Agnus Dei is sung as the bread is broken.*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

### **The Giving of Communion**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, blessed are those who are called to his supper. Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

*The bread is distributed.*

**Organ Music** *Deck Thyself My Soul with Gladness, J G Walther (1684-1748)*

## **Prayer after Communion**

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

**Notices** *The notices and announcements are given*

**The Blessing** *The Rector gives the final blessing.*

The Lord bless you and watch over you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you and all those who you love this day and always. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**Organ Voluntary** 'What God Ordains Is Always Good', Karl Hoyer

*Compiled JWS – September 2020*



## PRAYER INTENTIONS

**THE CHURCH** *Our Ministry Team* James Stewart, Taylor Wilton-Morgan, Nicole King *Our Bishops* Graham, Alan and Jonathan *Ecumenical* Roman Catholic Church: Fr Sean Connolly *Anglican Communion* The Anglican Church of South America, Bishop Gregory Venables

**THE WORLD** *All those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic* all key workers in NHS and all fields of frontline, particularly those who work in our food shops, incl. Sainsbury's, Coop, Londis, Fish's, Thorpe Convenience Store, Blofield Farm Shop (Marcus Pearcey), Thorpe Family Butchers (Andy King) and post offices at Thunder Ln. (Mr Gurney), Yarmouth Rd (Mr and Mrs Dhalla). *World events* NW USA (particularly Oregon) suffering devastating wildfires.

### THE COMMUNITY

*Streets of the Parish* Bishop's Close, Blakestone Drive, Booty Road

*To be baptised here today* Daisy Adelaide Maude Moore

*Civic Leaders* Thorpe St Andrew Town Council, Broadland District Council Norfolk County Council; Chloe Smith MP; twin town of St Andrews, NB, Canada and their Mayor, Doug Naish and Deputy Mayor, Brad Henderson.

**THOSE IN NEED OF OUR PRAYER** including Brian Riseborough, Paul Carter, Mark Little, Monique Rowland, Jennifer Jones, Janet Fancy, Colin Hicks, Glenys Paflin, Alan Harrison, Jill Hall, Grace Howes, Peter and Gaynor Garrod, Rita Ward, Alison Gibson, Joy and Andy McCall, Jean High, Jean Mayhew, Yukiko, Brother Gabriel, Craig Fransham, Bill Stibbe

**THE DEPARTED** *The recently departed* Dave Whitton, Audrey Camp (Funeral-18<sup>th</sup> Sept), Patricia Rogers (Funeral-1<sup>st</sup> Oct), Roy Fisher (Funeral-22<sup>nd</sup> Sept), Glenys Paflin *Those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time* Fr Kenneth Chilton (17<sup>th</sup>), Fr Frank Jolley (17<sup>th</sup>), Brenda Taylor (19<sup>th</sup>), Ann Cook (19<sup>th</sup>) (remembering the dedication of her bench), Hugh Everett (19<sup>th</sup>)

## SERVICES IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

*Subject to restrictions operating at the time, the following will happen:*

<b>20 September</b>	9.30am at the Parish Church	Eucharist
<b>27 September</b>	9.30am at the Parish Church	Eucharist
<b>27 September</b>	10.00am St Andrew's Centre	Café Church
<b>4 October</b>	9.30am at the Parish Church	Eucharist
<b>4 October</b>	11.15am at Good Shepherd	Harvest Festival
<b>11 October</b>	8.00am at the Good Shepherd	Eucharist
<b>11 October</b>	9.30am at the Parish Church	Harvest Festival

## OTHER NOTICES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHURCHWARDENS** The Diocese have done the necessary checks. The service at the Parish Church on Sunday 20 September at 9.30am will include their swearing in. Please come along and support them at this service and in the year ahead. This a rare opportunity to see something happen in the Parish Church, which normally happens in the Cathedral.

**HARVEST FESTIVALS IN THE PARISH** Whilst it has been the practice of the Parish, introduced relatively recently, to have a joint service for Harvest, Covid-19 restrictions make this difficult, so there will be a Harvest Thanksgiving in each church. Covid-19 restrictions mean a Harvest Lunch is not possible. These are as follows:

**4 October 2020 at 11.15am** Harvest Festival Eucharist at Good Shepherd

**11 October 2020 at 9.30am** Harvest Festival Eucharist at Parish Church

**GOOD SHEPHERD** There are many parishes in the Diocese of Norwich where churches remain closed due to Covid-19 restrictions – and the policy of the Diocese was the open one church first. We are very concerned about the vulnerability of any in our congregation and want to do what is safe. The churchwardens, Fr Taylor and myself are continuing to consult, but in the meantime are planning two services at the Church of the Good Shepherd, with plenty of time to give notice for preparations to be made, as follows:

**4 October at 11.15am** Harvest Festival and Lighting of Easter Candle

**11 October at 8.00am** First Post lockdown service at this time

**AUDREY CAMP RIP** Many will now be aware of the death of Audrey. Audrey was a dear parishioner. Our prayers are for Bob and all the family. Her funeral is 18 September but is by invitation only. There will be an opportunity for a service where more can attend at the end of the pandemic. I have arranged free parking between 10.30am and 1.00pm in the Buck Car Park.

**GLENYS PAFLIN RIP** With great sadness we announce the death of Glenys at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital. It was a great privilege to be with Glenys and Gerry when she died. They retired to Norfolk nearly 30 years ago and although they lived over the other side of Norwich they made Thorpe St Andrew their spiritual home. Both were involved in the life of the parish and Glenys for a time led the Parent and Toddler Group. Please keep Gerry and their sons in your prayers. The funeral service is being planned.

**CAFÉ CHURCH AND FAMILY SERVICES** Café Church **IS BACK** in person at the St Andrew's Centre on Sunday 27 September at its pre-lockdown time of 10.00am This will be led by Nicole and Fr Taylor. It will be an opportunity to give thanks for its return and to pray for God's continued

help in this pandemic and to review where Café Church is going. Fr James hopes to join at the end to participate in this discussion! No refreshments, but a warm welcome!

**FOODBANK** The Foodbank Collection box is on the table where tea/coffee is normally served. A list of items needed most is available on request.

**PARKING AT THE BUCK** I am delighted to advise that after consultation with the owners of the Buck they have agreed to turn off the parking meter/camera EACH SUNDAY from 8.00am to 11.30am. This has been achieved through patience and prayer. If you would like to display a notice saying you are parking for church – these are available in the vestry. If you receive a ticket **PLEASE NOTIFY ME IMMEDIATELY!**

**JEAN MAYHEW** I am pleased to provide further and good news about dear Jean. Jean is doing much better now and is looking forward to the move. A home was found for her dog Benji, also very happy. She is moving on Monday 14 September to her care home in Diss, near her daughter. Her new address will be: **De Lucy House Car Home, 40 Victoria Rd, Diss, IP22 4HZ**

**PARISH CHURCH GARDENING MORNING** Thank you to all who helped with gardening last Saturday. Details of the next date will follow!

**100 CLUB** The 2020-2021 season runs October to September. Forms are available. Please can you support this if you are able. You can hold up to three numbers. We need as much financial support as we can at this time and this is a fun way of supporting us. Even the Rector won second prize last month, although this has been returned to the parish with gift aid! The gauntlet has now been thrown down! You can obtain a form by contacting Linda 01603 434986 or Ann 01603 436619 or email [rector@thorpeparishchurch.org](mailto:rector@thorpeparishchurch.org)

**BIBLE STUDY, AUTUMN 2020 – ON ZOOM: ‘When in Romans...’** Our new Bible study series begins on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October at 7pm**. We will be reading and reflecting upon Romans, the book we’ve been hearing alongside the Gospel in Church these past few months. Make no mistake: Romans has a reputation, and many people probably think of it as either a bit scary or just irrelevant to the Gospel. But that, the Christian tradition would contend, is a mistake. So, here’s an invitation to linger with St Paul’s tightly-woven set of stories, and discover in them, quite simply, the fundamentals of Christian life, hope, and love. All are very welcome, whether you’ve read Romans before, or never even opened its pages. Sessions will be discursive and relaxed. Please e-mail Fr Taylor ([fr.taylor@outlook.com](mailto:fr.taylor@outlook.com)) so you can be added to the Zoom invitation. If you would like some assistance with setting up Zoom on your computer, please let us know!

## **GUIDELINES FOR US TO FOLLOW WHILE AT CHURCH**

The announcement by the Government of a change in people gathering in groups of no more than 6 does currently not apply to public worship. However I do want to draw your attention to these already published guidelines to ensure that we keep our parish as safe as possible.

- The service will follow the same pattern as our online services, without the hymns. Organ music will be played before, during and after the service.
- Please **use hand sanitisers** on entering and leaving the church.
- Please wear a face covering at all times in church, other than to receive the host. Those reading/leading are exempt.
- **Please take this weekly notice and service sheet away with you.**
- **Alternate pews are being used** and within the pews please ensure we remember to sit **2 metres away from others (1 metre plus with face mask)**, unless from the same household or 'support bubble', in which case you may sit together. We are asking that the main aisle is used first and we will only open up the side aisle if capacity requires it. This is to lessen the amount of cleaning required after a service.
- **We will not shake hands in the peace.** Ensuring social distance we can place our hands together in prayer form (or Namaste form) – to offer peace.
- **Please can you place your much needed offerings and collection on the brass plate, as you come in.** Collection bowls will not be passed around during the service. Those who count the collection will use gloves, where appropriate.
- When you come up for communion we will not be using the rails. **Please form a queue, ensuring 2 metres distance in order to receive the bread (host).** Please fully extend your arms fully to ensure social distance. The celebrant alone will receive the wine on behalf of us all. Please return to your seats using the one-way system. The side aisle will be invited up first. The celebrant and deacon will use hand sanitiser before the wafers are distributed and the communicants will receive the wafer in their hand. For those requiring a blessing, hands will not be laid on the head but extended towards the head.
- We will keep a list of those attending in order to comply with Government guidance which includes a request for names of attendees to be recorded and kept for 21 days in order to assist 'track and trace' if required.

**THORPE CEMETERY COMMUNITY PROJECT** We are working with community partners to improve the historic part of the cemetery. We really need some volunteers. Further sessions continue from 8.45am – 12 noon. They next meet on Saturday 26 September. Further details from the Rector.

**VOLUNTEERS** The Churchwardens are preparing rotas for people to welcome us on a Sunday morning, cleaning and anything else you would like to volunteer with. Please contact Alison or Tim.

**AUTUMN CRAFT FAIR** HM Government restrictions mean that this has now been cancelled. More news later, as the weeks go on. Thank you to Victor and Phyllida for the effort that they had already put in.

**HARVEST FLOWERS** If you have expressed an interest in helping with flowers/decorating the church this is your chance to help decorate the Parish Church. We understand that the Good Shepherd Church is taken care of. Expressions of interest to Fr James.

**NORFOLK CHURCHES TRUST: BIKE, DRIVE OR WALK** Thank you to all those who helped on Saturday 12 September. Huge thanks to Auriol, who completed her walk and to Matt Green who planned to cycle. Please sponsor them. Matt has a JustGiving page which I will publicise on Facebook. Half the funds go to the Norfolk Churches Trust and half come here.

**THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!** Many have already been very generous. Here is a reminder of some of the ways you can still help:

- We now have a contactless (and push button) card reader.
- You can post a cheque to the Rectory, to be passed on to Treasury Team.
- We can arrange to call and collect anything you are able to give.
- You can contact Sally and obtain details to go over to standing orders or indeed make individual online payments. For security reasons our bank details here can be obtained from Sally on [treasurerts@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerts@gmail.com)

Any additional amounts are very gratefully received. Whilst we have done all we can to cut costs our income is down considerably, but the shortfall may be as much as £20,000, if not more. If you are not registered for Gift Aid, and you are a UK taxpayer, please consider this as it means we can re-claim additional funds from the Government at no extra cost to you.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Please contact our Rector,

The Revd James Stewart (Fr James)

Tel: 01603 439160 or email him at [rector@thorpeparishchurch.org](mailto:rector@thorpeparishchurch.org)