The Three Parishes Benefice



St Mary's Church,
Saltford.
All Saints Church,
Corston.
Holy Trinity Church,
Newton St Loe.



8th & 15th
September
Notice Sheet

8th September - Trinity 15

8.45am Parish Breakfast - St Mary's Hall Saltford 9.30am Connect (Informal Service) - St Mary's Hall Saltford 11.15am Morning Worship - Holy Trinity Newton St Loe 4pm Benefice Telephone Service

Collect

Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Readings Prov 22:1-2,8-9,22-23 Mark 7:24-end



Wednesday 11th September

7.30pm Compline - St Marys Saltford

15th September - Trinity 16

9.30am Holy Communion - St Mary's Hall Saltford 11.15am Family Service - All Saints Corston

4pm Benefice Telephone Service 6pm Evensong - St Mary's Saltford

Collect

Lord of creation, whose glory is around and within us: open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you with reverence and know your peace at our lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Readings
Prov 1:20-33
Mark 8:27-end



Reimaging generosity

In John's Gospel, the first of the signs that Jesus offers to show who he is happens at a wedding in the town of Cana in Galilee (John 2: 1-11). Jesus saves the whole event from being a social disaster. The presenting issue is that the wine runs out. This exposes the families that have organised the event to the possibility of severe embarrassment. Rather than modelling lavish hospitality, they are in danger of showing themselves to be stingy and disorganised. Thankfully Jesus's mum is alerted to the situation and gets Jesus on the case. He comes up with a solution and all is well.

What gets me every time about this story is the scale and the quality of the solution that Jesus presents. If my calculations are right, Jesus saves the day by creating the equivalent of six wheelie bins full of wine. And not just your supermarket bottom shelf stuff. The wine he provides is of the very best quality – stuff that would delight sommeliers and wine snobs the world over.

In his first action, Jesus could have chosen to show any number of things about himself — his wisdom, his power, his goodness or so on. What's striking is that he begins by revealing that he is someone of astonishing and abundant generosity. This is at heart who Jesus is.

If this is who Jesus is, then that means that this is who God is too. For 'in God there is no unChristlikeness'. In his first action, Jesus is showing us that at heart, God is abundantly and astonishingly generous.

If we're all made in God's image, might that be at heart who we're called to be too? Often, the call to be generous can be portrayed as hard and difficult, about self-sacrifice and denial, of the costly call to put others first. But what if we reimagined what being generous

means? If we understood being generous as in fact the way to reveal and enjoy our true selves – lavishly, abundantly, joyfully... merrily?

A wheelie bin of wine anyone?

Bishop Michael

Pause for Thought

We have just left the 'silly season', but to mark its passing, here are two or three (silly?) thoughts.

The scriptures liken us to sheep who have gone astray. Sheep wander away and get lost because of stupidity, not wilfulness. Does this actually make them guilty of anything? In scripture the shepherd simply gathers them back into his flock.

The scriptures don't mention cats. At Jesus' time they were considered a nuisance and not domesticated or kept as pets.

If they had been, might Jesus have likened us to cats, I wonder? They are notorious for wanting to do things their own way and won't flock or herd.

That said, some cat-lovers manage to get several cats to live happily together. How do they do that?

OK, silly thoughts maybe, but are they worth re-reading.....even thinking about?

Ken Plant

BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP

Some of our church members attend a weekly (term time) Bible study group based in Bristol but also available to attend online. This year we will be learning from the book of Revelation - a book which contains much imagery and prophecy, but through all of which runs the golden thread of hope. Hope which is found uniquely in the Lord Jesus Christ.

If you would like to find out more please contact Pam or Dave Faulkner or go online to <u>bsfinternational.org</u>.

BSF groups are open to all, and no charge is made to attend.



Men's Curry Evening

'Is Jesus Essential?'
Thursday 7th November 2024
The Riverside Inn, The Shallows, Saltford
Arrive 7-7.30pm
Cost £20 cash on arrival
Speaker - Clover Todman (Pastor at Widcombe Baptist Church)
All welcome
To book a place, please contact Liz at the Parish Office
scnbenefice@gmail.com or 01225 872275

Wednesday Mornings Telephone Service

Ken & Teresa invite you to join them at the weekly Telephone Service on Wednesdays at 9.30am.

Please see below on how to join in or contact the Parish Office for help. All welcome

Benefice Telephone Service

To join our telephone service

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Dial: 03330164757

Room Number: 30497259# Room Number: 5856#

# **Opportunities to Pray**

Morning Prayer

Monday to Wednesday via Zoom at 8.30am

Prayer @ 6
Monday to Thursday via Zoom at 6pm

Zoom Meeting Details for Morning Prayer and Prayer@6 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85017998147pwd=L0FWMnZENHIvZ3VxS3FOeWpaNXJWZz0 9

Meeting ID: 850 1799 8147 Passcode: Prayer

# Supporting the Mission and Ministry of St Mary's Church

If you would like to make an online donation to support the ongoing work of St Mary's please click on the donate button. It will redirect you to our online giving page. You can also give in other ways like standing order, through the contactless device in church, through our website or by cash. For more information about how to give, please speak to Pam F our treasurer and she will be able to help you.





# REGULAR ACTIVITIES IN ST MARY'S HALL

MONDAY

10.30am Vast UK - weekly 2pm Mobiflex - weekly

**TUESDAY** 

10am Coffee Morning - monthly (2nd Tues)i

WEDNESDAY

10.30am Vast UK - weekly

2pm Saltford Stitchers - monthly (2nd Wed)

6pm Vitality Pilates - weekly

7.30pm Elite Ladies Kickboxing - weekly

THURSDAY

9.30am Toddler Group - weekly 8pm Bath Circle of Magicians - fortnightly

FRIDAY

10am Foodbank - weekly

SATURDAY

10am Perform - weekly 10am Farandole Dancers - monthly (3rd Sat)

SUNDAY

8.45am Parish Breakfast - monthly
10.15am Refreshments after Church- weekly



# Corston Soup & Pudding Lunch

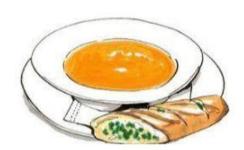
# The dates are Wednesday

11th September 9th October 14th November 11th December

Our Soup & Pudding Lunch is run & staffed by village volunteers, who make & serve the soups & puddings. Its a place to go for lunch with friends & neighbours.

Held at Corston Village
Hall on the second
Wednesday each month
from 12.30pm to 1.30pm.

ALL WELCOME





# Corston Coffee Shop

# The dates are Wednesday

3rd July 17th July

7th August 21st August

4th September 18th September

2nd October 16th October

6th November 20th November 4th December 18th December

Our Coffee Shop in Corston is run & staffed by village volunteers, who make & serve cakes, coffee, tea & hot chocolate. Its a place to meet friends & neighbours on a regular basis.

Held at Corston Church the first & third Wednesday of each month from 10.30 to noon.

All Welcome.



# Safeguarding

If you have cause for concern regarding the safety of a child or vulnerable adult it is vital that you contact our Benefice Safeguarding Officer.

# **Benefice Safeguarding Officer**

Mrs Sue Dixon 01225 359014 smdstm31@gmail.com

# **Contact Us**

#### Rector

Revd Nigel Williams (Day off Friday)

Rector@scnbenefice.org.uk 07850 887498

# **Administrator**

Liz Benden (Day off Friday)
Parish Office Opening Hours (term time only) Tuesday - Thursday 9am-12pm
01225 872275
scnbenefice@gmail.com

# **Readers (Lay Ministers)**

Teresa Austin 07763 208664 Robin Dixon 01225 359014 Ken Plant 01225 872904

# **Church Wardens**

Norman (Saltford) 01225 874591 Ian (Saltford) 01225 872275 Julie (Corston) 07983 910796 David (Corston) 01225 873887 Harvey (Newton) 07711 506676 Matthew (Newton) 07469 377438

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# Our mailing address is:

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