

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON

WEEKLY BULLETIN



30th August - 12th Sunday after Trinity

Sunday Bible readings: Exodus 3.1-6 and Matthew 16.21-28.

Dear friends,

Many of us have a 'happy place'. As I write, I am preparing to go on holiday to a place which, in recent years, has become one of these for me - Three Cliffs Bay, on the Gower Peninsula. For me, this is a place of both stillness and tumult, where the beach and sea can be serenely calm, but, on a day like yesterday when winds nearby were recorded at over 60 miles an hour, can become a place where you want to stay firmly indoors, safe and secure. In many ways, it is a picture of life, and for me, my journey with Christ.

I first met Christ as a scared little girl, terrified from a nightmare in the middle of the night. He immediately brought peace, stillness and comfort, holding me as a father holds a child. But, as I'm sure you will be able to relate, at other points in my life, my journey has been far from serene, peaceful or comforting. In these times, there is an image of Christ from Hebrews 6, which I find helpful. Christ is the anchor of our souls, entering into the Father's presence when we were unfit to do so, and securing us there as a heavy anchor secures a ship in a storm, stopping it from drifting from its moorings. Unlike physical anchors, the chain of the anchor of Christ cannot be broken by the storms of life that we face. Nothing in heaven, on earth or under the earth can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

So I urge you to 'lower your anchor' and draw closer to Christ in both serene and stormy waters. One way that you can do this is by spending time in prayer - I would really encourage you, whether your life feels serene or stormy at the moment, to sign up for an hour's prayer as part of our 24 hours of prayer (see the notice later on in the bulletin)!

May you know God's presence with you wherever you are and whatever you are doing this week,

Sian

DIAL-ST-DENYS

Call **0116 4647540** to hear last Sunday's sermon and other parts of the service.
Call **0116 4647740** to hear a recent Walk with Wonder.

Other Worship on TV or Radio

For those who can't access online worship you may be interested that the following are broadcast on Sundays:

30 minute service 8.00am Radio Leicester . Songs of Praise 1.15pm BBC1
Sunday Worship 8.10am Radio 4 . Choral Evensong 3.00pm Radio 3

THIS WEEK'S ZOOM TIMETABLE

To join us for any of the following, go to www.zoom.us/join, type in the Meeting ID, and the Password (which can be obtained from Elizabeth).



Sunday 30th August Service at 10.00am

Meeting ID: 820-0369-6332

*If you would like to be on a rota for reading at the Zoom Sunday
Worship please let Elizabeth know (admin@stdenys.org.uk)*

Morning Prayer Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.00am. (**No prayers** on Bank Holiday Monday) Meeting ID: 850-7098-3621

Coffee Mornings on Tuesdays at 11am. Meeting ID: 857-8486-4853

Contact Nigel to find out about the Wednesday evening **Housegroup**.

Throughout lockdown we have worked hard to make sure that everything we offer is accessible for those who do not have a computer. If you can't get access online, you can always join us on your landline.

Call 0131 4601196 just before the time of the meeting. You will then be asked to enter the Meeting ID followed by #. This is the 9 digit code specific to each meeting. You will then be asked for their Participant ID but just press # again. Finally you will be asked for the password. You should then be able to hear everything and join in.



Church Open for Private Prayer - Sunday 2-4pm

It is mandatory to wear a face covering inside the building unless you have a medical exemption. Please follow the stewards' directions on arrival.

LISTENING CAMPAIGN

Over the summer, a group from St Denys led a listening campaign supported by Leicester Citizens. Fifteen people in their 20s, 30s and 40s shared stories of their good experiences at St Denys as well as stories of things they really cared about and thoughts about the future.

Feedback was positive about the church's welcome, its inclusion and encouragement of vocation, its authenticity and being a 'safe space'. Inclusion of **all** people, caring for those with mental health needs, racial justice and the environment are things that matter a great deal. Some felt the welcome for families with children could be much better.

When it came to the future, almost everyone wanted to see the church grow and more young people involved. The group wanted St Denys to be known as family-friendly, caring and supportive, Spirit-led, creative, active in the community and a place for training and sending out.

We are very grateful to those who shared their stories which will help the PCC to shape the vision for St Denys beyond Covid-19.

WORLDWIDE SEASON OF CREATION

1st September to 4th October has become the Season of Creation, a time dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life. We will be marking this at St Denys in lots of ways...



Sunday 5th September 11am-4pm: Christian Climate Conference hosted by young people from churches in Leicestershire including Erica from our own congregation. With a keynote speaker and a number of great workshops to choose from, this will be a virtual conference and tickets can be booked (FREE) here - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christian-climate-conference-tickets-117252536493> (Contact Anthony for details if you want to join over the phone.)

Sunday 6th September 10am: Climate Sunday Service.

Sunday 6th September 2.30pm: Footpaths course begins. An online course for a multifaith group of people seeking practical ways to cut their carbon footprint.

Monday 7th September 7.30pm: **RETHINKING ALOUD Creation and Spirituality**
Our regular time together to reflect on the diocesan podcasts will be focussed on environmental issues and faith.
Meeting ID: 860 2390 1900

Pray for the sick, in mind, body and spirit, including Neil McBride, Dick Sharpe, Ken Banyard, Carole Goodess, Ted Lee, Suzanne Watson, George Dixon, Sheila Webster, David Pearson, Brenda Johnson and Victoria Hammond, Also pray for those who mourn, including the families and friends of Dorothy Betts and Roy Phillips, and those who have died as a result of Covid-19.



Pray for our world during this Season of Creation. Give thanks for the beauty and diversity of creation, ask for forgiveness for where we have exploited or abused the earth and its resources, and pray for action to address the injustice of climate breakdown that impacts the poorest most.

September 24 hours of prayer - 10am 6th Sept - 10am 7th Sept

Slots can be booked online at <https://www.24-7prayer.com/signup/83bb54>. If you don't have internet, you can still join in. Just contact Anthony to book a slot for you, as Sian will be on holiday **29th August – 5th September**. As before, we will 'pass the baton' by phone so that everyone can be involved. The form will ask for a phone number so please use the phone number you want to be called on at that time of day. **Sian will contact people on the evening of 5th September to coordinate the 'passing the baton'**. If you would like the Thy Kingdom Come prayer resources, please contact Sian before she goes away, and she can get a copy to you.



Collect for Trinity 12

God of constant mercy, who sent your Son to save us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

If you need to talk, please get in touch:

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