

# ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN Sunday 20th July 2025, 5th Sunday after Trinity



*Readings for today: Colossians 1 vs 15-28; Luke 10 vs 38-end*

*Dear Friends*

Last week's readings for Morning Prayer include passages from the Old Testament book of Job. Job is not for the fainthearted as it is based on the premise that even the most faithful and devout people sometimes feel they are tested by God to the very point where their faith is destroyed. Job is a 'good man' whose comfortable world is shattered by a series of appalling tragedies. He laments his fate at length, accompanied by three companions who try to comfort him, but their words seem hollow, even patronizing. Job responds to their platitudes by asking how we can possibly understand the reasons why the Almighty and Just God has created a world where suffering afflicts the righteous as well as the wicked. At one point Job likens the search for such all-seeing wisdom to the work of miners, digging deep into the rock for gold and precious stones; but even there, he says, wisdom is not to be found. *'Where then does wisdom come from, and where is the place of understanding?'* he demands. And then from his place of despair he utters these words: *'Truly the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding'*.

We have just lost a dear old friend, John Penny, who was a vicar in Cambridgeshire for many years, and Rural Dean in Wisbech Lynn Marshland before I succeeded him. He suffered for many years with Parkinson's Disease, which progressively limited his faculties and opportunities in what would otherwise have been the golden years of his life. Nonetheless he remained the gentlest, kindest and most forbearing man. I never knew him utter a cross word or complain about anything or anyone, and in his last years, wheelchair bound, he always greeted people with a radiant smile and genuine affection. He made our lives better just by his presence. He didn't go in for complicated theology or showy sermons; he just loved people as God loved (and still loves) him. *'Fear of the Lord'* is not a cringing, anxious, or timid posture, but a deep and unshakable respect for God's absolute lordship of our 'estate'; our lives and limbs, all that we love, everything we do and accomplish. In its valiant surrender we may find the quiet eye of the storm, the fixed point in a world of restless movement, like the stillness at the centre of a spinning top.

With every blessing, **Matthew**



### **COMING UP AT ST DENYS:**

**Thursday 17th 10.30 Gentle Exercise Group** in the parish centre

**Friday 18th 5pm Private Booking** in the parish centre

**Sunday 20th 10am Holy Communion** in church and on Zoom; ID 820 0369 6332  
(password from Qyan) **4pm Evensong** in church

**Monday 21st 2pm Monday Meet** meet in the parish centre

**Tuesday 22nd 7.30pm Lily House Bereavement Group** in church and parish centre

**Wednesday 23rd 12pm Lunch Club** in the parish centre

**Thursday 24th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group** meet in the parish centre

**diary**

**Thursdays 17th & 24th 10am—12 noon Open Church**

**Thursdays 24th & 27th 10am Holy Communion (BCP) said** in church



### **Olive Trees in Gethsemane**

Picture accompanies the front page letter.

**Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion** will be held this Thursday 17th July at 10am, led by Revd Rob Hinsley, Vicar of St. Luke's, Stocking Farm and Christ the King, Beaumont Leys. Refreshments will be served at the back of the church at it's conclusion. All are welcome.



**We are delighted that our very own Revd Matthew Bradbury** will preside at our service of Holy Communion this coming Sunday 20th July at 10am, for the first time on a Sunday, in St. Denys. The preacher will be Reader **Sian Rigby**. Refreshments will be served in the parish centre after the service. All are welcome.

**Revd Matthew** will also preside and preach at our Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion service on Thursday 24th July at 10am. Refreshments will be served at the end of this service too, at the back of the church.



**Our service of Holy Communion this coming Sunday, 20th July at 10am** will be the last service with us, for Sian Rigby. Sian has worshipped and, in her capacity as one of our two Readers, led worship for us, for nearly 10 years. She has been a loved and highly valued member of the Ministry team. We are very sorry to see her go. Following her marriage on 2nd August, Sian will move on to pastures new within Leicester. *Thank you Sian for all you have contributed to the faith, and the life and work of St. Denys. You go on our way with our very best wishes for the future. May God bless you richly.*

**Congratulations to our Reader Sian and her fiancée Zak** who are marrying in St. Denys on Saturday 2nd August at 1pm. Revd Anthony Lees-Smith will be conducting the service. All are welcome to attend the service.

**Don't Forget!** For those of you able to attend, the annual **Evington Village Fete** takes place on Saturday 9th August 12noon-5pm, on the village green. There are lots of different stalls and activities to visit/participate in and a wide range of musical and other entertainment throughout. Lunches will be served in the Village Hall as well as Afternoon teas in St. Denys parish centre.

**VJ Day 80th Anniversary, Civic Service** will be held on Thursday 14th August in Leicester Cathedral. All are welcome, to remember the end of the 2nd World War. It will include music and bell ringing. The time of the service is 5.30pm—6.30pm.

**Date for your Diary!** On Sunday 5th October 2025 at 4pm, the choir of Leicester Cathedral and organists will return for a second time to St. Denys, as part of their 'Together With' scheme, to sing full Choral Evensong. Do reserve this date, and experience the Cathedral choir singing wonderful music to very high professional standards, in worship and praise of our Lord God.

**I am still looking for volunteers urgently** to join the Rota for preparing and delivering intercessions during Sunday worship. We are now desperately short of people. If this is a ministry you think you would like to try, please do have a word with me. There are vacancies on the Readers rota too! **Qyan**

**Our Parish Centre** is used week by week, by local community groups. Private functions and activities are also held. It is available to hire during the week including Saturdays, but not on Sundays currently. Please get in touch if you wish to hire the centre. **Qyan**

**Two poems to reflect on themes for the 5th Sunday after Trinity—sourced from the internet, Ai overview, authors (if applicable) unknown.**

### ***The Gentle Hand***

A gentle hand, a humble plea,  
To serve Your will, for all to see.  
A heart that seeks, a soul that strives,  
To live Your love in daily lives.  
Mercy shown, a guiding light,  
To walk in truth, and make things right.



### ***Seeds of Faith***

In fields of grace, good seed is sown,  
By enemy's hand, tares are grown.  
Let mercy guide, until the day,  
When wheat and tares are swept away.  
Teach us to nurture, to forgive,  
And in Your love, eternally live.



**Collect for the 5th Sunday after Trinity** Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Pray the sick:** Pat Davies, Nigel Dearman, Ann Dixon, Zak Gardner, Alison Keddily, Mary Smith, Andy White, Richard Williams.

**We pray for all those who suffer with long term health conditions**

**Pray too for those who mourn including the family and friends of** Revd John Penny, Angela Stevenson (formerly Plowman)



**Ann Bennett (Churchwarden)** 07806 877644

**Sian Rigby (Reader & Temporary Safeguarding Officer)** 07538 756709

**Geraldine (Reader & Pioneer)** 0116 2737717

**Qyan (Administrator)** 07803 828454 [office@stdenys.org.uk](mailto:office@stdenys.org.uk)

St. Denys website, including the Giving Links for Church and Youth Work:

[www.stdenys.org.uk](http://www.stdenys.org.uk)

