

**ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN Sunday**  
**5th October 2025, 16th Sunday after Trinity**



Dear Friends, **Luke 17 vs 5-10**: The lectionary gospel texts in Luke over the past few weeks, have identified the calls to action that Jesus has given those who want to be like him. This is very likely why the lectionary has paired the encouragement to faith in verses 5-6 with the picture of servanthood in verses 7-10. The disciples ask to have their faith increased and Jesus tells them to just do what they are supposed to do as God's slaves; they have an internal motivation problem rather than a faith supply issue.

Why are they struggling to think that they are up for the challenge? To be fair, the challenge that Jesus has laid for them is difficult and daunting for anyone who has a smidgen of self-awareness about their sinfulness. Along with everything else Jesus has taught and modelled to them, he has just specifically spoken about not being a stumbling block to others as well as the necessity to forgive repeatedly and regularly. (17.1-4) It is to these two things that the disciples cry, "Increase our faith!"

In vs 6 and 7-10, Jesus is saying that it doesn't take much faith—that it's the use of that faith in doing what we ought that we should really be focusing on. So, the disciples hearing yet again how difficult and challenging the call to discipleship is, ask Jesus to increase their faith so that they will feel more confident about their chances of being obedient. God's response is to tell them, "Just get on with it!"

Jesus uses a real-world example from their time and culture to make his point. Who keeps rewarding their slave for doing their job? Who holds their slave to an easier standard than they hold themselves? Who thanks their slave for doing their job? *Nobody*. What Jesus is teaching his followers about how to live out their faith makes for an extraordinary life, but it is the bare minimum of what it means to be his slave. "Just get on with it!"

Stop asking for more faith and practice the Jesus way. Recognize all that God has given you. The gift of faith given to each of us is accompanied by God's very self as the Holy Spirit abides with us. Having God with us, don't ask God to increase our faith internally, but externally as we grow in obedience and faith in action. Think about how God is calling us to be his servant today. This allows us to build on the sure foundation of faith he has laid for us in our hearts. Our vocation as Christians is to follow Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, but that requires being willing to start practicing before we feel ready or want to do what he is calling us to do—because it is "only what we ought to have done" in his name. **Revd Chelsea Harmon, Pastor, Bridge Community Church, Langley, British Columbia (Guest Slot) (Adapted)**

### COMING UP THIS WEEK:

**Thursday 2nd 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group** meet in the parish centre  
**Thursday 2nd 12pm Private Booking** in the parish centre  
**Friday 3rd 12pm Private Booking** in the parish centre  
**Sunday 5th 10am Holy Communion with Bishop Martyn** in church and on Zoom;  
ID 820 0369 6332 (password from Qyan) **4pm Choral Evensong** in church  
**Monday 6th 10.30am Private Booking** in the parish centre  
**Monday 6th 2pm Monday Meet** meet in the parish centre  
**Tuesday 7th 9am Private Booking** in the parish centre  
**Tuesday 7th 7.30pm Lily House Bereavement Group** church & parish centre  
**Wednesday 8th 12.45pm Lunch Club** in the parish centre  
**Thursday 9th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group** meet in the parish centre  
**Thursday 9th 12pm Private Booking** in the parish centre

**Thursday 2nd & 9th 10am—12 noon Open Church**

**Thursday 2nd & 9th 10am Holy Communion (BCP, said)**



**The PCC apologises that,** for the past two weeks, our 10am Sunday service has not been live streamed via Zoom. This is due to the fact that all the trained operators were away. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused.

**Zoom Operators Needed for Sunday Morning Worship!** It is important that every Sunday morning service is live streamed via Zoom. This is so that those who cannot get to church due to illness, infirmity, or for any reason, are able to tune in and worship with us from home. It is a lifeline for some people too! We currently have three trained people who can set it up, monitor and close it down again but they are not always able to attend. **We need more!** Phil Tyler is willing to teach people the ropes. If you can help in this way, do have a word with Ann Bennett (Churchwarden) or Phil himself. It will be much appreciated. Thank you.

**New Church Treasurer Needed!** At the Annual Church Meeting next May, our Treasurer, Michael White, will be stepping down from the role. The PCC seeks someone willing to take up this volunteer position, who is very good with numbers and has a knowledge of church rules and procedures. You do not need to be professionally qualified! The chosen person will need to 'shadow' Michael in the preceding months before taking over. If you or anyone you know fits the bill, please contact Ann Bennett (Churchwarden) or Michael himself when he returns from holiday in two weeks time. Thank you.

*Readings for 5th October: 2 Timothy 1 vs 1-14; Luke 17 vs 5-10*

**Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion (said)** will take place next Thursday 2nd October at 10am, with Revd Jonathan Surridge presiding and preaching. Refreshments will be served after the service. All welcome.

**St. Luke's Church, Thurnby** will host an informal concert by Ron Berry (Organ) and Mike Lessiter (Bass/Baritone singer) on Saturday 4th October at 11am. Refreshments served from 10.30am. FREE! All welcome.

**Bishop Martyn, Bishop of Leicester** will preside and preach at our service of Holy Communion on Sunday 5th October at 10am. Refreshments served afterwards.

**Choral Evensong! Don't forget!** On Sunday 5th October at 4pm, the choir and organists of Leicester Cathedral will visit St. Denys to sing Choral Evensong. This is a relaxing service, held, as it was first designed hundreds of years ago, with the choir singing the Psalm, Canticles, Responses and Anthem and the congregation joining in with the hymns. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served in the parish centre after the service.

**Free group walk in Shady Lane Arboretum** Evington is being organised for Saturday 11 October, led by our Volunteer Tree Wardens and celebrating autumn trees. This walk is put on by Leicester City Council. Our Tree Tours are very enjoyable, and a great way to encourage people to experience both the physical and mental health benefits of gentle exercise outdoors, in a friendly group. The walk is free to attend but places must be booked via Eventbrite or through our Walks Information line, as places are limited to help keep the group size manageable. Full walk details are available on Eventbrite via the link below:



<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1730359745579?aff=oddttdtcreator>

The walk is also promoted on my Group Walks in Leicester Facebook page (below), and I'm very happy for it to be shared across other Facebook pages, by other groups in the Evington area - including faith groups and special interest groups. <https://www.facebook.com/GroupWalksLeicester/>



**Harvest Festival and Kimberley's Commissioning/ Licensing as a Locally Authorised Minister** will take place, with Holy Communion, on Sunday 12th October, 10am followed by a bring and share harvest lunch in the parish centre. Donations of non perishable foods for harvest, will be received and gratefully accepted on Sunday morning before the service begins. These will be given to the foodbank at Wesley Hall later in the week. Thank you.

**Annual Service for All Souls** will take place on Sunday 2nd November, at 4pm, followed by refreshments in the parish centre. There will be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one and appropriate hymns/readings will be sung/said. If you would like the name of loved ones read out at this service, please add them to the list at the back of the church.

**'Come and Sing' Candlelit Christmas Carol Service** We are hoping to hold a traditional 9 Lessons and Carols service, or simplified version of it, on Sunday 21st December at 6pm. If you would like to be part of a choir for this service, please do contact me. It would be lovely to have church members take part in this way. You do not have to be an experienced singer and the music chosen, will be straightforward, with one rehearsal on the day itself, so your time commitment is kept to a minimum. I look forward to hearing from you. **Qyan**

**Collect for the 16th Sunday after Trinity** 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.

**Pray for the long term sick:** Joan Ackland, Pat Davies, Nigel Dearman, Ann Dixon, Morag and Ron Maund, Mary Smith, Richard Williams. **Pray for those who mourn including the family and friends of** Sue Butterworth, and anyone we know personally.



**Ann Bennett (Churchwarden)** 07806 877644

**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)

