

ST DENYS CHURCH EVINGTON, BULLETIN for Sunday 23rd August 2026, 12th Sunday after Trinity

Readings for today: Romans 12 vs 1-8; Matthew 16 vs 13-20



Dear Friends. Well, we have had some rain this week; but there has been so little rain, over so many hot weeks. We see something of all the extra worry our farmers have, due to the lack of water. Then there are all the wild fires we have been seeing around the country, leaving large areas of land devastated, and in places, properties also destroyed. In places around the world, there is the constant, on-going, worry of having to use dirty water.

Water is essential for life.

Water, in various ways, features throughout the Bible. In the opening verses of Genesis, we read how water had been covering the whole earth when God began his work of creation; then God separated and gathered the waters. Then, in the final chapter of the book of Revelation, we read of the River of the Water of Life, flowing through the city. And water is mentioned in various ways, in many of the other books in the Bible.

In chapter 4 of St John's Gospel, Jesus spoke of Living Water, to the Samaritan woman at the well. And he spoke of that Living Water, which he gives, becoming a spring of water within people, giving them eternal life. We all need that Living Water which Jesus gives, springing up within us, and giving eternal life. It is ours for the asking.

Water is essential for our physical, mental and spiritual well-being. With the rain that we have had this week, it will help to begin to refresh and restore the parched ground; it will take time, as the ground is so dry. And the Living Water that Jesus gives, refreshes, restores us, and brings us eternal life.

Water is for life.

Jesus gives Living Water
for Eternal Life.

Geraldine Moulden

COMING UP:

Sunday 23rd 10am Holy Communion in church and on Zoom, ID 820 0369 6332 (password from Qyan)

Monday 24th 10am Private Booking in the parish centre

Tuesday 25th 9.30am Private Booking in the parish centre

Thursday 27th 3pm Funeral Service in church

Thursday 27th 10.30am Gentle Exercise Group meet in the parish centre

diary

Thursday 27th 10am—12pm Open Church

Thursday 27th 10am Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion in church



Revd Dr Vijay Kumar (picture second from right) will preside and preach at our Holy Communion service this coming Sunday 23rd August at 10am. All are welcome. After the service, please do stay for tea, coffee and chat in the parish centre if you can.

Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion (BCP, said) will be held in the South Aisle of the church by Father Alan Hawker this coming Thursday 27th August at 10am. Refreshments will be served at the back of the church afterwards. All are welcome!

The Late Valerie Wheeler It is with much sadness that I report the passing of Valerie Wheeler. A regular attender at St. Denys many years ago, some of you may remember her well. The funeral service will take place in St. Denys Church on Tuesday 27th August at 3pm. All are welcome.

Prayer Morning on Saturday 5th September. The church will be open from 10am to 12 noon for you to come and go for as long or as short a time as you wish. Please pray for St Denys church, for Revd Cecilia who is to be our new vicar, and for anyone or any situation that is on your mind. There will be people to pray with you if you wish. **Ann Bennett**

The Late Bill Mann The funeral service for Bill will take place on Tuesday 8th September at 10.30am in St. Denys, led by Revd Canon Dr Stephen Foster. All are welcome.

Reflections on Iceland, part 3: At last, on day four we boarded the Hurtigruten Ship MS Fridtjof Nansen for our seven-day circumnavigation of Iceland. The itinerary promised a mix of remote coastal towns, steep sea cliffs, volcanic landscapes, and stretches of open water, with nearly continuous daylight. It did seem strange to look out of the 'window' at midnight to almost broad daylight and see the glow of the sun just below the horizon.

Iceland is known as the 'Land of Ice and Fire'. We experienced both. Magnificent waterfalls, thundering with glacial waters and vast tracts of volcanic tundra. We visited patches of boiling mud and saw steam coming from the earth's core. We even saw where two tectonic plates were moving apart. We visited Heimaey an Island where the effects of the 1973 volcanic eruption can still be seen today.



We also saw an abundance of wildlife. On Vigur Island we were taken on a tour of an Eider Duck Farm. Also, on Vigur, we enjoyed a guided walk through the southern part of the island where countless seabirds filled the cliffs and grassy meadows with movement and sound, offering incredible opportunities to observe Iceland's rich birdlife up close.

On Heimaey, we met Little White and Little Grey, two Baluga whales.



Wherever we went we were greeted with the sounds and sights of God's wondrous creation. However, one of our favourite excursions was a visit to a puffin colony - A VAST puffin colony. I believe just a FEW photographs were taken of this little bird nicknamed the 'clown of the sea'.

On one of the excursions Michael remembered a challenge Revd Sharon Plant had set us on her last visit to St Denys. Where do you find Glory?

The following words are Michael's answer to Sharon's question:

"I find glory in wild landscapes. Some created millions of years ago and some very recently. I am sometimes moved to reflect quietly on God's creation and how vulnerable this planet is. We are guardians of this earth for future generations to come. It is our duty to care for it. It doesn't matter if it's the snow-covered mountains of the Antarctic, the vast tracts of volcanic tundra of Iceland or Evington Park, we should take₃ a few minutes to be still, breathe and enjoy God's creation". **See overleaf.....**

Continued from the previous page... The following is a verse from one of Michael's favourite hymns, which he always recalls when moved by the glory of God's creation:

When through the woods and forest glades I wander, And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees. When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur, And hear the brook and feel the gently breeze. *Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee, How great Thou art, how great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee; How great Thou art, how great Thou art!* **Michael White and Gerry Goode**

RIDE AND STRIDE The annual Ride & Stride takes place on the 12 September (2nd Saturday in September.) I intend to organise a group to walk round a few churches in the city centre. This will not be too onerous, and you can do as much or as little as you can manage. More details later - but speak to **Elizabeth Rudge** if you are interested.



The Licensing Service for Revd Cecilia Adjadje will take place in St Denys Church on Wednesday 28th October at 7pm. The service will be led by the Bishop of Leicester, the Rt Revd Martyn Snow. Please put the date and time in your diary. It will be lovely to see lots of our congregation there to welcome Revd Cecilia at the start of her ministry at St Denys. **Ann Bennett**

Collect for 12th Sunday after Trinity God of constant mercy, who sent your Son to save us: remind us of your goodness, increase our grace within us, that our thankfulness may grow, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pray for the sick: Geoff Bunce, Ann Dixon, Revd Fr Peter Hibbert, Sue Mitchell, Val Spriggs

Pray for those who mourn including the family and friends of Phoebe Achurch, Bill Mann, Valerie Wheeler



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St. Denys website, including the Giving Links for Church and Youth Work:
www.stdenys.org.uk