

You are very welcome to take your Pew Sheet home
Please see the back page for a list of upcoming services in the United Benefice

Sunday 23rd August 2015



**The United Benefice of Long Crendon (LC),
Cheersley (Ch) & Nether Winchendon (NW)**

WELCOME EVERYONE TODAY AND EVERY DAY



Prayer: 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**

Collect for the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Readings for Today:



Old Testament: Joshua 24 1-2a and 14-18

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: "Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

Epistle: Ephesians 6.10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Gospel: John 6.56-69

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father." Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

Post Communion Prayer

God of all mercy, in this Eucharist you have set aside our sins and given us your healing: grant that we who are made whole in Christ may bring that healing to this broken world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Notes for your diary:

On Monday 31st August there will be Village Teas from 2:30 to 5:00 pm at St. Nicholas, Nether Winchendon.

Rock Solid, our Benefice Youth Group, are holding a FUN-D RAISING event at Chearsley village hall on 6th September from 2-5pm to raise money for the victims of the Nepal Earthquake. There will be homemade cakes and crafts to buy and fun activities to try like guinea pig racing, face painting, sponge throwing, lucky dips and many more. For more information contact Sharon Sampson.

Consultative meeting dates with the Area Dean and Development Officer at 3:00 pm in each church as follows, topics to be discussed in brackets:

Long Crendon	(Worship)	Sunday 27th September 2015
Nether Winchendon	(Pastoral Care)	Sunday 4th October 2015
Chearsley	(Mission)	Sunday 11th October 2015

For all interested in the Benefice not only PCC members – you are welcome at all three churches for the three different discussions.

A letter of thanks from John, who has asked that it be included in the Pew Sheet for several weeks to ensure that as many people as possible receive his message:

“For Anna and me, Sunday 19th July was the perfect finale. The sun shone, the church was full, the flowers looked lovely, the choir sang magnificently, Chris played the organ gloriously, the worship was lively and enthusiastic, the service went at a seamless pace, the congregation sang with great spirit, the drink was bubbling and bountiful, the food was delicious, the service outside excellent, the whole ambience was one of warmth and kindness. What a day for us to remember! Thanks to everyone who contributed to make it happen.

However, my other purpose in writing is to express our heartfelt thanks for the cheque which was unbelievably generous. Anna and I were overwhelmed by the kindness of your gift. I also love the cartoon picture which Alicia painted together with the book of messages. There really are times when words seem quite inadequate to express our appreciation and gratitude but be assured, we are profoundly grateful for your generosity.

John and Anna”

Details of the closure of the Chilton Road in Chearsley from 10th August for six weeks can be found at: <http://www.chearsley.com/pdf/ChiltonRoadClosure2015.pdf>

Services in the United Benefice

Services today Sunday 23rd August 2015 - Trinity 12

8:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	LC	Andy Bell
10.00 am	Family Service	Ch	John Scholefield
10.30 am	Holy Communion	LC	Andy Bell
6:00 pm	Evensong	NW	Robert Hutton

Service next Sunday 30th August 2015 - Trinity 13

10.00 am	United Benefice Service with Junior Church - visitors welcome!	Chearsley	Tom Farrell
----------	---	-----------	-------------

Please note this will be the only service in the Benefice on this day

Services Sunday 6th September 2015 - Trinity 14

9.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	NW	Steve and Rose Williams
10.00 am	Café Sunday	LC	Ray Copping
10:00 am	Family Communion	Ch	Steve and Rose Williams

Services Sunday 13th September 2015 - Trinity 15

10:00 am	Morning Celebration	Ch	Lay Led
10.00 am	Matins	NW	Robert Spencer Bernard
10:30 am	Holy Communion (with speaker)	LC	Ray Copping
4:00 pm	God@4	NW	Lay Led
6:00 pm	Evensong	Ch	John Scholefield

Services Sunday 20th September 2015 - Trinity 16

9:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Ch	Andy Bell
10.00 am	Family Service	NW	Andy Bell
10.30 am	Family Service (Harvest Festival followed by Lunch)	LC	Ray Copping

If you have events coming up in the Benefice and would like them included in future Pew Sheets, please let us have the details on llm.chearsley@btinternet.com Please note that your wording may have to be edited to fit the available space - John and Jenny Scholefield