

THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

St Lawrence the Martyr, Abbots Langley
with the Church of the Ascension, Bedmond

8th October 2017

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY



TODAY

8.00 am Holy Communion
President & Preacher: The Revd Guy Buckler
Reader: Mike Jefford

No 930 am service.

11.00 am Harvest Festival All Age Communion Service
followed by lunch
President & Preacher: The Revd Dr Peter Waddell
Hymns: Bless the Lord - 506 - 39 - 380

6.30 pm Evening Prayer
Leader: The Revd Dr Peter Waddell

7.30 pm Pilgrim Course in the
Breakspear Room

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Morning Prayer
9.30 am Monday to Friday

Evening Prayer
5.15 pm Monday to Friday

Holy Communion
10.15 am Wednesday

Quiet Reflection
11.00 am Wednesday (Corpus Christi Chapel)

Early Prayer for the parish & community
8.15 am Thursday

WELCOME

Welcome to everyone at our worship today especially to those who have come to hear their Banns of Marriage read, visitors and newcomers - please introduce yourself if you are new or a visitor.

If you have been confirmed or usually receive **Communion** in your own church, please do so here. If not, you are welcome to come to the altar rail for a **Blessing**, and if you carry a book with you the priest will know not to offer you the bread and wine.



Please tell a sidesperson before the service if you would like a **gluten-free wafer**.

A **T-loop** is provided for hearing aid users.



For our younger members at 9.30 am:



Crèche (0-3 years)
in the Breakspear Room
with suitable toys;
Seekers (3-10 years)
in the church hall,
except Second Sundays;
(the Church Hall is at the end of the car park)
Quiet Children's Corner in Church

**Before the service,
listen to God;
and after the service,
listen to each other.**

A collection is taken at each main service. If you are a UK tax payer, please use a gift aid envelope.

This money is fundamental to the life of the church: its ministry, mission and charitable giving.

As we receive no income from the Government or any other external body, we are reliant on the generosity of the community and our fundraising endeavours to ensure that the important work of the parish continues.

*If you would prefer to set up a regular direct debit, please pick up a **Parish Giving Scheme** pack.*

THE PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS at 8.00 am

COLLECT: Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; through 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.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 5.1-7

Bible page 644

This song may have been sung at a village festival after others had started singing. The prophet would have lulled his listeners into a false sense of security in this setting and with the opening lines. But he intended to shock them into an awareness of how far they had fallen short of God's expectations and how little they had repaid God's investment in them. It was probably too late to avert the disaster of the coming exile, but it would have prepared them and helped them understand.

SECOND READING

Philippians 3.4b-14

Bible page 195

The Philippians had been suffering severe persecution and Paul wanted to encourage them. He does so by pointing out how little he deserved his own suffering but then pointing out that in fact none of it matters beside being in Christ. Such virtues and advantages as he possessed were meaningless in comparison with the prospect of union with Christ. Further, his sufferings (and by implication theirs too) are nothing compared to the suffering of Christ, the sinless one. Yet by his resurrection, Christ offers hope to all the persecuted.

GOSPEL

Matthew 21.33-46

Bible page 23

The Gospel reading echoes very closely the Isaiah reading. This is a conscious device on the part of Jesus and of Matthew. Jesus made strenuous efforts to raise the awareness of the scribes and Pharisees of the meaning of the Scriptures for their lives and relationship with God. In this parable, as in many others, he took the opportunity to explain who he is as well. By linking himself into the Isaiah prophecy he made the claim that he was God's chosen one, the Messiah, a message the scribes and Pharisees were very reluctant to hear.

POST COMMUNION: Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS at 11.00 am

COLLECT: Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; through 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.**

GOSPEL

Luke 12.16-30

Bible page 71

This parable is particularly resonant in a world where so many go hungry. The piling up of wealth and possessions (and food) while so many lack even the basic necessities of life is an affront to God. We forget what it is to depend on the land: Jesus reminds us that God does provide, and enough for everyone, if we will share it.

POST COMMUNION: Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR OUR PRAYERS

GIVE THANKS FOR

- » the beauty of the earth and God's goodness to us
- » all that we have to give
- » all who work to provide our food
- » God's care for all his people

PRAY FOR

- » all who are hungry or lack clean water
- » those working to protect the environment
- » generosity in sharing the good things of the earth
- » compassion for the weak and needy in our communities and around the world
- » attentiveness to God and trust in his care for our needs
- » missionaries, aid workers, teachers and health care professionals in the Third World
- » those who worship at
The Church of the Ascension, Bedmond
- » those who live in St Lawrence Close,
School Mead (inc Tannerswood School)
and Seabrook Road

THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN NEED

- » Maureen Chester and her husband Stan :
Claire Argent-Phillips & Harry : Ben :
Jenny Izzard : Ewan Mander : Sonya :
Brenda Murphy : Ian Hampton :
Elizabeth Simmons : Leslie Durnall :
Hazel Muskett

R.I.P.

- » Billy Crush : Ann Caple

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

Isaiah 25.1-9
Philippians 4.1-9
Matthew 22.1-14

AVAILABILITY

Peter's day off - Thursday

THE COMING WEEK

MONDAY 9th

- 1.00 pm Burial of the Ashes of John Tapster
- 2.15 pm Tiny Tots in the Breakspear Room
- 7.30 pm Bell Ringing practice

TUESDAY 10th

Paulinus, Bishop of York, Missionary, 644

- 10.15 am Tuesday Coffee in the Breakspear Room
- 7.45 pm Deanery Synod meets at St John's School, Watford

WEDNESDAY 11th

10.15 am Holy Communion including MU Corporate Communion

- 11.00 am Quiet Reflection in St Lawrence
- 3.30 pm Messy Church at the Methodist Church
- 7.00 pm Wedding rehearsal
- 7.45 pm Choir practice

THURSDAY 12th

Wilfrid, of Ripon, Bishop,
Missionary, 709

- 10.30 am Home Communion at Hanover Gardens
- 6.15 pm Youth Choir (*note different day*)

FRIDAY 13th

Edward the Confessor, King of England, 1066

- 10.00 am Craft Group in Bedmond Church
- 10.00 am AHAL Coffee Morning in the
Henderson Hub
- 2.00 pm Craft and Conversation in the
Breakspear Room

SATURDAY 14th

- 11-5.00 pm 'David in a Day' at St Luke's, Watford
- 10-12 noon Bedmond Village Taskforce
'Keep Bedmond Beautiful'
- 2.00 pm Wedding of David Simmons and
Miriam Tothova
- 7 for 7.30 pm Bedmond Harvest Supper

NEXT SUNDAY

THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

15th October 2017

8.00 am Holy Communion

President & Preacher: The Revd Dr Peter Waddell

9.30 am Parish Communion with Seekers and Creche

President & Preacher: The Revd Dr Peter Waddell

11.00 am Harvest Festival at Bedmond

President & Preacher: The Revd Dr Peter Waddell

6.30 pm Evening Prayer

Leader: The Revd Dr Peter Waddell

7.30 pm Pilgrim Course in the Breakspear Room

NOTICES

► **GRATEFUL THANKS** to all those who helped decorate the church this weekend and those who have donated **Harvest Produce** which will be split between Watford and Three Rivers Refugee Project and Rickmansworth Food Bank.

► The **PILGRIM COURSE** continues this evening at 7.30 pm in the Breakspear Room; an opportunity to explore the basics of faith.

► **ENVELOPES** at the back of church to all those on Planned Giving.

► **PARISH GIVING SCHEME** - over half have moved their planned giving over and new people have signed up; if you are still unsure please speak to Marcus or Peter.

► Theatre trip to see Gershwin's **CRAZY FOR YOU** at the Wycombe Swan starring Tom Chambers on Thursday 8th February. £45pp including ticket and coach - please sign the list.

► **DEANERY SYNOD** on Tuesday 10th October looks at **Supporting and Growing our Work with Schools**. It will begin at St John's School in Watford at 7.45 pm. Please see the poster in the porch for further details - all are welcome; shared lifts, contact the Office.

► **DAVID IN A DAY** - the story of Israel's greatest leader in song, dance and music at St Luke's, Watford on Saturday 14th October from 11.00 am to 5.00 pm with a performance at 5.00 pm - to join in please see poster in porch or contact Sarah Moreton on 07929 645179.

► The Friends of St Lawrence **ANNUAL QUIZ** is different this year - the subject is General Knowledge - and there is an extra Quiz for the youngsters (so a BOGOF!) and all for the bargain price of £1! It will be available on Sunday 15th October. Judy Roe will be circulating copies to those kind people who agreed to sell the Quiz last year. Brenda Southorn and the Church Office will have extra copies if you need them. Good Luck! We hope you get lots of family fun from it.

► **HARVEST FESTIVAL** at Bedmond on Sunday 15th October at 11.00 am preceded by a **Harvest Supper** on Saturday 14th October - please speak to Wendy Ball if you would like to go - places are limited.

► **MOTHERS' UNION SUBSCRIPTIONS** are now due £28.50, cash and cheques (payable to St Lawrence Abbots Langley MU). Also those members who receive **Families First**, those costs are also due - £10.50 for the year. All payments to the office or Mike Jefford.

► **OUTLOOK** for October is available - if you don't subscribe please take a copy (40p).

► Volunteers needed for **MAKING CAKES** in mid October for local school teachers on parents' evenings; and for **GARDENING** in Bedmond School, helping the pupils - please use the sign up lists if you can help with either.

► Thanks to all those who supported the **Tough Ten** runners last week - all five made it to the finishing post! Fundraising for **MALAWI** continues with a **Table Top Sale** on Sunday 15th October during coffee. If you have any **lavender** you could donate to Eve Durnall she is making lavender bags to sell for Malawi funds, please hand to the office.

► Quality items and promises required for a **SILENT AUCTION** in Bedmond Village Hall on Saturday 21st October to raise funds for the community of Kyambai, Kenya. Please contact Nora on 264854 if you have items or for tickets.

► An application has been made for a **FACULTY** to place a memorial stone on the wall of the Breakspear Room to acknowledge **Liz Hill's** generosity to St Lawrence Church - a notice is displayed on the porch door.

► Before you next shop online remember to sign up to **EASYFUNDRAISING** - to help raise funds, especially as you order your Christmas gifts. Use this link www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stlabbotslangley.

CONTACT NUMBERS

Vicar:	The Revd Dr Peter Waddell 01923 263013
Email:	vicar@abbotslangley.org.uk
Assistant Priest:	The Revd Angela Milton 01923 519453
Assistant Priest:	The Revd Guy Buckler via the Church Office
Assistant Priest:	The Revd Brian Hibberd via the Church Office
Reader:	Mrs Sally Sanderson 01923 265963
Church Office:	01923 261795
Email:	adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk

*If anyone needs the ministry of a priest,
or in any emergency at anytime,
day or night, please contact Peter directly.*

