



THE PARISH OF LETCHWORTH  
*Living God's Love in the Garden City*

ST MICHAEL'S & ST MARY'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER  
*Trinity VII | 26/07 – 1/08/2020*

**OUR DOORS ARE NOW OPEN FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP.**

**Please inform Fr Robert about your intention to attend as the numbers are strictly limited by social distancing.**

The 10.30 Sunday Eucharist will be live streamed on our Facebook Page in order to allow those who are not able to attend to make their spiritual communion at home.

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**

(all services marked with \* are livestreamed via our Facebook Page)

26	Sun	<b>THE 7TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
		<b>8.15</b>	HOLY COMMUNION - ST MARY'S
		<b>9.00</b>	HOLY COMMUNION - ST MARY'S
		<b>10.30</b>	PARISH MASS* - PARISH HALL
29	Wed	<b>SS Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Companions of Our Lord</b>	
		9.00	MORNING PRAYER - ST MARY'S
		9.30	HOLY COMMUNION - ST MARY'S
		18.00	ZOOM CAFÉ
31	Fr	<i>S Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus, 1556</i>	
		12.30	MASS - PARISH HALL
01	Sat	<i>Feria</i>	
		10.00	ZOOM PRAYER GROUP
02	Sun	<b>THE 8TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY</b>	
		<b>8.15</b>	HOLY COMMUNION - ST MARY'S
		<b>9.00</b>	HOLY COMMUNION - ST MARY'S
		<b>10.30</b>	PARISH MASS* - PARISH HALL

**Taizé @ Home**

An annual youth pilgrimage to Taizé has been a tradition in our Diocese for many years. During the Covid-19 pandemic the pilgrimage has moved online. The retreat will run from 20th to 26th July. The Midday Prayer will be live streamed every day from our Parish Hall and led by Fr Robert. To tune in, to find out more about the pilgrimage and to register go to [www.facebook.com/taizeathome](https://www.facebook.com/taizeathome)



## TEXTS OF THE WEEK

### THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

*Introit (Ps. 68.6-7. 36)*

God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house;  
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

*The Collect*

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things:  
graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion,  
nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same;  
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.

*Readings*

1 Kings 3.5-12; Psalm 119.129-136; Romans 8.26-39; Matthew 13.31-33, 44-52  
R: **Lord, how I love your law.**

*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,  
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. **Alleluia!**

*Prayer over the Gifts*

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings which we bring from the abundance of your  
gifts, that through the powerful working of your grace these most sacred mysteries  
may sanctify our present way of life and lead us to eternal gladness.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Communion Antiphon (Ps 103.3)*

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and never forget all his benefits.

*Post-Communion Prayer*

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life,  
ever giving himself that the world may live:  
may we so receive within ourselves the power of his death and passion that,  
in his saving cup, we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

### THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Isaiah 55.1-5; Psalm 145.8-9, 15-22; Romans 9.1-5; Matthew 14.13-21

*Please take this leaflet home with you and use it to keep up to date  
with what's on in the Parish and to reflect on the readings during the week.*

## WAYS TO WORSHIP AT HOME

**SUNDAYS** via TV, Radio and Internet

- **Sunday Worship** - 8.10 am on BBC Radio 4
- **Songs of Praise** - 1.15 pm on BBC 1
- **CofE National service** - 9am on YouTube. For access follow the link below:  
<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>

**FREE PRAYER APPS** for your phone and tablet:

**Daily Prayer App** (Morning, Evening & Night Prayer), **Time to Pray** (Midday & Night Prayer), **Pray as you go** (reflective prayer for each day).

### PRAYER INTENTIONS

*Of your charity, please pray for:*

- ¶ Our churches of St Michael the Archangel and St Mary the Virgin during this period of discernment of the future of our Parish.
- ¶ Justin, our Archbishop, Alan, Michael, and Richard, our bishops; our sister Churches and ecumenical partners.
- ¶ The Rev'd Jessica McLaren, who will be licensed as Vicar of St Thomas's, Wilbury, on 27th July.
- ¶ Taizé at Home Retreat and all young people who will participate.
- ¶ The Queen, The Royal Family, HM Government, and all leaders of the nations.
- ¶ All who have been affected by the Coronavirus here and throughout the world.
- ¶ All shielding and in self-isolation, the anxious, the lonely, and the bereaved.
- ¶ **In our local community:** Highfield, Hillbrow, Hitchin Road, Horace Gay Gardens, Icknield Way, Letchworth Lane, Lytton Avenue, Manor Close.
- ¶ **Birthdays:** (27) Katharine Green, (28) John Clark, (29) Linda Negus
- ¶ **Wedding Anniversary:** (29) Vicki and Mick Gage
- ¶ **The Sick:** Ruth Croft, Fr Reginald Rolph, Nick Goddard, Keith Goddard, Joan Pain, Hayley Cutmore, Katie Khan, Jessica Horner, John Howard, Elizabeth Stevens
- ¶ **Years Mind:** (26) Norah Noden, (27) Ellen Blows, (28) Nellie Warner, (1) Cushla Storrs-Fox
- ✠ Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace; and rise in glory.

*O God of unchangeable power and eternal light,  
look favourably upon your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery;  
and by the tranquil operation of your perpetual providence  
carry out the work of our salvation; and let the whole world feel and see  
that things which were cast down are being raised up;  
and those things which had grown old are being made new;  
and that all things are returning into unity through him by whom all things were made,  
even your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## NOTICES

**Our churches are now open for public worship.** Please be aware that **strict social distancing measures have been put in place (2 m apart)** and for now there is no going back to worship as we knew it before the lockdown. We will all need to adjust to a new way of celebrating the Eucharist together.

For each service at **St Mary's we will have 7 spaces (increased to 10 if 3 couples are present), and at St Michaels' (Parish Hall) there will be 14.**

Because of this we need to ask you to **reserve a place by midday on Saturday** if you plan to attend so that we have an idea of numbers. **Please contact Fr Robert or Church Wardens to book a seat.** All services will be short and there will be no singing. Chairs will be changed and public areas cleaned between services. **Because St Mary's is such a tiny building there will be two services in order to enable more people to attend: at 8.15am and 9am.**

Thank you to all who attended the public consultation meeting by Zoom on 16th July. Please note that **the parish consultation period runs to the end of August.** **Submissions** about the proposals are requested during the remainder of July and August from anyone who wants to offer them. Your submission should be sent to Fr Robert and/or Bishop Michael.

**Zoom Café will now take place on Wednesdays at 6pm.** To join the meeting, please contact Fr Robert for access code.

**Thank you** to all who made very generous and sizable donations to make the parish going. When you issue a cheque please make it out to **'Letchworth Parochial Church Council'** and post it to the Rectory, 39 South View, SG6 3JJ. To find out more email our Parish Treasurer, Caroline Hardy ✉carolinehardy@ntlworld.com. Thank you for your continuing support!

If you are self-isolating and need **help with shopping or prescription runs** please get in touch with **Vicki Gage** who is coordinating this for us: ☎07748303627 ✉vgage@hotmail.co.uk. **If you would be willing and able to help,** contact Vicki and Fr Robert.

**Letchworth Foodbank shopping list:** shampoo, shower gel, deodorant, toothpaste, toilet rolls, size 5 & 6 nappies, sponge pudding, tinned rice pudding, tinned custard. Donations can be dropped off at the collection boxes/trolleys in the following supermarkets at Morrison's and Sainsbury's Local.

**Parish Office** remains closed until further notice.

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	Barbara Thompson	☎ 07504271656	
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