

28th August 2020

Dear All,

Well, what a lot of changeable weather we've had this week: it feels a bit like autumn already! It was so lovely to open the church for Private Prayer last Friday and finally get to put some faces to those of you I've spoken to over the phone or on zoom. The church has such a tangible sense of God's presence—it is a wonderful place to be.

In saying that, to reassure again—if you feel nervous about going to church then both the newsletter and church Online will be continuing.

And a heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed in the last few months: it really has been a whirlwind of activity, and we are so very grateful for your time.

Coming up this week:

Evening Communion Service: Sunday, 30th August, 7pm.

Morning Sunday Service:

Sunday 6th September 9am and 10.15 am: The Blessings of the Bags.

And I'm delighted to say that our homily this week is from Sue: enjoy!

As September approaches, a few people have been in touch with some ideas, which is really exciting!

On **Thursday 24th September** we're going to start our first Enquirer's course: this is a chance for people to gather together to discuss the basics of Christianity.

There is no pressure to agree, and we really are starting at the very beginning so there are no questions too silly!

It's actually called 'The Start! Course' (?!), and it might be something for someone you know: perhaps people have been thinking a little bit more about what life is about over Covid, or perhaps they are wondering just what it is that makes you go to church each week. Perhaps it might even be for you—you may not have had the chance to stand back and work out what you think. Either way, please do spread the word. It will be on zoom, so no need to drag ourselves out on a dark evening either!

Is this it?

WORTLEY
& FARINLEY

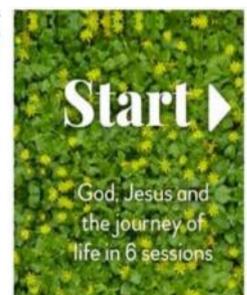
Why are we here?

What am I doing?

What does Christianity have to say about life?

Join us for a 6 weeks Online Group that explores what the Christian faith is about: all questions and viewpoints are welcome!

Thursday 24th Sept. 8pm.



Note from the Wardens: On television, as this is being typed, an advert came on that starts with a child saying 'Well that was the longest break ever!' In some ways vacancy has felt a like that. Except that what the advert doesn't say is that, like holidays, it soon feels like it didn't happen. As we plan for the future for our parish and the church building it has a feeling of picking up where we left off, with an added positivity that is catching. So much is happening, so many people stepping outside their comfort zones to do stuff they never thought they could do; which pretty much includes us too. We're moving forward and things they are a changing, but it doesn't feel like change, if that makes any sense? Maybe 'progress' would better describe what is happening.

Sunday evening sees the first of our services back in church, a sort of warm up for our return to regular Sunday services from the 6th, with Claire's licensing service in the middle on Tuesday (Unfortunately with numbers restricted by the diocese and on an invitation only basis). Services won't be the same as before, we won't be able to sing, we have social distancing, hand sanitiser, masks and a new vicar but we know there will be some familiarity and that those who are able to come find comfort in that. We will make sure our evening prayers reflect these services so we stay connected. Take care,

Wendy & Nikki

If you are like me, as I've got older I like a good checklist to make sure that I'm not forgetting anything. With the boys going back to school I have mine already made out.

- New uniform...check,
- Pencil cases containing all the required different coloured pens, glue sticks etc....check,
- Filled out the rainforest of forms for new school/year group... check,
- Very depleted bank balance to cover all this.... definitely check!!



Looking at the reading today from Romans 12 9-end, I think that's what Paul is trying to give us, a kind of checklist on how to work out our Christian life. I must admit that I had to read it a few times before it sunk in!

We are told to love sincerely, honestly and not to be a hypocrite. When we love or do a good act it should be for no gain, it should just be out of pure love for our fellow man. We come to Church and tell people we are Christians, but how many of us practice this reading every day of our lives? I must admit I sometimes struggle too, it's a journey I am on with God to become a better person and it won't happen overnight! Loving is not for praise or for what we might get out of it. I don't know if some of you might remember Smashy and Nicey, a couple of DJ's that Harry Enfield and Paul Whitehouse created. They always turned a conversation round about how they always did a lot of work for charity to make themselves look good! If you are performing a good act, we're asked not to broadcast it around to everyone: we might have been amazing, but Romans tells us that if we do that, then we have already had our reward here on Earth, rather than doing it humbly and then receiving our reward in Heaven? I know which I would rather have.

The other part which struck me was when Paul said "Bless those who persecute you." "Repay no one evil with evil". What....?! So if someone burgles my house I'm supposed to say "Hi, just take what you want" and help them to the van with it? Yes, I'm being a little flippant here, I don't think Paul is saying that for a minute. You still live by right and wrong so you would of course protect yourself and call the police. I think he's talking other issues, such as verbal arguments, workplace or family disputes. We've all been there haven't we? Somebody says unkind things to you, at work someone who's always on your back. Paul says that our response should be calm, showing compassion and understanding "If your enemy is hungry feed him, thirsty give him a drink". It's not for us to take revenge by using the same methods to make us feel better and them worse. The only person who can give out any kind of compensation or judgement is God. Who knows, if they see that you repay their unkindness with kindness it may change their way of thinking and isn't that what God would want us to do, help change things one person at a time? I try to do this and sometimes people think I'm too soft, but I just smile as I know that the only person's opinion that matters is God's. Is it easy? No, but who said God's path was supposed to be easy?! He will make sure that whatever is put upon our shoulders he will help us carry.

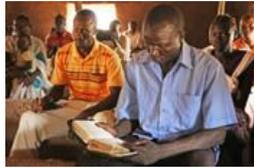
God bless, Sue.



Sudan Appeal:

An emergency appeal to support our brothers and sisters in Sudan has been launched. We are asking for funds for emergency food and supplies for those across the country who rely on the church for support or survival.

Follow this link to make a donation:
<https://bit.ly/3g8Exkq>



Blessing of the Bags

A service in our Church building to pray for the new start of the Academic Year:

September 6th
09:00 & 10:15

Everyone is welcome!



Readings for this Sunday, Trinity 12:

Romans 12:9-end

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Matthew 16:21-end

²¹ From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Collect for Trinity 11:

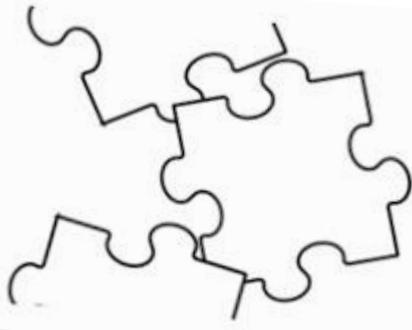
God of glory,
the end of our searching,
help us to lay aside
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,
and to give all that we have
to gain the pearl beyond all price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNFTf5O643oh96ieHtcbpYA>

<https://wortlevandfarnleyp.wixsite.com/website>





PUZZLE TIME

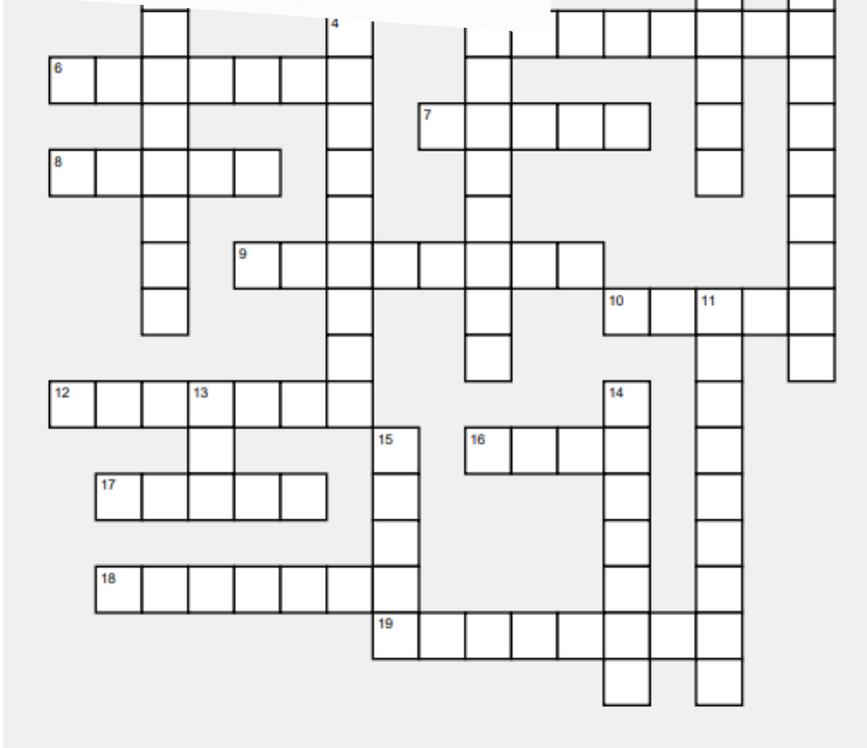
Animals Crossword

ACROSS

- 5) Nut collector
- 6) Emu's cousin
- 7) Bullwinkle, for one
- 8) Centaur, in part
- 9) Aquarium favourite
- 10) Sea spouter
- 12) Farmyard bird
- 16) Fox's prey
- 17) Furry swimmer
- 18) Bird with slipper
- 19) Aussie hopper

DOWN

- 1) Monarch, e.g.
- 2) Slowcoach
- 3) Lizard's relative
- 4) Quick change artist
- 5) Desert singer
- 11) Everglades citizen
- 13) Alley _____
- 14) Spotted stalker
- 15) Odour emitter



Free Crossword Puzzle, Compliments of © Memory-Improvement-Tips.com

Solution to last week's puzzle



Telephone Set Up:
0333 002 1271
Monday - Friday 9-5pm

PARISH GIVING SCHEME

WORTLEY & FARNLEY

0800 804 8044

Daily HOPE

A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers