



The Sixth Sunday After Trinity

*A very warm welcome to you all as we worship
the Lord together*

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit
Amen

The Greeting

The Lord be with you
and also with you

Invitation to Confession

Let us confess our sins and failings to God our merciful Father.

Kyrie Confession

We have done what was wrong in your sight
and chosen what has displeased you.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

As a mother comforts her child so shall you comfort us.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

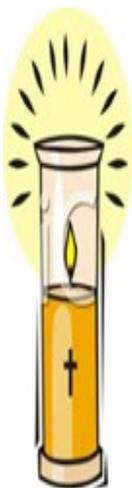
Let us return to you, for you know our every deed and thought.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Absolution.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you, ✠ pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life
eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord **Amen.**



The Collect

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our
hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things
and above all things, may obtain your promises, which
exceed all that we can desire; 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



Victim and Survivor Invitation for Past Cases Review 2

There is still an open invitation to anyone who wants to make representations about their experience as a victim or survivor of church related abuse in this diocese to contribute to the national Past Cases Review 2 process which is ongoing in 2021. This in relation to the response they received from the Church, however long ago this may have occurred. Contact details below.

Rachael Spiers, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser:

07930 819 279 Rachael.Spiers@LeicesterCofE.org

Peter Holloway, Assistant Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser:

07930 887 984 Peter.Holloway@LeicesterCofE.org

Dedicated independent phone line run by the NSPCC:

0800 80 2020

National Church of England Safeguarding Team:

safeguarding@churchofengland.org

There is also always an open invitation to come forward with information or make a new disclosure regarding church-related abuse or a request for support.

You can read more about the Past Cases Review 2 online at:
www.leicester.anglican.org/safeguarding

FREE!

Heritage fun!

Books / bric a brac

Coffee and Tea

Cakes

Free parking

WHEN? 21st August

WHAT TIME? 2pm to 5pm

WHERE? St Paul's Church
Church Hill, Woodhouse Eaves

First Reading

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will – ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, ⁹ he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰ to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfilment – to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

¹¹ In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ¹² in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. ¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession – to the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 1:3-14

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

You have the words to eternal life.

Alleluia

✠ Hear the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Mark

Glory to you O Lord

¹⁴ King Herod heard about this, for Jesus' name had become well known. Some were saying, 'John the Baptist has been raised from the dead, and that is why miraculous powers are at work in him.'

¹⁵ Others said, 'He is Elijah.' And still others claimed, 'He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of long ago.' ¹⁶ But when Herod heard this, he said, 'John, whom I beheaded, has been raised from the dead!'

¹⁷ For Herod himself had given orders to have John arrested, and he had him bound and put in prison. He did this because of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, whom he had married. ¹⁸ For John had been saying to Herod, 'It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.' ¹⁹ So Herodias nursed a grudge against John and wanted to kill him. But she was not able to, ²⁰ because Herod feared John and protected him, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man. When Herod heard John, he was greatly puzzled; yet he liked to listen to him.

²¹ Finally the opportune time came. On his birthday Herod gave a banquet for his high officials and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. ²² When the daughter of Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests.

The king said to the girl, 'Ask me for anything you want, and I'll give it to you.' ²³ And he promised her with an oath, 'Whatever you ask I will give you, up to half my kingdom.'

²⁴ She went out and said to her mother, 'What shall I ask for?' 'The head of John the Baptist,' she answered. ²⁵ At once the girl hurried in to the king with the request:

'I want you to give me right now the head of John the Baptist on a dish.'

HERITAGE EVENT – PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!

The St Paul's Church Heritage Project team is thrilled to be able to be planning something in the church again, we are just crossing our fingers that the COVID restrictions will allow our first event to occur in August

Our first event since 2019 will take place, COVID permitting, on 21st August from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. We are planning to open the church for an heritage exhibition with book and bric-a-brac sales, tea, coffee and cake with other planned activities.

Entry, as always, is free and we would be really pleased to see you there to celebrate the resumption of our heritage sharing activities!

In the future we are planning to launch a new booklet by Evelyn Brown about the first 3 Vicars of St. Paul's Church and their fascinating family histories, long tenures and other intriguing insights into their lives.

We hope to see you all on the 21st August!

Sue, Pat and Evelyn (The Heritage Team)

(For any last minute confirmation of the event please contact Pat on randon243@hotmail.com or 891461).

Mission & Outreach

A huge thank you to all those who left water, food donations and baby provisions during last year for John's Storehouse. They have made an urgent request for their supplies to be replenished after Christmas. Your continued support for homeless, families living with poverty and unemployment and those in need is much appreciated.

Please arrange to leave your donations with Marion Porter on WEDNESDAY this week. (67 Beacon Road, 01509 890801)

Or donations can now be left in church

Once again a massive thank you. *Revd Lisa*



Revd Lisa - 01509890972



Revd Lisa - revdlisatemperley@gmail.com

Michèle - michdenn2@aol.com

FYI : Revd Lisa & Michèle will be having their day off on Tuesdays

A Church Near You

St Paul's - www.achurchnearyou.com/church/5286

St Mary's - www.achurchnearyou.com/church/5285



Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with the church family & the wider church.

Like & Comment to be part of the conversation!

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulschurchwoodhouseeaves>

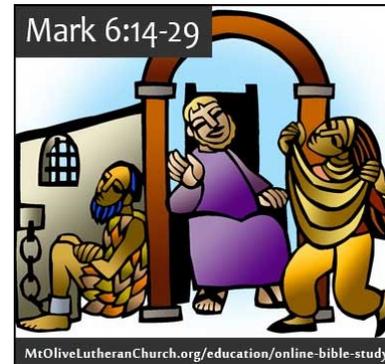


²⁶ The king was greatly distressed, but because of his oaths and his dinner guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷ So he immediately sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. The man went, beheaded John in the prison, ²⁸ and brought back his head on a dish. He presented it to the girl, and she gave it to her mother. ²⁹ On hearing of this, John's disciples came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

Mark 6:14-29

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you O Christ



Have you ever noticed that bad stuff always happens just when you think things are going great? I am fairly optimistic, but as I get older, I notice myself becoming wary whenever things start going well. I start waiting for the weather to change, the storm at the end of a summer's day.

I remember feeling on a high, I had joined the teacher's choir at the school where I was working and I had a special part to sing in the school concert. I arrived home full of the joys of spring bursting to tell Nigel my news. Then the phone rang it was my friend's husband he had phoned to tell me that she had died, that she had taken her own life. I can remember that call as clear as if were yesterday. I had only been with her the day before. We had been shopping and had lunch in town. We had been laughing together, planning retirement outings. I was just stunned. She was such a lovely beautiful person but she had suffered with bipolar disorder for many years and was so good at hiding it that many of her friends including me never knew.

We are in the sixth chapter of Mark's gospel this month, figuring out what it means to live like Jesus as his true disciples. We have seen Jesus cure a woman of her long term hemorrhage, we have seen him raise a young girl from her deathbed, and we have seen his amazement at the disbelief he encounters in his hometown of Nazareth. He has sent out his disciples without any baggage as they spread his message of repentance, and expand his ministry of healing and casting out demons.

Today's passage is an interruption in the story. Remember that Mark likes to interject one story into another, and we often find God in these interruptions. So keep in mind that Jesus has just sent out the twelve. He has told them to depend on the hospitality of the people they will be serving, as they travel among the small villages of Galilee. Things are going well but all that is about to change.

John the Baptist a relative of Jesus and fore runner of his ministry has been beheaded.

Where is God in all of this? More imperatively where is Jesus? How does this passage from Mark's gospel teach us to live like him?

There are several aspects to this story. The narrative is well written and takes up a big part of chapter 6. Mark is usually very short and sweet with his story telling. In this chapter he takes some time to develop the characters in detail, complete with a back story, a conflict and a resolution. Mark takes great pains to describe the devious wife with a grudge against John the Baptist and the daughter manipulated by her mother to persuade Herod into beheading John.

Perhaps the most striking thing about the story is that Jesus does not make a personal appearance. This is the only one of two accounts in Mark where Jesus is not physically present. The other will take place in the high priest's courtyard, where Peter will deny knowing Jesus. In that story, we know that Jesus is not very far away. He's just inside the gate, being questioned by the high priest. In this story, Jesus is miles away, up in Galilee.

Eternal God and Father,
by whose power we are created and by whose love we are redeemed: guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give ourselves to your service, and live this day in love to one another and to you; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord.
Amen.

The Peace:

Peace to you from God our Heavenly Father.
Peace from his Son Jesus Christ who is our peace.
Peace from the Holy Spirit, the life-giver.
The Peace of the triune God be always with you

And also with you

The Blessing:

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;
and the blessing of God almighty,

✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen



COMPLINE AT ST PAUL'S

First Thursday of the month
at 7.00pm

Jesus, the resurrection and the life, we give you thanks for all who
Have lived and believed in you. Raise us with them to eternal life.
We remember before God those who have died and we pray
that God's love will surround all who mourn them, now and always.
We give you thanks for all those whom we have loved but who have
gone ahead of us.
We pray for the repose of the soul of Neil High, Ken Le-Keu,
Doreen Lygo & Ian Cameron

From St Mary's Book of Remembrance
Ryan Andrew Robertson

From St Paul's Book of Remembrance
Florence Agnes Crisp, Irma Doris Smith, Margaret Palmer
Philip Needham, Patrick Malcolm Bird

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon
them. ✠ May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God
Rest in peace

And rise in glory.

Believing the promises of God, as our Saviour taught us,
so we pray

**Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name;
Thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**



It is Herod not Jesus who is the main character; he is the one facing
the big crisis. He is called king but in fact he is only an overlord for
the Roman Empire. When he promises to give up half his kingdom to
his dancing daughter it is a promise that he really cannot keep.

Herod has a divided heart we are told 'Herod feared John' he is
slightly in awe of him and when John speaks he feels strangely
drawn to him. Half of him wants to protect John the other half of him
does not want to lose face in front of his important guests. Herod is a
prisoner of his own pride. Theologian JD Walt in one of his internet
posts writes about pride "Pride is a tell tale sign that a person
struggles with shame at the core of their sense of self...Shame
prevents a person from valuing their own self, which means they
must build an alternative sense of the self they can value...Pride is a
way of protecting the false self."

Where does pride hide in us? What false fronts do we put up when
we look at ourselves in the mirror? How do we protect this false view
of ourselves, this view that places our value in something other than
God's deep abiding love for us?

Like Herod, we all carry the capacity to do bad things and the
capacity to receive grace. Herod chose evil, and John paid the price.
When we reject grace in favour of our own desires we are choosing
evil, just as Herod did. When we choose evil someone else always
suffers. This brings us to Herodias a truly evil woman who has
rejected grace in all its forms. Mark tells us that she has a grudge
against John the Baptist because he was against her marriage to her
brother in law Herod. She has had murder on her mind for some
time. So she grabs her opportunity and manipulates her daughter in-
to taking part in her evil scheme. Make no mistake this is a thorough-
ly evil woman.

Where is Jesus in all this?

Remember the passage begins with people trying to identify Jesus.
Some say he is 'John the Baptizer raised from the dead'; others say'
it is Elijah' and others 'It is a prophet like one of the prophets of old.'

Herod latches on to the first option he says ‘John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.’ Even though everyone knows that Jesus is already alive and preaching and was preaching before John died, Herod is convinced in his guilt that John’s spirit is resting on Jesus. Herod is convinced that John has come back to haunt him. This is where Jesus is in our story he is there in the back of Herod’s mind calling him to repentance just as John did. Jesus might be working in the background but he is still there, a forceful presence, offering healing and forgiveness. Because that is who Jesus is, we can easily fall victim to the same pride that was Herod’s doom. Like Herod, we all carry the capacity to do evil and the capacity to receive grace. Every day we must choose between identities rooted in God’s forgiveness and one rooted in our own pride.

Where is Jesus in our story? When evil overtakes us and all we can see in the mirror is our own shame, can we see Jesus standing beside us offering us forgiveness? He is gently calling us, he is there in the back of our minds. He is telling us to let go of our pride and to find our identity in Christ alone.

Claire Zanker

Let us declare our faith together.

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen**



Let Us Pray

We come boldly to the throne of grace, praying to the almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for mercy and grace.

We plead before your throne in heaven.

Father of heaven, whose love profound a ransom for our souls has found:

We pray for the world, created by your love, for its nations and Governments; for Israel & Palestine

Extend to them your peace, pardoning love, mercy and grace.

We plead before your throne in heaven.

Almighty Son, incarnate Word, our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord:

We pray for the Church, created for your glory, for its ministry to reflect those works of yours.

And keep our minds to always look outwards in mission.

Extend to us your salvation, growth, mercy and grace.

We plead before your throne in heaven.

Eternal Spirit, by whose breath the soul is raised from sin and death:

We pray for families and individuals, created in your image, for the lonely, the bereaved, the sick and the dying.

We pray for Jean Sury, Klaus Kaiser, Ann Temperley, Jean Bowley, Vincent Nash, June Shilton, Sue & John Thorne,

Breathe on them the breath of life and bring them to your mercy and grace. We plead before your throne in heaven.

Thrice holy! Father, Spirit, Son, Mysterious Godhead, Three in One: