

Rev. Claire Corley clairemcorley@gmail.com 07811 151 027

Rev. Chris Balding revchrisbalding@gmail.com 07746 668 140

Church Warden: Wendy Gaunt wendygaunt@msn.com

Church Warden: Nikki Hawcroft nikki.hawcroft@gmail.com

Well, summer is over, schools fully returned by Wednesday and I am raring to go!

I do hope too that your summer was refreshing, and if not, then there will be some respite in the weeks ahead.

As promised, after taking August relatively lightly, things are now starting to build once more.

On a housekeeping note, we've been gifted some noticeboards which will be incredibly helpful as we seek to share news, promote events and pray for our Parish. That will require a bit of a jiggle with some of our wonderful pictures and banners to a new place within our nave, so when you arrive this Sunday, you may note a few pictures and banners in a different home – We think it works but would love to know what you think too!

Becky has also now officially started as an **Intern**, so we are looking forward to her being part of the team and using her gifts in our community. Along with **Denise**, who is now in her second year of **Ordination** training, our wardens and all our other incredible volunteers, we really are becoming a very blessed community! If you would like to bless others and play your part in the life and work of the church, do get in touch – there are lots of ways to get involved that will suit you perfectly!

So what else has started, or will be starting this month?

'That Friday Feeling' from 10:30-12:00 started last week with **Knit & Natter (or Sit & Chatter!)** and was followed this week by a **Coffee Morning**. Next week we launch our **'Messy Vintage'** which enables us to creatively explore our faith whilst chatting and getting to know each other – enjoying exploring our faith doesn't stop when we reach adulthood! Do come and give it a go and invite friends along as well.

Last Wednesday we saw the start of the **Wellbeing Journey** – on a Wednesday Evening at 7.30pm via zoom, this course enables us to explore our purpose in life and ways in which our faith makes us healthier. Do come and give it a go – you don't need to have been before, just ask for the link..

Last week also kick started our **'Meant to Be' series** where we look at what being part of God's family means in our everyday life. Denise is speaking to us this Sunday, so do come and hear what she says – in person at 9am and 10:30 am, Online at 10am and the sermon will be on our telephone service too.

Our **Toddler Groups** restart this week too, on Mondays and Thursdays from 10 to 11.30, they are relaxed, welcoming and friendly groups so please do spread the word!

And I haven't even started to tell you all our plans for Harvest yet!.... Watch this space!

So do take care, stay safe, and as ever, get in touch if we can help,

Claire



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



Stjohnswortley&farnley



<https://www.instagram.com/stjohnswortleyandfarnley/>



Much as I love August, it almost feels rather disconnected from the rest of my year – the rhythms of everyday life disappear – from the school run, to the weekly meetings, to just seeing people as we're out and about. Although the rest is in many ways welcome, by the end of the summer holidays I am itching and raring to go!

Because, at the end of the day, as Covid highlighted, life without routines and people can be a break in the short term, but in the long term, it can make life feel that much poorer – an issue that some of us face due to medical issues that restrict our ability to get out and about.

And that principle of being around people and in some sort of routine affects our spiritual life too. For some of us, Covid has awakened our faith - it may have given us new avenues in which to explore our faith, ask questions, and seek a deeper relationship with God. For others of us, not seeing people, not being able to come to church regularly means that our reservoirs of faith have become depleted, and the further from God we find ourselves, then the harder it is to connect.

In our reading of Hebrews this week, the author acknowledges the importance of meeting together, of encouraging one another in our faith. Faith, though always freely given, does require some action on our part for it to mature and deepen – for that confession of hope to seep through our veins in all its fullness.

So if you have found your faith that little bit dryer, that little bit more distanced, may I invite you this term to build faith into your weekly routine? For those of us who can, let us prioritise meeting together on a Sunday and then once mid week either through the Evening Prayers, Chris' conversations later on this month, or perhaps through the zoom Wellbeing Course on a Wednesday evening. For those of us with limited mobility, do ask for Home Communion, don't forget the telephone service, and of course enjoy these weekly newsletters!

Rev Claire



Becky's Beats

Hello everyone! Hope you've all had wonderful weeks! I have been so busy! It's been manic for me, but now I'm finally feeling settled!

For starters, I've been dog sitting a lovely bulldog, she is lovely but craves attention, which with balancing work and life, has been hard to give to her! Thankfully my best friend came to visit before she goes off to university later this month so she was able to sit with the dog. We had a wonderful time together, another friend had his 21st birthday party and we went dressed in our favourite fashion trend! I was a flapper dancer, and she went in 70s style! We had a really great time!

I've also (officially) started my internship which I spoke about last week, full of meetings with Chris and Claire, and a full days training on Monday, it was really great to meet all the other interns and finally feel settled in the vicarage with the three other interns I am sharing with. I'm really looking forward to this coming year and I'm ready to get stuck in!

If I'm honest, I have been feeling a bit stressed this past week, but now that I've been able to relax and reflect, I am really excited for what the future holds.

Becky

COP26—You've probably heard it mentioned before and just as likely know that it is to do with Climate Change but if, like me, you don't know much more than that then here's a little background:

COP stands for 'Conference of Parties' and is a bringing together by the UN of almost every country on earth for global climate summits. This year sees the 26th gathering in Glasgow in November—hence the 26. Just this week, a joint statement on climate change was issued by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Pope and the Ecumenical Patriarch (spiritual leader of the Eastern Orthodox church) - urging world leaders *'to listen to the cry of the earth'*.

Important stuff. But what can we do? As well as the things we know we can do; use less plastics, use fewer fossil fuels, recycle etc, we can pray.

That's why Christian Aid is joining together with Young Christian Climate Network (YCCN) for **Rise to the Moment** – a journey of prayer and action in the run up to COP26. There are a number of things happening and one of those is to write a prayer on a sheet of paper and then fold it into a paper boat. These little boats can then be sent off to become part of a huge installation or we can make our own display. It's simple but powerful.

On Sunday we'll have some paper out so we can make some prayer boats but if you want to get some practice in the instructions are included in the Rise to the Moment leaflet attached separately. (Due to me not bringing home the right bit of paper, so a little bit of duplication!)

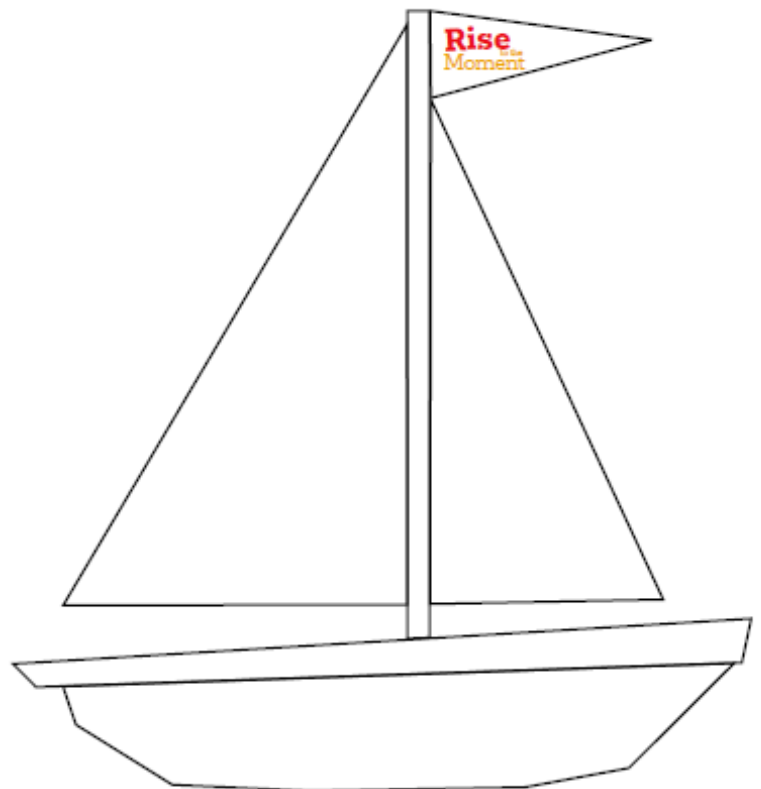
If you're not bothered to fold or find it a bit too fiddly, you can always colour in the boat and write your prayer on that.

Wendy

Rise to the Moment

Boat template

Making an origami boat from scrap paper or drawing your own is kinder on the environment. But if you need to, you can print and use this cut-out template.



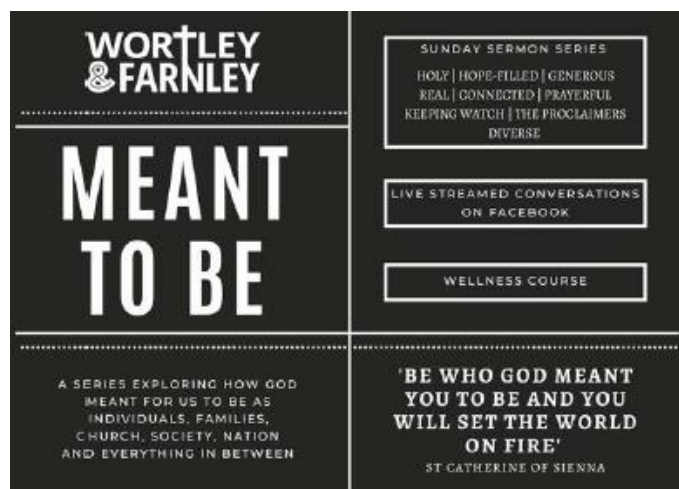
Christian Aid is a key member of ACT Alliance, Eng and Wales charity no. 1109851. Scotland charity no. SC008160. Company no. 8117102. Christian Aid Ireland is charity no. 140701681. Company no. 1408784 and RO charity no. 20614162. Company no. 408026. The Christian Aid name and logo are trademarks of Christian Aid. © Christian Aid July 2021. Photos: Christian Aid/Press Photo (200007)

God of hope.

We pray for world leaders attending COP26. Bless them with wisdom, creativity and a shared vision of hope for all creation. May they find the determination to take strong action to halt the destructive effects of climate change and the practical will to act together for the common good. Amen

Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:
grant that your people may be fervent
in the fellowship of the gospel
that, always abiding in you,
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in
service;
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.



Hebrews 10.19-25

¹⁹ Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Mark 8.27-38

²⁷ Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that I am?' ²⁸ And they answered him, 'John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.' ²⁹ He asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Messiah.' ³⁰ And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

This is the gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you O Christ