

The Parishes of Adbaston, Gnosall, Knightley & High Offley, Moreton and Norbury

Sunday 3rd August (7th Sunday after Trinity)

Opening prayer

Heavenly Father we come before you with thankfulness:

Cleanse our minds to accept your presence

We give ourselves to you as you give yourself to us:

Touch our hearts to accept your love

We seek the high ground where Christ is found:

Open our eyes to behold your coming

Let us worship our wonderful God.

Amen

CONFESSION

Knowing that the Lord Jesus intercedes for us with the Father, let us draw near to God with sincerity and confidence, as we offer ourselves to Him in penitence and faith.

We set our sights on earthly treasures and would figuratively build bigger and better barns:

Father forgive our foolish ways

We look upon those who are more successful and become consumed by envy:

Father forgive our foolish ways

We carry resentment against those who have more than we and rail against life's unfairness:

Father forgive our foolish ways

We long for a security which riches might bring but fail to see that this is not the way to cure our inner discontent:

Father forgive our foolish ways

Revive us and restore us to walk in your way of love and grace day by day.

Amen

ABSOLUTION

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his spirit and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.

Amen

COLLECT

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small

**as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen**

1st Reading

Colossians 3: 1-11

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

This is the word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke: **Glory to you O Lord**

Luke 12: 13-21

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.' But he said to him, 'Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?' And he said to them, 'Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.' Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'" But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you O Christ**

REFLECTION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God:

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

We bring our prayers using the response: Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

Merciful Father accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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

Peace

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above.

The peace of the Lord be always with you: **and also with you.**

Offering Prayer

God of all goodness and grace, help us to remember that our treasure is in heaven and make us generous givers of our gifts here on earth. Receive all that we give and take our gifts to use to your praise and glory. **Amen**

Act of Spiritual Communion

The Church of which we are members is not defined by the walls of a building but by the Body of Christ of which we are members. In making our communion spiritually, we are joining with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us, 'I am the Bread of Life'.

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have borne for me. I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples, 'I am with you always'. Be with me today, as I offer myself to you. Hear my prayers for others and for myself and keep me in your care. Amen.

O God, help me to trust you, help me to know that you are with me, help me to believe that nothing can separate me from your love revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

O Lord and heavenly Father, we your humble servants entirely desire your fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching you to grant, that by the merits and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all your whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

Amen

Blessing

God the gracious giver of all gifts, guide you into the ways of goodness and generosity; and the blessing.....

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ, Amen.**

Notices

Next Week's Services- 3rd August

Gnosall 8am Holy Communion
10am Benefice Zoom Service

Next Week's Services- 10th August

Gnosall 8am Holy Communion
10:30am Communion by Extn
High Offley 9:30am Morning Worship
Adbaston 9:30am Family Communion by Extn
Norbury 11am Morning Worship
Moreton 11am Holy Communion

Coffee and Chat

Join us for Coffee and Chat at St Lawrence Church. 1st Saturday of every month 10:30 - 12:30. All Welcome.

Sunday Cream Teas.

St. Peter's Churchyard **Norbury** (or Church if wet)

3rd and 17th August 2.30pm - 4.00pm

Tickets £5.00.

Please book at least 2 days in advance

Contact - Jane (01785 284463) or Janet (01952 812617) j_swinnerton29@hotmail.com

NORBURY 100 CLUB

Be in it to win it! If you would like to be a member for the 2025/26 season, please pay £12.00 subscription for each number as soon as you can. **Cash or cheque - make payable to 'Norbury 100 Club'** Please hand to a member of Church Council **Bank Transfer - 'Norbury 100 Club' Sort Code: 20-81-00 Account: 80681784** If you prefer this method - Please email - j_swinnerton29@hotmail.com

Food Bank Donations

If you are able to please make a food donation to the House of Bread. We appreciate whatever you can give. The donation box is at the Vicarage but anybody who would prefer can bring donations to any service or pass to a Church Warden.

Eco Church

Eco lifestyle tip for the month:

Private gardens, churchyards and other outdoor spaces can make a significant contribution to nature. We can take action to care for plants, wildlife and soil in the places where we live and around our churches. Caring for the earth was the first instruction God gave to humans. This doesn't mean we all need to be professional gardeners, but perhaps try to learn one new thing this month that you can do for a garden space. Read more about nature-friendly gardening at www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2024/04/environmentally-friendly-gardening-10-top-tips.

St Lawrence Just Giving Page

We have a Just Giving page which can be accessed by a web-link or simply by scanning the QR code using your mobile phone. Giving via Lichfield Diocese means Gift Aid is reclaimed on behalf of the church and all donations are passed to us without any fees or commission. <https://www.justgiving.com/page/st-lawrence-gnosall>



Prayer for the Appointment of a Rector

Heavenly Father, we thank you for your faithfulness in guiding and guarding the Benefice in this period without a Rector. Lord Jesus, we know that you have plans for us and that these plans are good. Lay on the heart of people seeking the next step for their ministry the challenges and opportunities here in the Benefice; and guide those involved in appointing the right priest to be our next Rector.

Holy Spirit, make us ready to welcome and support the person appointed. Help us to find and follow your way for the future and work together to grow your kingdom in our churches and communities, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Contact Details for the Church Office.

Phone: 01785 822820 Benefice Administrator: Victoria Hainsworth

Office email: churchofficegnosall@gmail.com

Office hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 9-12.00, Friday 9-1:00. During the Benefice Vacancy please contact Gnosall Vicarage by phone or email with enquiries related to regular services and funerals or to book weddings or baptisms. When the office is not staffed leave a message and someone will reply as soon as possible.