



# South Wye Team Ministry Newsletter

## 17<sup>th</sup> August 2025 - 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

Hello Everyone, I hope that you are all keeping safe and well in this hot spell. The weather forecasters seem to be confident about their predictions just now. In Sunday's gospel reading, Jesus refers to traditional weather signs – “when you see the south wind blowing, you say, “There will be scorching heat”; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?” Maybe this week we could usefully ask ourselves how we are interpreting the present time? What do we see happening around us that God wants us to respond to? How should we respond, as Christians, as people wanting to live as Jesus showed us?

I thought that it would be useful to include this summary of information from the NHS and UK Government – more detail is available on their websites. I know that some of it may seem simplistic or patronising ('take your jacket off' and 'move to a cooler place') but I would rather risk that than not say anything. And although the church itself may be cool, if travelling to church in this weather risks causing over-heating, please think carefully before you set out.

**Actions you can take to stay safe in hot weather** While many people enjoy warmer summer weather, hot weather can cause some people to become unwell through overheating (becoming uncomfortably hot), dehydration, heat exhaustion and heatstroke. Older people, babies and young children are more likely to be unwell from hot weather because their bodies are less able to regulate temperature. People with underlying medical conditions can also be vulnerable.

- keep out of the sun at the hottest time of the day, between 11am and 3pm
- if you are going to do a physical activity (for example exercise or walking the dog), plan to do these during times of the day when it is cooler such as the morning or evening
- if you do go outside, cover up with suitable clothing such as a hat and sunglasses, seek shade and apply sunscreen
- drink plenty of fluids and limit your alcohol intake
- check on family, friends and neighbours who may be at higher risk of becoming unwell, and ask them to do the same for you
- know the symptoms of heat exhaustion and heatstroke and what to do
- keep your home cool by closing windows and curtains in rooms that face the sun

**How to cool down:** If you are concerned about symptoms, or they are worsening, seek medical advice by contacting NHS 111. In an emergency, or if you think someone has heatstroke, dial 999.

- move to a cooler place such as a room with air conditioning or somewhere in the shade
- apply cool water by spray or sponge to exposed skin, and use cold packs wrapped in a cloth and put under the armpits or on the neck
- remove unnecessary clothing like jacket or socks
- drink cool water, a sports or rehydration drink, or eat cold and water rich foods like ice-lollies
- You should start to cool down and feel better within 30 minutes

**Keep your home cool** Homes can overheat and become uncomfortable during warmer weather, particularly when you are trying to sleep. Take the following steps to cool your home:

- close blinds and curtains on windows that are exposed to direct sunlight during the day
- close external shutters or shades
- move to a cooler part of the house, especially for sleeping
- go outside if it is cooler outside in the shade
- turn off lights and equipment that are not in use
- open windows (if it is safe to) when the air feels cooler outside than inside, for example at night, and try to get air flowing
- use electric fans if the air temperature is below 35°C, but do not aim the fan directly at your body as this can lead to dehydration
- check that any heating is turned off

With every blessing, Anne

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## Services and Events on-site, online and on TV and Radio

**Gillian Farlow is having a coffee morning to raise funds for St. Martin's on 30<sup>th</sup> August from 10.30am. Please speak to Gillian for more details.**

### ***A Warm Welcome at St Martin's***

On Tuesday afternoons the Narthex at St Martin's is a busy and welcoming space.

From 2pm there is a coffee afternoon, full of conversations and information, with chocolate biscuits and, usually, home-made cakes.

Everyone is welcome to come along to any – or all – parts of the afternoon.

### **Catching up with friends – or making new ones!**

**Young at Heart -** Second Thursday of each month – Lunch together in the church hall.

No Lunch in August – back again on the 11<sup>th</sup> September

Third Thursday of each month at 2pm – Meeting in St. Martin's Church – talks, games, refreshments and friendship – everyone welcome!

### **Services at Belmont Community Centre**

If you live in or near Belmont and find the journey to St Martin's difficult, or if Sunday mornings are not easy for you, you might like to join us for Friday Communion at Belmont Community Centre.

We celebrate a said service of Holy Communion at 12:30pm on the Second and Fourth Fridays of each month, following FoodShare. Everyone is very welcome to this service. The hall has level access and good ventilation – and if the weather is good we celebrate outside.

**The next services at Belmont are: 12.30pm Holy Communion – 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> September**

### **South Wye Services Through the Week:**

8pm Night Prayer from Common Worship – on St. Martin's Facebook page

#### **Sunday**

9:30am Holy Communion at St. Martin's

11.15am Holy Communion at St Peter's Bullinghope

#### **Thursday**

10am Said Communion in St. Martin's Lady Chapel

The 9.30am service will be streamed on St. Martin's Facebook page

**Diocese of Hereford** Diocese of Hereford Facebook: Sunday Service 10am.

**Church of England** National Weekly Service Facebook at 9am.

### **TV and Radio on Sunday;**

Radio 4 8.10am Sunday Worship- A Pilgrimage to Rome

BBC 1 1.15pm Songs of Praise- Faith on the Touchline

### **Prayer for the day:**

The Church of England website has audio and text of the Prayer for the Day.

## **For our Prayers**

### ***Those who are ill or in need of your prayers, including:***

Brenda Baylis	Maureen Gerard	Irene F	Margaret	Charlie	Sue	Peter
Irene Mussell	Mike	Karen	Nathan	Colin	Rachel	Shelley
Katie	Simon	Eddie	June M	Marie	Andrew Ley	Vickie

### ***Those who have died and those who mourn their loss:***

Stanley.. Dorothy GA.. Stephen G.. Pamela and John P. Margaret S.

**Anglican Communion:** The Scottish Episcopal Church: Most Reverend Mark Strange

**Hereford:** Pray for Condover Deanery –Christobel Hargraves (Rural Dean); Andrea Graham (Lay Chair) all engaged in local ministry across the deanery

**Porvoo:** Church of Ireland: Diocese of Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh, Bishop Ferran Glenfield;  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark: Diocese of Aarhus, Bishop Henrik Wigh-Poulsen

**South Wye:** Those living and working in Lilac Grove, Birch Grove, Beech Grove, Hawthorn Grove, Chestnut Drive, Ash Avenue, Willow Grove, Pine Grove, Hawthorn Place, Mountbatten Court

### **The Wider View:**

Pray for all those in leadership in our counties. For their righteous judgement, and integrity and wisdom in their decision making.

Never Give Up Day (Sunday) – pray for hope and resilience;

World Humanitarian Day (Monday) – give thanks for all aid workers

## **Collect for The 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy, strong and faithful, for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Readings for the 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

### **Psalm 80: 1-2, 9-20**

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, ♦ you that led Joseph like a flock;  
2 Shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim, ♦ before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.
- 9 You brought a vine out of Egypt; ♦ you drove out the nations and planted it.  
10 You made room around it, ♦ and when it had taken root, it filled the land.  
11 The hills were covered with its shadow ♦ and the cedars of God by its boughs.  
12 It stretched out its branches to the Sea ♦ and its tendrils to the River.  
13 Why then have you broken down its wall, ♦ so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?  
14 The wild boar out of the wood tears it off, ♦ and all the insects of the field devour it.  
15 Turn again, O God of hosts, ♦ look down from heaven and behold;  
16 Cherish this vine which your right hand has planted ♦ and the branch that you made so strong for yourself.  
17 Let those who burnt it with fire, who cut it down, ♦ perish at the rebuke of your countenance.  
18 Let your hand be upon the man at your right hand ♦ the son of man you made so strong for yourself.  
19 And so will we not go back from you; ♦ give us life, and we shall call upon your name.  
20 Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts; ♦ show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

## **Isaiah 5: 1-7**

**5** Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. <sup>2</sup> He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watch-tower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. <sup>3</sup> And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. <sup>4</sup> What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? <sup>5</sup> And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. <sup>6</sup> I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. <sup>7</sup> For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

## **Hebrews 11: 29-12: 2**

<sup>29</sup> By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup> By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup> By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient because she had received the spies in peace. <sup>32</sup> And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets - <sup>33</sup> who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup> Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented <sup>38</sup> of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. <sup>39</sup> Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup> since God had provided something better so that they would not, without us, be made perfect.

**12** Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

## **Luke 12: 49-56**

<sup>49</sup> 'I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! <sup>50</sup> I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup> Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup> From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup> they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

<sup>54</sup> He also said to the crowds, 'When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, "It is going to rain"; and so it happens. <sup>55</sup> And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, "There will be scorching heat"; and it happens. <sup>56</sup> You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

## Bible Study based on Hebrews 11: 29-12: 2

**Bible notes** This passage continues the theme introduced earlier in chapter 11, reviewing the courage and commitment of the heroes of the Old Testament. There are some surprising inclusions such as the prostitute Rahab of Jericho (Joshua 2) alongside judges and kings.

The writer also recalls the Maccabean period (160 BC) when the Jews suffered terribly under Antiochus Epiphanes, who tried to wipe out their religion. In this narrative of horror, the writer highlights the faith of those who suffered and their amazing endurance and contrasts them with an unworthy world (v.38). The writer sees Christ's life, death and resurrection as a turning point in history, when God's will could be perfectly known. Those who lived before Christ will achieve perfection in God's good time, along with those who know Christ, as we journey together towards God's promised future. This journey is presented in dramatic terms as a race. This image would have been familiar in the New Testament world, where most towns had a stadium and victorious athletes won fame. The opportunity to identify with elite runners would have been appealing to many for whom this ambition was out of reach.

The writer encourages the recipients of the letter to imagine the crowd roaring for them, but doubles down on this by suggesting that these supporters are the same people of faith who have just been listed. They are witnesses to God's power, victorious runners in their own right and therefore even better able to offer encouragement to those weighed down by sin.

The exploration of this image ends by inviting hearers to imagine the goal of the race – not the emperor's box, but Jesus enthroned in glory. Like the men and women of faith described here, Jesus has also suffered humiliation and pain on the journey towards joy. Now, as God's Son, he brings all this human experience to God's throne and transforms it into inspiration for the race that lies ahead.

**Reflection** *Spend a few moments thinking about what stands out for you from the Bible reading. This idea may help.*

Has anyone run a marathon or a long-distance race? Some long-distance runners talk about 'hitting the wall', a sudden loss of energy when runners feel they can't go on. What do we do when we 'hit the wall' in our Christian life? The Hebrews passage gives us some good encouragement to keep going. We have the example of the 'cloud of witnesses' – people who have run the race before us – to cheer us on, like spectators do at a marathon or park run.

Park runs also have volunteers called 'tail walkers', who encourage the stragglers to get to the finishing line. We might think of Jesus, who the writer to the Hebrews calls 'the pioneer and perfecter of our faith' as an excellent 'tail walker'. Not only that, but it is he who starts us off on the run, encourages us all along the way and is there to cheer us as we cross the finishing line.



### Questions for reflection

- Who are your cheerleaders?
- Whose race can you cheer on at the moment – what can you do practically?
- What helps to keep your mind on the finishing line?

# Sudoku

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	9							
				8				
		4		1	2		5	
	8	5			9			
1							7	
2			1	5	7		9	8
7	4			6	8			1
				2			6	

		3			6		2	
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6	1		7	5				9
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4			9	3				7
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8	5	1	9	2	4	7	6	3
7	4	9	3	6	8	5	2	1
2	3	6	1	5	7	4	9	8
1	2	3	5	4	6	8	7	9
6	8	5	7	3	9	2	1	4
9	7	4	8	1	2	3	5	6
5	1	7	6	8	3	9	4	2
3	9	2	4	7	1	6	8	5
4	6	8	2	9	5	1	3	7

3	6	9	5	1	7	2	4	8
4	8	1	9	3	2	6	5	7
2	5	7	6	8	4	1	9	3
1	7	4	2	6	9	8	3	5
8	2	6	3	7	5	9	1	4
9	3	5	1	4	8	7	6	2
6	1	2	7	5	3	4	8	9
5	9	8	4	2	1	3	7	6
7	4	3	8	9	6	5	2	1

## Sudoku (Trickier)

8						5		7
	6		1					4
			7				9	
		1			9	3		
5		3	6	1				
			4				5	
3	8					2		
	2						7	

			8		5			
5	2	7					9	
	4					3		2
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6					3			5
		5						1
7	1			6			8	
		4		2				

3	7	1	7	9	6	8	5	4	2	5	4
6	4	2	1	7	5	9	6	3	8	9	3
8	9	6	2	3	4	6	9	7	1	6	4
9	2	7	8	1	6	3	4	5	4	3	6
5	8	3	6	2	4	9	7	1	6	7	5
1	6	4	7	5	3	8	9	2	6	7	4
2	9	5	4	7	8	3	6	1	5	4	9
4	3	8	5	1	2	7	9	6	7	8	3
7	1	5	4	9	6	2	3	8	7	1	6

3	6	4	1	2	8	7	5	9	6	3	4
7	1	9	5	6	4	2	8	3	9	7	5
2	8	5	7	3	9	6	4	1	8	2	7
6	7	2	9	8	3	4	1	5	9	6	3
1	5	3	2	4	7	9	6	8	5	1	4
9	4	8	6	5	1	3	7	2	8	9	6
5	2	7	3	1	6	8	9	4	7	5	3
8	9	1	4	7	2	5	3	6	8	4	9
4	3	6	8	9	5	1	2	7	6	3	8

# Wordsearch based on Isaiah 5: 1-7

D	K	V	D	N	V	D	E	V	O	L	E	B	M	P
U	A	B	R	I	E	R	S	Q	K	T	Y	C	R	O
U	G	P	N	W	L	H	T	B	L	T	R	U	N	T
E	Z	E	X	S	O	T	E	P	L	A	N	T	E	D
M	S	M	K	V	V	Z	G	S	L	E	O	I	M	N
W	A	L	L	D	E	M	L	E	D	E	O	H	G	E
K	O	Z	D	R	S	G	P	W	T	E	K	N	O	L
U	E	H	S	A	O	R	E	L	S	S	I	X	U	I
X	G	I	D	Y	N	A	J	W	E	S	A	Y	R	T
A	D	L	U	E	G	P	P	Q	N	A	G	W	Y	R
H	U	L	O	N	W	E	K	Z	O	K	S	O	P	E
E	J	G	L	I	I	S	H	F	T	A	W	A	B	F
W	R	I	C	V	N	O	X	A	S	E	L	R	N	X
E	G	D	E	H	E	X	J	O	S	R	I	V	W	T
D	H	S	N	R	O	H	T	Y	K	B	R	H	I	L

SING  
HEWED  
BRIERS  
PLEASANT  
LOVESONG

PLANTED  
PRUNED  
HILL  
STONES  
VINEYARD

WALL  
WINE  
JUDGE  
BREAK

BELOVED  
HOED  
THORNS  
CLOUDS

VINES  
FERTILE  
DIG

WASTE  
GRAPES  
HEDGE