

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

Sunday 7th September (12th Sunday after Trinity)

Opening prayer

God of life, whose love enfolds us and spirit fills us:

We praise your holy name

God of joy, whose sunrise awakes us and sunset amazes us:

We praise your holy name

God of hope, whose promise sustains us and power upholds us:

We praise your holy name.

God of love, whose patience humbles us and touch can heal us:

We praise your holy name

God of peace, who breaks down barriers and walls that divide us:

We praise your holy name

God of eternity, who has always loved us and by grace has saved us:

We praise your holy name

Amen.

CONFESSION

God in Christ, who endured the cross in your own flesh for our sakes, hear us as we confess our sins.

Searching God, we are so attached to our possessions, we have trouble sharing them.
We are so connected to our pleasures that we cannot feel the pain of those around us.
We are so stuck on ourselves; we cannot sense our souls slipping away into the shadows.

Most merciful God: loosen us from the grip of the world, so we may feel your healing touch. Sever us from our sin, so your Spirit might bind us to you. Reshape us, redeem us, renew us, so we may take up our crosses and follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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

God of constant mercy, who sent your Son to save us: remind us of your goodness, increase your grace within us, that our thankfulness may grow, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

1st Reading

Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother. To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith towards the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a slave but as more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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 14: 25-33

Now large crowds were travelling with him; and he turned and said to them, 'Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, "This fellow began to build and was not able to finish. Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

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

Grace to you and peace from God the creator. Goodness to you and peace from Christ the redeemer. Guidance to you and peace from the Holy Spirit of God.

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

Offering Prayer

God and Father of all, we praise you that all things which come to us are from you. We are thankful for all the ways in which you provide for us and the blessings you shower upon us. Help us in return to be joyful givers and accept our offerings in whatever way they are given to be used 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 give you grace and guide you, that you may work with Christ, and so do the will and the wonderful works of God; and the blessing.....

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

Notices

This Week's Services- 7th September

Gnosall 8am Holy Communion
10am Benefice Zoom Service

Next Week's Services- 14th September

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

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals

The funeral of Doreen Simcock is on 11th September at Knightley Church at 1pm.
The funeral of Maurice Charles Jones is on 12th September at High Offley Church at midday.

Coffee and Chat

Join us for Coffee and Chat at St Lawrence Church. 1st Saturday of every month. All Welcome.

St Lawrence Church Decorating.

We shall decorate the Church for Harvest on Saturday 27th September from 9 - 11am. Please bring your own flowers and greenery. Gifts of fruit and veg and flowers will be gratefully received too. Everyone welcome. More info from Helen Air 01785 822347

Harvest Tea Gnosall

The Trustees of the Friends of St Lawrence Church invite you to a Harvest Tea at 3pm on Saturday 27th September. Please come and enjoy the Harvest flowers in the Church. Tickets £10 from Helen Air 01785 822347, Sandy Redfern 01785 822440, Margaret Winfield 01785 822507

Harvest Afternoon Tea Moreton

Saturday 27th September at 2.30pm Moreton, Outwoods & Bromstead Community Centre.
(MOBCC) Tickets £12 per person or £15 with prosecco. Tickets from Pat Lawley 01952 691 451

Harvest Lunch

Sunday 5th October 12.30 for 1.00pm
NORBURY VILLAGE HALL. *Hot roast gammon dinner (vegetarian option available) followed by homemade puddings. Please bring own drinks.*
Tickets: Adults - £15.00 Children (12yrs and under) - £7.00 Early booking recommended
Contact Jane 01785 284463
j_swinnerton29@hotmail.com
Proceeds to St. Peter's Church Norbury

Harvest Donations

Please leave donations of non-perishable food for harvest at the back of the Church by Friday 26th September.

Eco Church

Eco lifestyle tip for the month:

The Season of Creation (1 September - 4 October) is dedicated to God as the creator. During this period many churches celebrate Harvest, thanking God for His provision. It's a time when churches and congregations are called to pay special attention to the responsibility of humanity for the Earth and to pray for our world. Explore A Rocha UK's season of creation resources at: arocha.org.uk/what-we-do/season-of-creation.

St Lawrence Just Giving Page

We have a Just Giving page which scanning the QR code using your means Gift Aid is reclaimed on passed to us without any fees or



can be accessed by a web-link or simply by mobile phone. Giving via Lichfield Diocese behalf of the church and all donations are commission.

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/st-](https://www.justgiving.com/page/st-lawrence-gnosall)

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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.