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| **St. Mary’s, Waterloo Park** |
| [www.stmaryswaterloopark.co.uk](http://www.stmaryswaterloopark.co.uk) |

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| **28th September**  **Harvest Festival** | *Welcome!* |
| **Sunday and Weekday Service** |  |

**The Collect**

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; 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.

**Hymns**

195 For the beauty of the earth

753 Think of a world without any flowers

10 All creatures of our God and King

801 We plough the fields and scatter

**First Reading,** *Deuteronomy 26.1-11*

When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, ‘Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.’ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: ‘A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.’ You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

**Second Reading,** *Philippians 4.4-9*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

**Gospel,** *John 6.25-35*

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, ‘Rabbi, when did you come here?’ Jesus answered them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.’ Then they said to him, ‘What must we do to perform the works of God?’ Jesus answered them, ‘This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.’ So they said to him, ‘What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, “He gave them bread from heaven to eat.”’ Then Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.’ They said to him, ‘Sir, give us this bread always.’ Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

**Benedicite**

Bless the Lord all birds of the air:

bless the Lord you beasts and cattle;

bless the Lord you beasts and cattle;

sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

O people of God bless the Lord:

bless the Lord you priests of the Lord;

bless the Lord you servants of the Lord:

sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

Bless the Lord all you of upright spirit:

bless the Lord you that are holy and humble in heart;

bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit:

sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

**Post Communion**

Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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| **Intercessions**  **The World:** For peace in all areas of conflict in the world. For those affected by fires, floods and earthquakes. For emergency workers working in disaster areas. For refugees, asylum seekers and agencies that help them. For good stewardship of the earth and its resources.  **The Church:**The unity of all Christians everywhere. Archbishop Stephen, Bishop Ruth, Archdeacon Pete and Area Dean Rev. Alex Peach. Churches in the South Sefton Deanery, and local ecumenical partners.  **The Diocese:** Parish of Wigan East (All Saints Hindley, Saint Peter Hindley, Saint John the Evangelist Hindley Green, Saint Nathaniel Platt Bridge, Saint John the Evangelist Abram & Saint James and Saint Elizabeth Bickershaw), St Peter's School, St Mary's School, St. Philip's School, All Saints' School, St. John's School, Parish of Wigan North East (Saint David Haigh and Aspull, Saint John the Baptist New Springs, Saint Stephen Whelley, Saint Elizabeth Aspull), Sharples School, Haigh and Aspull School, Parish of Wigan North West (Saint Luke Orrell & St Francis of Assisi Kitt Green, Saint Barnabas Marsh Green), St John’s School, Parish of Wigan South (Saint Peter Bryn, Saint Aidan Billinge, Holy Trinity Ashton-in-Makerfield and Saint Thomas Ashton-in- Makerfield), St Thomas' School, St. Peter's School, Parish of Wigan Central (Town Centre) (All Saints Wigan, Saint George Wigan, Saint Mark Newtown & St Michael and All Angels Wigan), The Deanery High School & Sixth Form College, St Mark's School, Parish of Wigan West (Saint Paul Goose Green, Saint Matthew Highfield, Saint James with Saint Thomas & Saint John Pemberton), St James' School, Saint Paul's School and Highfield St. Matthew's School.  **For those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit**: Ailsa McAlees, Hewie, Eileen Maguire, Graham Forrest, Olga Gregor, Jess Farrell, Carl Lee, Richard Shacklady, Edith Keeton.  **For the departed remembered at this time:** Margaret Hockenhull, Dora Davies, Marjorie Townley, Beryl Brooks, Doris Haskayne, Audrey Grout, David Norwell, Mary Owen, Lynne McDonald, Robert O’Leary, Grace Heaps, Emily Cantwell.  **Notices**   * We are looking to grow and develop our worship and serving teams - if you are interested in leading intercessions (saying prayers), reading a passage from scripture during a service, administering a chalice at communion, helping as an altar server, or acting as a sidesperson/welcomer, or if you're just interested in finding out about any or all of this, then please contact: Rev. Dr Louis Johnson 07947 752 399/[louis.johnson@stfaithsgc.org.uk](mailto:louis.johnson@stfaithsgc.org.uk), or speak to a church warden or member of the clergy team after the service - everyone is welcome to have a go at anything and to explore whether you feel God is calling you do develop your Christian discipleship and worshipping life in this way! * **Christmas Cards:** Janet Bissex is taking orders for Traidcraft Christmas cards - see leaflets at the back of church. She will send for them at the end of September. * **St. Mary's Tuesday Club: 30th****September** at **2:30pm** (Meeting Room - Rev. Jackie Parry).   **Events**   * **Pet Service on The Feast of St Francis for Creationtide**: We will be holding a Pet Blessing Service at St Mary's on **Saturday 4th October at 11am** - this will mark both the Feast of St Francis, and the end of the season of Creationtide - more details to follow, but please put the date and time in your diary and come along if you can, whether you have a pet to bring or not! * **St Faith's Patronal Festival:** St Faith's will be celebrating its Patronal Festival on **Sunday 5th October** at **10.30am** - and we will be welcoming as a guest preacher The Venerable Dr Miranda Threlfall-Holmes, Archdeacon of Liverpool, and will be having celebratory refreshments afterwards, so please also put this date in your diary and join us with friends from our group of local churches to mark the occasion.  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Services at St Mary’s** |  | | This Sunday 10:00am, Eucharist  **Harvest Festival** | Louis Johnson  Peter Cowley | | Monday, 4:00pm  **Evening Prayer** | Louis Johnson | | Wednesday, 10:30am  **Eucharist** | Louis Johnson | | Next Sunday 10:30am, Eucharist  **St Faith’s Patronal Festival** | Louis Johnson  Miranda Threlfall-Holmes |   **St Mary’s, Waterloo Park**  [**www.stmaryswaterloopark.co.uk**](http://www.stmaryswaterloopark.co.uk/)  **Vicar: Rev. 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**Creationtide from 1st September to 4th October**

**What will be going on at St Faith’s and St Mary’s?**

As well as there being a Creation theme in the hymns, prayers and sermons during September, there will be a few other ways in which we can observe this wonderful season:

* During the four Sundays in September we will say a section from the Benedicite, which is a prayer which celebrates the beauty of Creation – thanks go to Judy Riley for this wonderful suggestion.
* A Fair-Trade Coffee and Tea Tasting will be held after the service on Sunday 28th September at St Faith's.
* A Pet Service will take place at St Mary's at 11am, on Saturday 4th October, which is the Feast of St Francis.