

**First Reading Deuteronomy 6: 4 – 9, 16 – 25**

<sup>4</sup>Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. <sup>5</sup>You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. <sup>6</sup>Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. <sup>7</sup>Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. <sup>8</sup>Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, <sup>9</sup>and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

<sup>16</sup>Do not put the Lord your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah. <sup>17</sup>You must diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his decrees, and his statutes that he has commanded you. <sup>18</sup>Do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may go in and occupy the good land that the Lord swore to your ancestors to give you, <sup>19</sup>thrusting out all your enemies from before you, as the Lord has promised. <sup>20</sup>When your children ask you in time to come, ‘What is the meaning of the decrees and the statutes and the ordinances that the Lord our God has commanded you?’ <sup>21</sup>then you shall say to your children, ‘We were Pharaoh’s slaves in Egypt, but the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. <sup>22</sup>The Lord displayed before our eyes great and awesome signs and wonders against Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his household. <sup>23</sup>He brought us out from there in order to bring us in, to give us the land that he promised on oath to our ancestors. <sup>24</sup>Then the Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our lasting good, so as to keep us alive, as is now the case. <sup>25</sup>If we diligently observe this entire commandment before the Lord our God, as he has commanded us, we will be in the right.’

**Second Reading Luke 15: 1 – 10**

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus]. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, ‘This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.’ <sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>‘Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup>And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, “Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.” <sup>7</sup>Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance. <sup>8</sup>‘Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup>When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, “Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.” <sup>10</sup>Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.’

**Gospel Reading (Continued)**

loaves of bread.’ <sup>4</sup>But he answered, ‘It is written, “One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”’ <sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup>saying to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you”, and “On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.”’ <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, ‘Again it is written, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.”’ <sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; <sup>9</sup>and he said to him, ‘All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.’ <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, ‘Away with you, Satan! for it is written, “Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.”’ <sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

**Shekinah Donations Wanted**

Shekinah would currently welcome any donations of socks. Please give any donations to Helen McCready at St. Mary’s Church. Thank you.

**Planned Giving Envelopes**

A few of the new planned giving envelopes are still at the back of St. Mary’s Church, ready for you to collect. If you can’t remember your number, please speak to Val Howell, or email [mickhow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mickhow@yahoo.co.uk)

**Swift Boxes at St. Mary’s**

The PCC at St. Mary’s have accepted a proposal for a swift nestbox project, to fabricate and install colony boxes within the bell chamber - 1 each on the north and south louvred tower windows, internally. The louvred windows are currently internally sheathed with mesh, restricting access into the tower. The louvres and surrounding stonework have been found to be structurally sound and are sufficient for the proposal. All work will be completed by an insured Level 3 Advanced craft Joiner with 30 years of experience, including listed building projects, and other church installations. The nestbox installation has been agreed by the Archdeacon under a List B application (‘Matters Which May Be Undertaken Without A Faculty’). It is hoped the work will be completed by May, when the nesting season starts. Little maintenance is required, however, the nestboxes will be inspected and maintained, at the end of the nesting season, once occupied, each year. A yearly report will also be compiled to inform the community and church members of the project’s successes.

The application is fee-free but the cost of installation is expected to be around £150. Any donations towards the project would be most welcome. Further information, including photos of the proposed swift boxes, can be found at the back of the church, or speak to Janet Donovan. Thank you.