



The Parish Churches of St Mary the Virgin, Gillingham,
St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour and St Nicholas, Silton



Open to God, Open to all

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Sunday 21 June The Third Sunday after Trinity (Proper 7)

CW Lectionary Rom. 6. 1b – 11; Matt. 10. 24 – 39; Ps 46

9:30am Parish Eucharist St Mary's Church, Gillingham *Hymns: 765, 135, 709, 682 (choir), 510*
Prayers for healing are usually available after the 9:30am service in the side chapel at St Mary's

11:00am BCP Holy Communion St Nicholas Church, Silton

6:30pm Evensong St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour *Hymns: 238, 422, 104, 433*

Thought for the Day by Revd Jeffrey

Three weeks ago Carol and I travelled up to Coventry to visit our youngest son and his wife and family. Today, Coventry is a vibrant multicultural city, and it was the UK's City of Culture in 2021. However, during the 2nd world war, in November 1940, it suffered a terrible bomb attack which devastated the city and all but destroyed the cathedral. Its remaining shattered ruins now stand as a silent witness of mankind's misuse of power. But think again of Coventry Cathedral and the way its ruins speak of the defiant victory over hate and destruction. Prayers of forgiveness and reconciliation are to be found on its broken walls. And walk through the ruins to the new cathedral and you will find a place that continues to speak of the glory of God in the face of human hatred, violence and destruction, of new faith. St Paul writes in the letter to the Romans, "so also we might set our feet upon the new path of life".

Collect

Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts whereby we call you Father: give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that we and all creation may be brought to the glorious liberty of the children of God; 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.

Post Communion

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining and whose power we cannot comprehend: show us your glory as far as we can grasp it, and shield us from knowing more than we can bear until we may look upon you without fear; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

For your thoughts and prayers

Norma Morris, Adam Cooke, Steve & Mary Rae, Roberta Wyatt, Rita Burns, Allen & Pauline Bryant, Carol Hebden, Diane Whitford, Anne Clarke, Shirley Lynch, Sandra Haward, David Clegg & family, Revd Nigel Done and Gillian Harding.

We commend to God's care all those who have died, especially Michael Botterill and Joy Poolham, and we pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones.

READING Romans 6. 1b – 11

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL Matthew 10. 24 – 39

Jesus summoned the twelve and sent them out with the following instruction: 'A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but

whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.'

Tuesday 23 June

9:30am – 9:45am CW Morning Prayer at St Mary's Church, Gillingham
12noon Burial of Ashes of Maureen Atkinson at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

Wednesday 24 June

9:30am – 9:45am CW Morning Prayer at St Mary's Church, Gillingham
10.30am Said Eucharist at St Mary's Church, Gillingham
10:30am – 12noon The Gillingham Men's Group at Rawson Court
2:00pm – 4:30pm Eden Café and TerraCycle recycling in the Vicarage School Room

Thursday 25 June

9:30am – 9:45am CW Morning Prayer at St Mary's Church, Gillingham
10:00am – 12noon Eden Café and TerraCycle recycling in the Vicarage School Room
2:30pm – 4:00pm Dementia Friendly Gillingham 'Music For You' at St Martin's House, Queen Street

Friday 26 June

9.30am – 10:00am Informal Prayer Group at St Mary's Church, Gillingham
2:30pm – 4:00pm Dementia Friendly Gillingham 'Sing-a-Song of Praise' at Fern Brook Lodge
3:15pm – 6:00pm St Mary the Virgin (SMTV) CE Primary School Fair at SMTV CE Primary School
Fun for all the family so come along & join the fun! Including bouncy castle, circus skills workshop, stalls, BBQ, raffle & more. All funds raised will go directly towards supporting the children and wider school community through Friends of St Mary's School (Registered Charity No. 1217006). Please note - Raffle tickets will be sold during coffee after the service at St Mary's on Sunday 21 June. £1 a ticket with big prizes to be won!

Saturday 27 June

10:00am Baptism of Mabel Pritchard at St Mary's Church, Gillingham
10:00am – 12noon Meditation in the Vicarage School Room

Sunday 28 June The Fourth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 8)

CW Lectionary Rom. 6. 12 – end; Matt. 10. 40 – end

9:30am Parish Eucharist	St Mary's Church, Gillingham
11:00am BCP Mattins	St Nicholas Church, Silton
11:00am Holy Communion	St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour

Foodbank urgently needs tinned meat, veg and soup. Please contribute if you can by adding to the collection crates at Lidl or Waitrose in town. Many thanks, Helen.

Finance Bite Size 25 – St Mary's

Whilst finances remain tight as mentioned last week, the good news is that the response to the Stewardship Campaign continues. Planned Giving has seen an increase of 11.3% in cash terms with 40% of people/couples responding. Collections are also up but difficult to quantify. Thank you.

On Wednesday 1 July, Jo's Crafts - A great place to buy handmade cards and gifts. New in – handmade glasses cases. (At Eden Café, 2:00pm – 4:00pm, in the Vicarage School Room)

A HYMNS and PIMM'S EVENING

with our organ played by
SIMON BENDING

**St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour, Friday 10 July,
7:00pm for 7:30pm start**

Come and join us for an evening of hymn singing when Simon, one of our regular organists, will play a mixture of his and our favourite hymns. Free entry but please donate if you can to help run our church.

Pimm's and other refreshments & Raffle

Parking in School alongside – just follow the road sign.