



The Church of Saint Paul

Burton upon Trent



July & August 2026 Newsletter



CLERGY DETAILS

Rev Simon Archer	revsimonarcher@gmail.com	Tel: 01283 902157
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OFFICERS

Churchwardens	Colin Dawson	Tel: 01283 516714
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PCC Secretary	Maureen Woolley	Tel: 01284 532748
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Hall Booking enquiries	John Woolley Colin Dawson	Tel: 01283 532748 Tel: 01283 516714

SERVICES

<u>St Paul's</u>	Sundays	10.45am	Sung Mass
	Thursdays	12 noon	Holy Communion
<u>St John</u>	Sundays	9.15am	Sung Mass
	<u>the Divine</u>	Wednesdays	9.30am

ST PAUL'S CHURCH IS OPEN 10.30am – 4.00pm MOST DAYS

For Baptisms and Weddings please contact the clergy

Fr Simon's day off is Friday

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4195/>

Donations for St Paul's Church will be gratefully accepted

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July 2026 for St Paul's Newsletter

Who is Jesus for you?

I wonder how you will respond to that question. How you do so will depend on your own spiritual journey and life experiences. But how you respond – or *if* you're willing to do so, even - needs to be honest and authentically you.

There is a wonderful video clip that you can find online, including on YouTube. It will only take up two minutes of your time to watch and I wholeheartedly recommend it; even to watch it several times. The question '*Who is Jesus for you?*' was put to Rowan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, in an event at St Paul's Cathedral in 2019. The questioner was the then Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, now of course Archbishop herself.

With a characteristic pause for thought, after saying '*Who is Jesus for me?*', Rowan Williams responds:

'The ground of all my hope.

The definition of what I long and pray to grow into, in terms of obedience to, and intimacy with, God the Father.

The one who holds together a human race that's always trying to tear itself apart, who gives the breath of his Spirit so that we share life, not fight over it.

The one whose death and resurrection are the centre point of all human history.

I could go on all night and not say anything really.

Yes, if all the things he did were written down, the world itself could not contain the books that would be written, as somebody put it.'

The beauty of his words lose much by being written down on a page like this, rather than being heard in his meditative, sonorous and warm tone. One of the greatest minds of our time reveals something deep from the heart. (The 'somebody' is John, in the final words of the gospel that bears his name, by the way.)

The Incarnation - God taking human form in Jesus to communicate God's love for all people through Jesus' life, death and resurrection – demands a response from everyone. Even if it is to shrug off thinking about who Jesus is and turn mind and body away – that is a response, still.

It was a great joy to be able to be at Worcester Cathedral at Pentecost this year to support a dear friend as she was ordained Deacon. Giving her life to God's service, to equip the whole people of God to make Christ known, was her huge, daunting and joyful response to the question of who Jesus is for her. As it is for all who were ordained at the same time, throughout the Church, and for all who are already in ordained ministry, and in lay ministry.

At the service in Worcester and subsequently, I have been reflecting deeply on my own ordination in Gloucester, as deacon in 2012 and as priest in 2013. And on how I have managed, and how I have fallen short, in living out that ministry since then.

Every one of us, as the baptised (or who is considering baptism), is challenged to respond to the question: **'Who is Jesus for you?'** Responding to God's call to us in Christ, by devoting our lives to prayer,

worship and service, loving God with every ounce of our being and loving our neighbour as ourselves.

This is baptismal living and is lifelong. Considering how, or if, we are living out the words of our baptismal commission, by which we all are called to worship and serve God:

- Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
- Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
- Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?
- Will you seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself?
- Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society, by prayer for the world and its leaders, by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

The liturgical response each of us makes to each of these questions is: **'With the help of God, I will.'** We cannot do any of this individually, under our own steam or inspiration.

Similarly, at ordination services of deacons and priests (and of bishops, too) each person being ordained is reminded: **'You cannot bear the weight of this calling in your own strength, but only by the grace and power of God.'**

Responding – in love, to God, neighbour and self – is part of our benefice's rhythm of life.

So, who is Jesus for you? And what are you going to do about it?

Fr Simon

INTRODUCING FR TREVOR...



A native of Harrogate, North Yorkshire, after a short career in the Civil Service, I trained for ordination at Chichester Theological College. I was ordained in 1986 at Sheffield Cathedral and served a curacy in a parish in Rotherham and later at St John the Divine, Horninglow where I spent three very happy years working with Fr Phillip (and occasionally helped out at St Paul's).

I then took a break from full-time ministry and had managerial jobs in a couple of charities based in Derby and, later, Leicester whilst helping-out in various local churches.

Feeling a strong call to return to parish ministry, I became Priest-in-Charge of Broughton Astley and Croft with Stoney Stanton in the Leicester Diocese in 2011. In 2014 I was appointed Rector of the Wigston Benefice to the south of the city, and then moved to my final job as Vicar of St Matthew's Perry Beeches in the Birmingham Diocese in 2022.

Having retired to Burton-on-Trent at the end of last year, it's been a real joy meeting old friends and re-familiarising myself with the area and, of course, with the churches of this benefice.

I share my life with my Civil Partner, Jeremy, and my hobbies include playing piano and organ, cinema and theatre and, of course, the odd pint of real Ale!

I shall enjoy helping out in the benefice, whether at the altar, in the pulpit or at the organ console, and I look forward to getting to know you all a little better.

Fr Trevor

PARISH NOTES

<p>Good news – Fr Simon has now been made Vicar of St Paul’s instead of priest-in-charge.</p>	<p>Rev Preb David Morris, Vicar of St Modwen’s and St Paul’s from 1981 to 1999 has recently passed away. Our thoughts and prayers to Valerie, and his sons Stephen and Tim at this sad time.</p>
<p>Standing Committee meeting on Thursday on 16th July and PCC on Thursday 6th August. Both meetings at 12.45pm in the church hall.</p>	<p>The decoration of the hall and kitchen is complete – all we need to do now is to put everything back to where it belongs. The porch and toilets are in the midst of being decorated. Any one available to help on a Thursday morning ? Thanks to the small team who have worked wonders on Thursday mornings.</p>

**We celebrated Mike Mear’s 80th birthday in style with a cake plus candle!
Congratulations Mike.**



TAKE A BREAK!

Thanks to all those who have supported the “TAKE A BREAK!” mornings. These mornings provide opportunities to welcome people to our church; enjoy the company; and to raise funds for our housekeeping. We have loads of books and jigsaws to sell. Grateful thanks to Colin, John and Sue for their hard work. Our next “Take a Break!” is on Tuesday 7th July at 10.00am. We shall have a Coffee Morning on Tuesday 4th August at 10.00am. NOT TO BE MISSED!!

CRAFTS, KNIT & NATTER

We had a good crowd at our June meeting.

Tote bags were the topic this time for people to create pictures on bags.

Thanks to Gill Bingham for the crafting. Some members brought their own crocheting to do. A lot of nattering took place. Our next Crafts, Knit & Natter is on Tuesday 21st July at 10.00am. All are welcome.



Sue Sweeney is busy crocheting blankets for the elderly.



Report to St Paul's P.C.C. of the June 17th 2026 meeting of the Tutbury Rural Deanery Synod held at St Mary's Church Hall, Dunstall.

It is always a great pleasure to visit this idyllic corner of East Staffordshire and it is 40 years since I first joined the synod, oddly enough at this same venue.

The Rural Dean, The Rev Dr Robin Trotter, welcomed all members of the synod, new and old and paid fitting tribute to Dr Doug Brown, who for health reasons, had decided not to seek re-election as the Lay Co-chair; it was Doug's last synod meeting and after he gave sincere thanks for the support he had received in his his 2 terms of office (covering 25 years as chair) he was warmly applauded by all present.

We shall very much miss him and he goes with our very best wishes to him, wife Kate and the family.

The evening's main agenda item saw Dr Jan Firth, and Joe Wilkinson, Environmental Officer and Net Zero Carbon Manager respectively for the Lichfield Diocese present a number of interesting articles relating to current diocesan environmental practice and implementation.

Jan began her address with a reference to Psalm 24: 'The Earth is the Lord's and the fitness thereof.....'and described their work as being the Anglican Church's 'Fifth Mark of Mission'.

The focus was on the care for God's creation (Planet Earth and all within it). At a local level, that includes how we (parishes, schools and diocese) care for our churches, churchyards and other assets. Jan shares best practice and opportunities for wide stewardship, most often accessed through the Eco-Church Award Scheme.

Joe stressed the need for church buildings to become eco-friendly and imparted several ways that would assist towards achieving this:-

Installation of LED lighting
Moving away from oil and gas heating
Considering electric solutions
etc.

He also stated that grant funds were available for churches that signed up to 'Net Zero Wins' with up to £2.500 available towards the work involved in moving towards Net Zero goals.

Synod was asked to examine various ways to encourage wildlife in church grounds with particular emphasis on wildlife habitats and the siting of bird and bat boxes, 'bug hotels'

Burton upon Trent and District YMCA Food Bank An Urgent Appeal

We are experiencing a severe short-fall in certain donated food items at our Foodbank facility at a time when demand has sharply increased and in anticipation of the looming increases in domestic energy bills, we expect this trend to continue.

In response to this acute situation we are in urgent need of the following foodstuffs to bolster our supplies and meet the needs of a growing number of desperate families and individuals :-

Long life milk	Tinned potatoes	Tinned tomatoes	Tinned peas
Tinned carrots	Tinned spaghetti	Tinned hot dogs	Instant rice
Cereals	Rice	Sugar	Teabags
Instant pasta	Instant noodles	Tinned fruit	Tinned fish
Biscuits	Tinned rice pudding	Jars pasta sauce	Instant coffee

You are welcome to bring the items to St Paul's Church or to take them directly to:-
Burton YMCA Foodbank, Reconnect, James Street, Burton upon Trent, DE14 3ST
(press intercom on arrival in car park) Tel: 01283 547211

PRAYER DIARY JULY 2026

1	Henry, John and Henry Venn the younger 1797, 1813 & 1878	The newly ordained
2	St Otto 1062 to 1139	
3		Reconnect in Burton
4	St Thomas, apostle	People coping with the aftermath of the Venezuela earthquake
5	TRINITY 5 [PROPER 9] St Thomas More and St John Fisher reformation martyrs	
6		Members of General Synod
7		
8		Families hosting refugees
9		Our newly elected PCC
10		Fr Simon, Fr Phillip, Fr Trevor
11		Work of Oxfam
12	TRINITY 6 [PROPER 10] St Bonaventure Franciscan	Work of the YMCA
13	St Benedict c550	The Armed Forces
14	John Keble 1866	Retired clergy in the deanery
15	St. Swithun Bishop c862	for fine weather
16	St. Osmond Bishop 1099	
17		Patients at the Queens Hospital
18		Residents of Amber House
19	TRINITY 7 [PROPER 11] St Gregory bishop c39	those who are persecuted for their faith
20	Bartolome de las Casas, Apostle	Hoteliers
21	St Margaret of Antioch 3 rd cent	for relief workers
22	St Mary Magdalene	The Community of the Holy Name, Oakwood
23	St Bridget abbess 1303 to 1373	school holidays – staff & children
24		Childless couples
25	St James the Great apostle St Christopher	People of Ukraine
26	TRINITY 8 [PROPER 12] St Anne and St Joachim	Police Force

27		Retreat Houses
28	Brooke Foss Westcott bishop 1901	Job-seekers
29	Ss Mary, Martha and Lazarus	the lonely
30	William Wilberforce social reformer	Students awaiting exam results
31	St Ignatius Loyola 1556	Railway workers

<p>From the Anniversary of Death book we remember in July</p> <p>Bill Turner, Leslie Rees, Janet Mear, Janet Sewell, Christopher Markille, Frank Ward, Brenda Smith, Reginald Sweeney, Dorothy Mear, Judith Freer, Graham Canner, Mary Savage, Shirley Turner</p>	<p><i>Heavenly Father, into whose hands your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, commended his Spirit at his last hour, into those same hands we commend all those in our hearts today. May they find eternal fellowship with you.</i></p>
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A prayer for God's guidance

May the strength of God pilot us.
 May the power of God preserve us.
 May the wisdom of God instruct us.
 May the hand of God protect us
 May the way of God direct us.
 May the shield of God defend us.
 May the host of God guard us against
 the snares of evil and the
 temptations of the world.

Christ be with us.
 Christ be before us.
 Christ be in us.
 Christ be over us.

St Patrick
 Taken from a Tapestry of Daily Prayer

AUGUST 2026 PRAYER DIARY

1		entertainers
2	TRINITY 9 [PROPER 13]	The situation in Ukraine
3		Coach drivers
4	Jean-Baptiste Vianney, Cure d'ars 1859	holiday makers
5		Bp Michael as he retires
6	Transfiguration of our Lord	to see the glory of God
7	JM Neale priest hymn writer 1866	musicians
8	S Dominic 1221	Residents and staff at Amber House
9	TRINITY 10 [PROPER 14] Mary Sumner 1921	Residents and staff at Charlotte James Nursing Home
10	S Laurence martyr 258	
11	S Clare 1253	childless couples
12	John Henry Newman 1890	retired clergy in the deanery
13	Jeremy Taylor 1613 to 1667	our families
14	Maximilian Kolbe friar & martyr 1941	for our government
15	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	for purity
16	TRINITY 11 [PROPER 15]	A level Students expecting exam results
17		vets
18		those who are mentally ill
19		University Administration centres
20	S Bernard 1153	for all missing children
21	William & Catherine Booth	for our troops in war-torn areas
22		Students expecting GCSE exam results
23	TRINITY 12 [PROPER 16]	the work of YMCA
24	S Bartholomew	charity workers
25		The lonely
26		Those seeking jobs
27	S Monica c331 to 387	the bereaved
28	S Augustine of Hippo 430	people in the Third World

29	beheading of S John the Baptist	Retreat Houses
30	TRINITY 13 [PROPER 17] John Bunyan 1688	For retired clergy in the deanery
31	S Aidan 651	Shobnall area of the parish

<p>From the Anniversary of Death book we remember in August</p> <p>Ashli Griffin, Kate Sharratt, Violet White, Emily Woolley, Bill Lawrence, Bertha Heath, Stanley Monkhouse, Noreen Salt, Cecil Smith, Bernard Colaluca, Mhairi Gunstone, Audrey Beale, John Griffin, William Burrell Woolley, Reg Clarke</p>	<p><i>Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.</i></p>
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Prayers for God's protection

O Father in heaven,
guide us through the darkness of this world.
Guard us from its perils and strengthen us when we grow weary.
Lead us by your chosen paths through time and through death
to our eternal home in your heavenly kingdom.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Liturgy

O God.
Our most mighty and loving Protector.
Guard us in peril.
Direct us in doubt and save us from falling into sin.
Deliver us from the evil that is around and within us.
Make the path of duty plain to us and keep us to the end,
through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Old Liturgy
Taken from A Tapestry of Daily Prayer

A PRAYER FOR THE MORNING

Before I awaken this morning
You are with me, Lord,
And even as I open my eyes
You greet me with the gift of this new day.
May I take this certainty of your presence
With me into all this day can hold.

Be with me now as I go forth –
Not as some weird
And ghostly watcher-over-me,
But as a deeper and truer awareness within:

An awareness
Which is constantly
Opening my mind to ideas,
To possibilities,
To relationships,
To understandings;

An awareness
Which is constantly
Opening my heart to trust,
To hope,
To sharing and giving,
To the call of the needs
Of my fellow creatures;

An awareness
Which is constantly
Opening all of my senses
To the hidden joys,
The tiny discoveries,
The lesser celebrations
And the over-arching wonder
Of your gift of life.

Taken from Diary of Daily Prayer

RELAXING

Father, so often I fail to find you in my praying,
despite all my best efforts. I enter grimly into prayer,
trying to gather up all my wandering thoughts
and suppress them, control them for you.

I seek your presence, Lord,
attempting to clear my mind of all possible distractions,
all conceivable interruptions.

Yet, no matter how I concentrate my thoughts thread their way back
to the business of my daily life and work.

Am I so wrong in this Lord?

Surely if these are the things that concern me
the matters around which my life revolves,
then they should form the content of my prayers.

When will I learn that prayers are not time set aside from life,
reserved for thinking pure and holy thoughts,
but prayer is a lifelong dialogue with yourself
concerning all that is important in my life.

Help me now, not to concentrate but rather to relax.

Convince me that I cannot raise myself
into your holy presence by sheer determination,
that you are always already here, and all I have to do
is to open myself to your presence.

Help me to be myself in my praying, Lord.

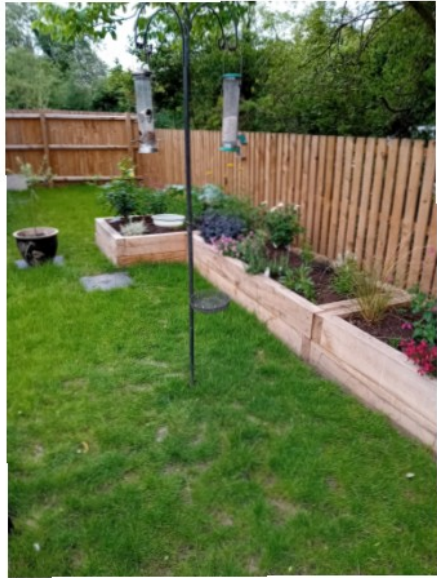
Taken from a Diary of Daily Prayer

From the Woolleys



It has been a long time coming that John and Mick have been able to erect four “sleeper” boxes for our garden.

The flowers are blooming well and the bushes are growing.



We are delighted that we had a great tit building a nest for her chicks in the bird house. We were so lucky to take a photo of the bird poking her head out of the house



It is great that we have attracted bees into our bee hotel.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

"TAKE A BREAK!"

toast & preserves

cream scones

Tuesday 7th July

& 11th August

10.00am in the Church Hall

CRAFTS, KNIT & NATTER

Tuesday 21st July

& 18th August

10.00am in the Church Hall

All welcome



Melody, Rhythm & Whimsy



Lunchtime Organ Recitals St Modwen's Church, Burton

Wednesdays 12.30pm - 1.15pm

1 st July	John Keys	Nottingham
8 th July	Tom Corfield	Derby
15 th July	Stephen Carleston	St John without the Barrs, Lichfield
22 nd July	Richard Syner	Burton
29 th July	Karen Thompson	Burton

Admission free - Retiring Collection invited
Bring your lunch!



Are you an AGATHA CHRISTIE fan? The jigsaw is AND THEN THERE WERE NONE.

All the characters are in the jigsaw. Fun to do!

Puzzle time

Answers to the quiz about the Saints of June:

1. Saint Justin Martyr
2. Saint Anthony of Padua
3. Saint Barnabas
4. Saint Aloysius Gonzaga
5. Saint John the Baptist
6. Saint Charles Lwanga
7. Saul
8. Saint John Fisher
9. Saint Irenaeus
10. Saint Columba (also known as Colmcille)

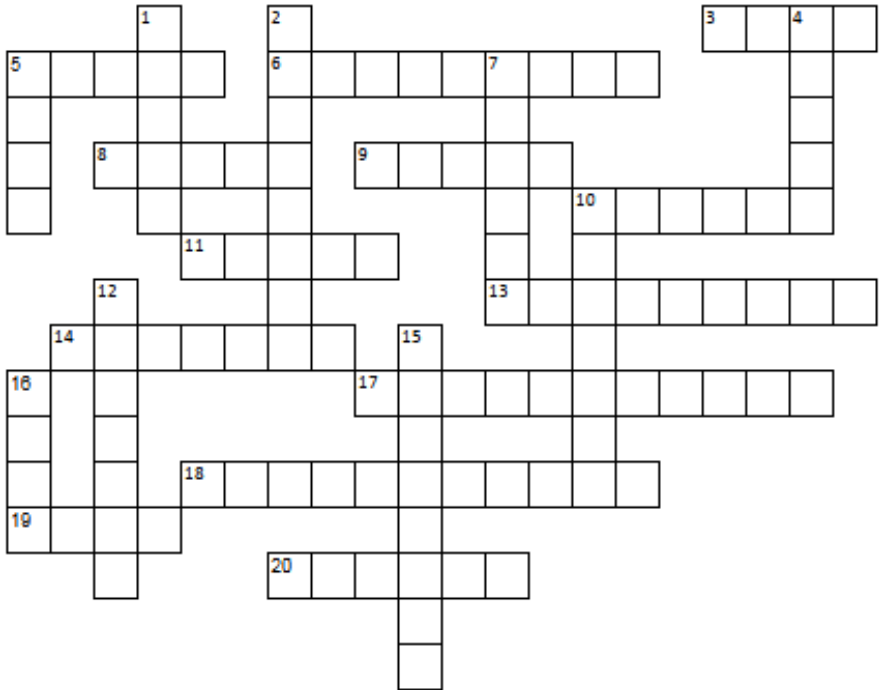
Quiz about summer Saints:

(Answers will be given next month)

1. Which beloved saint is celebrated on July 22nd and is often honoured as the 'Apostle of the Apostles'?
2. Which famous 13th century Italian saint, celebrated for his love of nature and animals, is an ideal saint to remember during the summer months?
3. During his execution by fire on a gridiron, which August feast saint jokingly asked his Roman executioners to turn him over because he was 'done' on one side?
4. Which saint's name derives from 'Christ-bearer' making him the traditional patron invoked for safe summer travels and road trips?
5. What major holy day occurs on August 15th, celebrating the Blessed Virgin Mary?
6. Which saint shares his feast day, (August 10th) with the patronage of comedians, chefs and firefighters?
7. Which saint, an early bishop and fisherman, is fittingly the patron saint of sailors and navigators?
8. Though an early saint, who was famously given patronage over computer programmers and the internet by Pope St John Paul II?
9. Which North African saint, one of the greatest doctors of the Church, has a major feast day on August 28th?
10. Which saint is often depicted with a trowel or spade and is the patron saint of gardeners?

Answer to the June wordsearch – the unused letters spelt out **CORPUS CHRISTI**.

The clues are emblems of saints, can you match them ?



ACROSS

- 3 horse
- 5 silver
- 6 heart
- 8 keys
- 9 lance
- 10 anvil

11 lamb

- 13 arrows
- 14 angel
- 17 knife
- 18 child
- 19 eyes
- 20 harp

DOWN

- 1 shell
- 2 gridiron
- 4 cloak
- 5 eagle
- 7 spear
- 10 beehive

12 shamrock

- 15 axe
- 16 sword

WORDSEARCH - the words are in a festival hymn in the August calendar. The unused letters will reveal the person.

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

- | | | | | |
|----------|-------------|--------|------------|-----------|
| BLESSED | ETERNAL | GRACE | MOTHER | SUFFERING |
| BREATH | EVERLASTING | GRANT | PRAYER | SWORD |
| BREAST | FACE | HOME | PROMISED | TREE |
| CHIEFEST | FLAME | INFANT | REDEEMER | WIND |
| CROSS | FREE | JOYS | REDEMPTION | WORD |
| EARTH | GLORY | LORD | SINNER | |

READERS ETC FOR JULY 2026

		Reader	Prayers	Offertory
5 th July Trinity 5 Proper 9	Zechariah 9.9-12 Psalm 145.8-15 Romans 7.15-25a Matthew 11.16-19,25-30	Mike Mear	Maureen Woolley	Olwen & Alan Sharpe
12 th July Trinity 6 Proper 10	Isaiah 55.10-13 Psalm 65.[1-7]8-13 Romans 8.1-11 Matthew 13.1-9,18-23	Tom Foster	Colin Dawson	Lilian Keen
19 th July Trinity 7 Proper 11	Wisdom of Solomon 12.13,16-19 <i>or</i> Isaiah 44.6-8 Psalm 86.11-17 Romans 8.12-25 Matthew 13.24-30,36-43	Sue Ganley	Mike Mear	Sue Sweeney Valerie Cammack
26 th July Trinity 8 Proper 12	1 Kings 3.5-12 Psalm 119.129-136 Romans 8.26-39 Matthew 13.31-33,44-52	Valerie Cammack	Clergy	Rose Jefferies

READERS ETC FOR AUGUST 2026

		Reader	Prayers	Offertory
2 nd August Trinity 9 Proper 13	Isaiah 55.1-5 Psalm 145.8-9,15-22 Romans 9.1-5 Matthew 14.13-21	Susan Monkhouse	clergy	Tom & Helen Foster
9 th August Trinity 10 Proper 14	1 Kings 19.9-18 Psalm 85.8-13 Romans 10.5-15 Matthew 14.22-33	John Woolley	Colin Dawson	Olwen & Alan Sharpe
16 th August Trinity 11 Proper 15	Isaiah 56.1,6-8 Psalm 67 Romans 11.1-2a,29-32 Matthew 15.[10-20]21-28	Mike Mear	John Woolley	Charlene
23 rd August Trinity 12 Proper 16	Isaiah 51.1-6 Psalm 138 Romans 12.1-8 Matthew 16.13-20	Sue Ganley	Maureen Woolley	Alfredo
30 th August Trinity 13 Proper 17	Ezekiel 33.7-11 Psalm 119.33-40 Romans 13.8-14 Matthew 18.15-20	Valerie Cammack	Mike Mear	Lilian Keen
6 th Sept Trinity 14 Proper 18	Jeremiah 15.15-21 Psalm 26.1-8 Romans 12.9-21 Matthew 16.21-28	Tom Foster	Clergy	Svetlana