

The Greenway Benefice Sunday Sheet

Holy Trinity Badgeworth, St Paul's Shurdington, and St Mary's Witcombe with Bentham

(Sunday services, readings and prayers are on this sheet, please look in the Three in One for other news and notices)*

Sunday 19th July 2026

7th Sunday after Trinity

Today's Services

9.30 St Paul's Holy Communion
11.00 Holy Trinity BCP Morning Prayer
11.00 St Mary's Holy Communion

Collect

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
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.
Amen.

Lectionary Readings

Genesis 28.10-19

¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and started out for Harran. ¹¹ He reached a certain place and stopped for the night. The sun had already set. He took one of the stones there and placed it under his head. Then he lay down to sleep. ¹² In a dream he saw a stairway standing on the earth. Its top reached to heaven. The angels of God were going up and coming down on it. ¹³ The Lord stood beside the stairway. He said, "I am the Lord. I am the God of your grandfather Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your children after you the land you are lying on. ¹⁴ They will be like the dust of the earth that can't be counted. They will spread out to the west and to the east. They will spread out to the north and to the south. All nations on earth will be blessed because of you and your children after you. ¹⁵ I am with you. I will watch over you everywhere you go. And I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

¹⁶ Jacob woke up from his sleep. Then he thought, "The Lord is surely in this place. And I didn't even know it." ¹⁷ Jacob was afraid. He said, "How holy this place is! This must be the house of God. This is the gate of heaven."

¹⁸ Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head. He set it up as a sacred stone. And he poured olive oil on top of it. ¹⁹ He named that place Bethel.

Psalm 139.1-11, 23-24

1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me; •
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
2 You mark out my journeys and my resting place •
and are acquainted with all my ways.
3 For there is not a word on my tongue, •
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
4 You encompass me behind and before •
and lay your hand upon me.
5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, •
so high that I cannot attain it.
6 Where can I go then from your spirit? •
Or where can I flee from your presence?
7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; •
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
8 If I take the wings of the morning •
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
9 Even there your hand shall lead me, •
your right hand hold me fast.
10 If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me •
and the light around me turn to night,'
11 Even darkness is no darkness with you;
the night is as clear as the day; •
darkness and light to you are both alike.
23 Search me out, O God, and know my heart; •
try me and examine my thoughts.
24 See if there is any way of wickedness in me •
and lead me in the way everlasting.

Romans 8.12-25

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— ¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" ²⁸ He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" ²⁹ But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." '

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' ³⁷ He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous

will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

This week's prayers

Please remember in your prayers:

- Those living in Lawn Crescent.
- Children's work and the Scout Group in Shurdington
- We are also praying for the people of Ukraine and the Middle East, that they may freely live in peace.

Shurdington Primary School

We are continuing our school links, and we pray for the staff and pupils. This term's school value is Thankfulness.

Our Frontline Prayer

We thank you, Heavenly Father, for the gift of this community. We commend one another to you on our different frontlines.

Wherever we are, whatever we do, whoever we are, may the Holy Spirit guide us in all things so that we may do God's will in the world, in the service of Jesus Christ and with great joy.

In Church next week

Sunday 26th July 8th Sunday after Trinity

10.30 Holy Trinity Benefice Holy Communion

(Celebration of Mothers' Union 150th anniversary)

This will be the only service in the Benefice this Sunday – all welcome

ECO tip for July

It's Plastic Free July and this year we're thinking about laundry, as polyester and nylon clothing are responsible for 35% of microfibre pollution in our oceans. WWF UK has some suggestions of how to reduce our impact on the planet without buying new clothes.

****Our Three in One magazine is available in churches, can be delivered to your door, and is in the News and Notices section of our www.achurchnearyou.com pages (type any Parish name into the search bar to find us)***