

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 12th July 2026

6th Sunday after Trinity

Today's Services

8am	St Mary's	BCP Holy Communion
9:30am	St Paul's	Sunday Worship
11am	Holy Trinity	Holy Communion
11am	St Mary's	All-age worship

Collect

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
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 25.19-end

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son:
Abraham was the father of Isaac, ²⁰and Isaac was forty
years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of
Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban
the Aramean. ²¹ Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife,
because she was barren; and the Lord granted his
prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. ²² The children
struggled together within her; and she said, 'If it is to be
this way, why do I live?' So she went to inquire of the
Lord. ²³ And the Lord said to her,
'Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;
one shall be stronger than the other,
the elder shall serve the younger.'
²⁴ When her time to give birth was at hand, there were
twins in her womb. ²⁵ The first came out red, all his body
like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau.
²⁶ Afterwards his brother came out, with his hand
gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was
sixty years old when she bore them.

When the boys grew up, Esau was a skilful hunter, a man
of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents.
²⁸ Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but
Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from
the field, and he was famished. ³⁰ Esau said to Jacob, 'Let
me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!'
(Therefore he was called Edom.) ³¹ Jacob said, 'First sell
me your birthright.' ³² Esau said, 'I am about to die; of
what use is a birthright to me?' ³³ Jacob said, 'Swear to
me first.' So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to
Jacob. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and
he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau
despised his birthright.

Psalms 119 105-112

105 Your word is a lantern to my feet •
and a light upon my path.
106 I have sworn and will fulfil it, •
to keep your righteous judgements.
107 I am troubled above measure; •
give me life, O Lord, according to your word.
108 Accept the freewill offering of my mouth, O Lord, •
and teach me your judgements.
109 My soul is ever in my hand, •
yet I do not forget your law.
110 The wicked have laid a snare for me, •
but I have not strayed from your commandments.
111 Your testimonies have I claimed as my heritage
for ever; •
for they are the very joy of my heart.
112 I have applied my heart to fulfil your statutes: •
always, even to the end.

Romans 8.1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who
are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in
Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of
death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by
the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the
likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he
condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just
requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk
not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.
⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds
on the things of the flesh, but those who live according
to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.
⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the

mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!'

¹⁸ 'Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹ yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

This week's prayers

Please remember in your prayers:

- Those living in Laurence Close
- Those who work in our hotels, public houses and bed and breakfast accommodation.
- 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. Amen

In Church next week

Sunday 19th July 7th Sunday after Trinity

9:30am	St Paul's	Holy Communion
11am	Holy Trinity	BCP Morning Prayer
11am	St Mary's	Holy Communion

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)*