



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

[www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6802/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6802/)  
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**Sunday 5 July The Fifth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 9)**

*CW Lectionary Rom. 7. 15 – 25a; Matt. 11. 16 – 19, 25 – end*

8:00am Said Trad Holy Communion St Mary's Church, Gillingham

9:30am Parish Eucharist St Mary's Church, Gillingham *Hymns: 691, 669, 752, 437 (choir), 667*

*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

11:00am Morning Worship St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour *Hymns: 342, 157, 459, 192*

**Thought for the Day** by Revd Robin

I have much affection for Thomas the Apostle. I was Ordained a Priest on his Feast Day, 3rd July. On an icon that I have he is looking very young – a reminder that the apostles were young men, Jesus himself being in his early-30s. Thomas was not with the others after the resurrection. Was he alone somewhere? Hopes destroyed, terrified of any crack-down on the followers of the one who was crucified, too frightened to meet with his companions? But, they needed each other! He found his way back into their fellowship. He was with them when Jesus appeared to them all a week after the resurrection. When we gather together with those who do believe .... when we meet with those who sometimes have the same doubts .... when we stand side-by-side with those who know the risen Lord .... when we break bread and share wine together as he commanded .... then our hope and faith are renewed, and we are given the strength we need to get us through each day. Praise be to God for calling us together to be the Church – to be a people who meet in Christ's name and to minister to one another in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Collect**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Post Communion**

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by your governance, that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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, Gillian Harding and Janet Botterill.

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

**READING Romans 7. 15 – 25a**

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.* I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

**GOSPEL Matthew 11. 16 – 19, 25 – end**

*At that time Jesus said,* 'To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another, "We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn." For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, "He has a demon"; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!" Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds. I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.

All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

### **Tuesday 7 July** (*Parish Office closed today*)

9:30am – 9:45am CW Morning Prayer at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

From 2:30pm Milton Primary Carer's Coffee and Chat at St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour

*Come for a coffee and a chat with other parents & carers as well as members of the church and school. Younger siblings are welcome to join us; toys and refreshments provided.*

### **Wednesday 8 July**

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 9 July**

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

12noon Funeral of Eleanor Luffman at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

### **Friday 10 July**

9.30am – 10:00am Informal Prayer Group at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

2:30pm – 4:00pm Dementia Friendly Gillingham 'Name This Tune' at St Martin's House

7:30pm A Hymns and Pimm's Evening at St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour

*Come and join us for an evening of hymn singing when Simon Bending, 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, refreshments & Raffle. Parking in School alongside – just follow the road sign.*



### **Saturday 11 July**

10:00am – 12noon Meditation in the Vicarage School Room

12:30pm – 3:30pm Repair Café in the Vicarage School Room

### **Sunday 12 July The Sixth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 10)**

*CW Lectionary Rom. 8. 1 – 11; Matt. 13. 1 – 9, 18 – 23*

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

3:00pm Messy Church in the Vicarage School Room

*Messy Church Goes Wild! Session with a focus on creation and the outdoors. Including interactive bible stories, exciting games & activities, creative crafts, refreshments & more. Come along and join the fun! All children welcome (Please bring an adult).*



### **Request for Small Empty Water Bottles**

Needed for a Messy Church craft activity. If anyone has any, please give them to Kate Wickson before 12 July.

### **Finance Bite Size 27 – St Mary's**

As mentioned last week we budgeted to pay our Share to diocese based on one priest, the recently appointed Rector. However, the post of a part time priest has now been advertised which means that we can no longer use the excuse that there will only be one priest following this appointment. So how does the PCC find a way to manage this? Following debate within the PCC the Treasurer will discuss our situation with the Diocesan Director of Finance.

### **St Mary's Fun Day**

On 5 September 5, 11:00am – 2:00pm, the church is hosting a St Mary's fun day for our community. We want to do games, crafts and teddy parachute from the tower. Little Cherubs are running tea, coffee and cake sales from the VSR and other stalls. Money raised will be for the church and Little Cherubs. I would love some people to help set up some games and activities, or if you have anything you think would help please get in touch. Thank you. *Revd Becca.*