

The Parish of Elstree & Borehamwood
All Saints * Holy Cross * St Michael and
All Angels * St Nicholas
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/32-091BJ>

Sunday, July 26th

TRINITY 8

Welcome to Church – Today's Services:

9.15am	St Nicholas	Service of the Word	Mike Ford Lay Reader
9.30am	Holy Cross	Holy Baptism and Holy Communion	Rev'd Louise Collins
9.30am	St Michael	Holy Communion	Rev'd Tony Richardson
11.15am	All Saints	Holy Communion	Rev'd Louise Collins

Holy Baptism @ Holy Cross at 9.30am

Holy Cross Church is delighted to welcome the family of Tony and Izogie Julius for Baptism:

Ekenakede Julius ('Kede')

Osatohanmwun Julius ('Sato')

Emwinosatae Julius ('Nosatae')

May the LORD grant them abundant riches of faith.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Lord God,
 your Son left the riches of heaven
 and became poor for our sake:
 when we prosper save us from pride,
 when we are needy save us from despair,
 that we may trust in you alone;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Strengthen for service, Lord,
 the hands that have taken holy things;
 may the ears which have heard your word
 be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues
 which have sung your praise be free from deceit;
 may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your
 love shine with the light of hope;
 and may the bodies which have been fed with
 your body be refreshed with the fullness of
 your life; glory to you for ever.
 Amen.

TODAY'S READINGS

Genesis 29.15-28

Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was

graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her. Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening, he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Psalms 105.1-11

O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.

Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually.

Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,
O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

He is mindful of his covenant forever, of the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations,

The covenant that he made with Abraham, his sworn promise to Isaac,

Which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant, saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan as your portion for an inheritance."

Romans 8.26-end

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of

God. ²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. ³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Matthew 13.31-33, 44-52

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

This Week...

Monday, July 27th

9.30am Morning Prayer at All Saints

Tuesday, July 28th

10.30am The Funeral at St Michael's of the late Eugenie Robinson, former Verger of St Michael's. All welcome. The family invite all to join them for a wake afterwards in St Michael's Church Hall from 1.30pm-4.00pm.

Wednesday, July 29th

10.00am Holy Communion and Open Church at St Nicholas

Thursday, July 30th

- 9.30am Morning Prayer at St Nicholas
- 12.00-3.00pm Welcome Café, St Michael's
- 3.00pm Holy Communion with Songs of Praise at St Michael's. All welcome.

Saturday, August 1st

9.30am Holy Cross Postcard Project. Please contact Revd Louise for details.

Next Parish Service

Sunday, August 23rd 10.00am at Holy Cross

Holy Cross Patronal

Sunday, Sept 13th @ 10.00am at Holy Cross

with the Bishop of Hertford. In this special Parish Service, Revd Louise Collins will be Licenced as Team Vicar with special responsibility for Holy Cross. Followed by a **"Bring-and Share" Buffet Lunch** in the church and grounds. Sign-up sheets available in church from today. All welcome.

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE Sunday, August 2nd

St Nicholas	9.15am	Service of the Word
Holy Cross	9.30am	Service of the Word
St Michael	9.30am	Holy Communion
All Saints	11.15am	Holy Communion

Holy Cross Postcards Project

As part of our Mission Action Plan, Holy Cross Church is aiming to deliver 100's of postcards to local homes in the coming weeks. We welcome members from across the Parish to join with us in helping with the delivery or supporting in prayer. Each delivery session to last no more than 45 minutes, plus briefing before and de-briefing after. Please contact Revd Louise in advance to take part.

- **Saturday, August 1st at 9.30am**
- **Sunday, August 9th at 11.00am**

Action Love Liberia

Does anyone know of a lock-up garage in the Parish that Revd Louise and Cllr Alpha Collins could rent for a few months for use by their educational charitable organisation in Liberia?