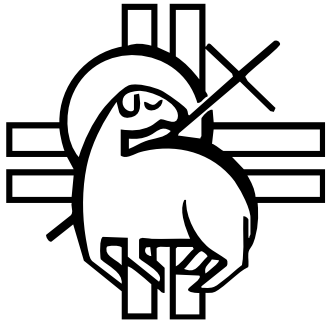




The Parish Church of

St John the Baptist

Serving the communities of Bodicote,
Cherwell Heights and Longford Park

Our Parish Prayer Ever living God, give us the courage to be your church in the community and for the community, and teach us new ways to share your love with all those around us. Amen.

Sunday 12 July 6th Sunday after Trinity

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.

First Reading: Isaiah 55: 10-13

For as the rain and the snow come
down from heaven, and do not
return there until they have watered
the earth, making it bring forth and
sprout, giving seed to the sower and
bread to the eater, so shall my word
be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty, but
it shall accomplish that which I
purpose, and succeed in the thing
for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy, and be
led back in peace; the mountains
and the hills before you shall burst
into song, and all the trees of the
field shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up
the cypress; instead of the brier
shall come up the myrtle; and it

shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Second Reading: Romans 8: 1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. 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, 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.

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. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For 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, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But 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.

But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If 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: 7-9, 18-23

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach.

And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. 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. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 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. 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. 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.”

Post-communion Prayer

God of our pilgrimage,
you have led us to the living water:
refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our
Lord.
Amen.

Notices

Next Sunday evening we will be gathering for a **service of thanksgiving** for all who contribute to and shape the life of our church community. All are welcome as we celebrate the bonds of love and fellowship, the generosity of time and talents, and wonderful ways in which our church family seeks to serve God and the community. After the service at 6pm there will be drinks and nibbles served in church. We hope you are able to join us.

A message from Tricia & Bob:

Thank you so much for the delightful send-off you gave us on 28th June. We were literally quite speechless on the morning but not now – so thank you so much for the wonderful gift of NZ dollars you will transfer over to us. We have a large deck which runs along the side of our apartment and it is begging for pots of plants and bushes, so your money will be spent

in that way, which means we will always remember you as we admire our garden. It has been quite emotional saying goodbye as we have lived in Banbury and been a part of Bodicote church for 46 years so it is hard leaving lovely friends behind. As many of you know our journey to NZ has been delayed slightly whilst Bob undergoes a few tests related to his heart, but tests are underway and we hope it won't be too long before we fly to NZ. We have swapped our intended travel to Hong Kong and Vietnam for a cosy Airbnb cottage in Alkerton. Our love and prayers to you all.
Tricia & Bob Campbell

An advance notice that there will be **no afternoon teas on Wednesday 5th August** due to the floor in Church House being renovated.

This week we pray for all who live or work in Deer's Close and Lower Close

Diary for this week

All in church unless otherwise stated

Sunday 12 July

8am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.45am Parish Communion

Monday 13 July

8am Morning Prayer on Zoom*

Wednesday 15 July

2.30pm Afternoon teas in Church House

Thursday 16 July

Vicar's day off

Sunday 19 July

8am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.45am Parish Communion
6.00pm Service of Thanksgiving for all our wonderful volunteers

Readings for 19 July

Isaiah 44: 6-8, Romans 8: 12-35

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

*ask wardens for link

Contact us

Vicar: Revd Emily Hockliffe Essex revd.emily@gmail.com 07979 931889

Associate Minister: Revd Alice Jolley mthr.alicejolley@outlook.com

Churchwardens: churchwardens.bodicotechurch@gmail.com

Treasurer: treasurer.bodicotechurch@gmail.com

Administrator: office.bodicotechurch@gmail.com

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/5406/

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/BodicoteParishChurch>