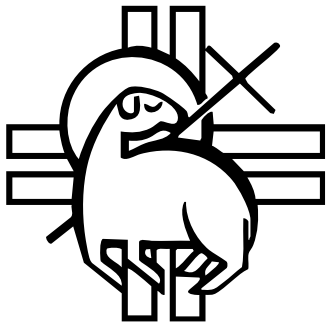




The Parish Church of

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 23 August 12th Sunday after Trinity

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear
than we to pray and to give more
than either we desire or deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance
of your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which
our conscience is afraid and giving
us those good things which we
are not worthy to ask but through
the merits and mediation of 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 51: 1-6

Listen to me, you that pursue
righteousness, you that seek the
Lord. Look to the rock from which
you were hewn, and to the quarry
from which you were dug.

Look to Abraham your father and to
Sarah who bore you; for he was but
one when I called him, but I blessed
him and made him many.

For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will
comfort all her waste places, and will
make her wilderness like Eden, her
desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people, and give
heed to me, my nation; for a teaching
will go out from me, and my justice
for a light to the peoples.

I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Second Reading: Romans 12: 1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

We have gifts that differ according

to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Gospel Reading:

Matthew 16: 13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”

Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.

I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Post-communion Prayer

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside
our sins and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole
in Christ may bring that healing to
this broken world, in the name of
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Gradual Hymn

Lord, you call us to your service,
each in our own way.
Some to caring, loving, healing;
some to preach, or pray;
some to work with quiet learning,
truth discerning, day by day.

Life for us is always changing
in the work we share.

Christian love adds new dimensions
to the way we care.

For we know that you could lead us,
as you need us, anywhere.

Seeing life from your perspective
makes your challenge plain,
as your heart is grieving over
those who live in pain.

Teach us how, by your compassion,
you may fashion hope again.

Lord, we set our human limits
on the work we do.

Send us your directing Spirit,
pour your power through,
that we may be free in living
and in giving all for you.

Notices

The **Silent Auction** begins today for three works of art by the late George Walker, generously donated to the church. One is a cartoon, one is a print of Church Street, Bodicote and one is of Broughton Castle. These will be on display in Church House after the 9.45am service for viewing and for anyone interested in making a bid. All proceeds will go to Church funds. Auction closes on Sunday 20 September.

Do look out for posters detailing the **Tea in the Park** event at Kingsfield and the Village Hall on

Sunday 30 August - this will be a family-friendly, free event, perfect for bringing a picnic, relaxing in Kingsfield, chatting with the new Bodicote Welfare Fund Trustees and Committee members, and enjoying time together as a community.

We are really thrilled to be launching **St Johns 20s and 30s** this autumn. We hope that this new ministry might create space for new community to form and for Christian faith to deepen. Please pray for us, as we begin to explore together what our community might look like.

We will be launching with a drinks social at The Plough Inn in Bodicote at 7.30pm on Tuesday 8th September – first drink free! Following this, we plan to meet on the first Tuesday of each month and will update the group as to the plan via WhatsApp and/or social media.

If you are in this age range and would like to know more, or if you have friends or family in this age range, you can get in touch with Coral at stjohs20sand30s@outlook.com where she will be able to give more information about what's coming up, and add anyone who wants to be involved to the WhatsApp group.

Please note: Church House is being re-decorated this week so there will be no access during that work.

This week we pray for all who live or work in Blackwood Place, and Wise Close.

Diary for this week

All in church unless otherwise stated

Sunday 23 August

8am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.45am Parish Communion
6pm Songs of Praise

Monday 24 August

8am Morning Prayer on Zoom*

Friday 28 August

1.30pm *Wedding of Ricky Brash and Chloe Johnman*

Sunday 30 August

8am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.45am Parish Communion

The vicar is away on annual leave from Monday 24 August to Friday 28 August

Readings for 30 August

Jeremiah 15: 15-21, Romans 12; 9-end,
Matthew 16; 21-end

*ask wardens for link

Contact us

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