

The Benefice Bulletin

23rd August 2026 – Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

The Vicarage, Church Lane, Barton under Needwood DE13 8HU



Please take this bulletin home with you

Here for the first time? Relax. Please make yourself at home and please sit where you feel comfortable. Those who greeted you, our wardens, or the clergy will answer any practical questions that you may have. Posture notes on the service sheet and verbal instructions are intended for those who can comfortably follow them. We hope you enjoy worshipping with us.

Services this week

Sunday 23rd August

09:00 Holy Communion

St Michael's, Tatenhill

10:30 Sung Eucharist

St James', Barton

Wednesday 27th August

09:15 WoW Wednesday

including informal worship at 10:00

St James', Barton

Thursday 28th August

09:15 WoW Thursday

including informal worship at 10:00

Tatenhill Village Hall

Readings and Prayers for the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Readings

Psalm 138

Old Testament Isaiah 51.1-6

New Testament Romans 12.1-8

Gospel Matthew 16.13-20

The Collect

God of constant mercy, who sent your Son to save us: remind us of your goodness, increase your grace within us, that our thankfulness may grow, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

Clergy	Revd Andy Simpson ☎01283 712359	✉vicar.bundtbenefice@outlook.com
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Churchwardens:		
St James'	Steve Gardner ☎07960 960509	✉stevegardneruk@gmail.com
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St Mary's	Angela Moffat ☎01283 713735	✉rangelamoffat@icloud.com
St Michael's	Phil & Emma Coleman ☎01283 538983	✉stmtatenhill@gmail.com

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.

² 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.

³ 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. ⁴ 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. ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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 for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

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. ² 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. ³ 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 judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Matthew 16.13-20

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' ¹⁴ And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' ¹⁵ He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ 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.' ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

For your prayers

The World: We pray for His Majesty King Charles and Queen Camilla, and the wider Royal Family. We pray for all areas of the world where there are conflicts, poverty, drought, disaster, terrorism, and humanitarian crisis.

The Anglican Communion: The Church in the Province of West Africa

Our Diocese: We pray for Bishops Michael and Matthew and Archdeacon Megan

Our Deanery: Along with our deanery, we pray for our Emergency Services and their chaplains.

Our Benefice: We pray for those who live and work on Ash Tree Road, Oak Road and Arden Road in Barton, Scotch Hills Lane in Dunstall and Cuckoocage Lane and Callingwood Lane in Tatenhill. May God be with all those who live and work in these places as they go about their daily lives this week.

Those who are not well: Heather S, Lesley S-D, Shirley, Jess, Simon, Jane, Robert, Monica, Non, Rosemarie, Jude, Phillipa, Jenny

Those who have died: Tom Brooks, Phyllis Ford, Andrew Cure, Keith Lorriman. We pray for all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

In Benefice News...

- The Needwood Singers will be hosting their **Summer Concert** at St James' on Sunday 23rd August starting at 3pm. See the advertising posters around the village for more information.
- The **August Benefice Service** will be held at St James', Barton and officiated by Canon Stewart Jones. All are welcome.
- The **Teddy Festival Weekend** is fast approaching and are looking for volunteers to bake cakes, staff the tea tent, and steward in church over the weekend. Sign up sheets are available in St James Church or please speak to Andy, Beth or Anita.
- **Hymns, Pimms and Proms** will close the Barton Proms season on Saturday 12th September starting at 17:00. Set on the church lawn, bring your chairs, blankets and picnics, there will be a cash bar available, and settle in for an evening at the Last Night of the Proms.
- **Ride and Stride** will take place on Saturday 12th September. For more information, sponsorship forms or to sponsor our riders, please contact Jill Rogers.

If you would like a home visit from the Ministry or Pastoral Visiting Team, please contact the Benefice Office on 01283 712359 to arrange a time.

Diary Dates for the Week Ahead

Monday 24th August

19:30 Tatenhill PCC

The Vicarage, Barton

Tuesday 25th August

10:00 Charity Coffee Morning

Our Lady's, Barton

Wednesday 26th August

09:15 WOW Wednesday

including informal worship at 10:00

St James', Barton

12:00 Wedding of Chloe and Richard

St Mary's, Dunstall

Thursday 27th August

09:15 WOW Thursday

including informal worship at 10:00

Tatenhill Village Hall

Friday 28th August

10:00 Bible Group

St James', Barton

Saturday 29th August

Sunday 30th August

10:30 Benefice Holy Communion

St James', Barton

Future Dates

5th and 6th September

Barton Teddy Festival

Monday 7th September

19:00 Home Group

The Vicarage, Barton

Tuesday 8th September

19:00 Churches Together Meeting

Our Lady's, Barton

Saturday 12th September

Ride and Stride Day

All Churches

17:00 Hymns, Pimms and Proms

St James', Barton

Sunday 13th September

18:00 Harvest Festival followed

by Yorkshire Supper

St Mary's, Dunstall

Monday 14th September

13:30 Tea and Chat

St James' Church Hall

Tuesday 15th September

19:00 Barton PCC

St James', Barton

Wednesday 16th September

14:00 Wedding of Nick and Teresa

St Mary's, Dunstall

Hello All,

Today in our Gospel reading we have that famous question of Jesus to Peter: Who do you say I am? The same question we are all asked to consider and answer, truthfully! But what interests me in today's reading is how it seems that Peter's affirmation of Jesus as the son of God, is not based on evidential proof or intellectual argument or even theological reflection or as Jesus says, "not revealed by flesh and blood". I believe this is for the same reason that God does not openly prove his existence to us. Such proof would remove the need for faith and would also remove our free will to freely choose to love God (or indeed not love God!). Such proof would force us to love God, and forced love isn't love - it's abuse!



Yours in Christ, Rev Andy +