

The Benefice Bulletin

13th September 2026 – Fifteenth 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 13th September

09:00 Holy Communion

St Michael's, Tatenhill

10:30 Second Sunday Service

St James', Barton

13:00 Baptism of India

St James', Barton

18:00 Harvest Festival

St Mary's, Dunstall

Wednesday 16th September

09:15 WoW Wednesday

including informal worship at 10:00

St James', Barton

Thursday 17th September

09:15 WoW Thursday

including informal worship at 10:00

Tatenhill Village Hall

Readings and Prayers for the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Readings

Psalm 114

Old Testament Genesis 50.15-21

New Testament Romans 14.1-12

Gospel Matthew 18.21-35

The Collect

Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion Prayer

Keep, O Lord, your Church with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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St James'	Steve Gardner ☎07960 960509	✉stevegardneruk@gmail.com
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St Michael's	Phil & Emma Coleman ☎01283 538983	✉stmtatenhill@gmail.com

Romans 14.1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God. ⁷ We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰ Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' ¹² So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Matthew 18.21-35

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' ²² Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³ For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." ²⁹ Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

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 Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

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

Our Deanery: Along with our deanery, we pray for the parish of Holy Angels, Hoar Cross

Our Benefice: We pray for those who live and work on Mill Lane, Mill Crescent, Hardy Close and Sandiway in Barton, Dunstall Hill in Dunstall and Sweeny Drive and Hayfield Drive 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, Non, Rosemarie, Phillipa, Jenny, Jean.

Those who have died: Margaret Finch, Dorothy Smith. We pray for all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

In Benefice News...

- **Hymns, Pimm's 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.
- A **HUGE THANK YOU** to everyone helped in any way over the Teddy Festival Weekend. It was a fantastic weekend and your support is greatly appreciated.
- **Dunstall Harvest Festival** will take place on Sunday 13th September at 6:00pm followed by a Yorkshire Supper of apple pie and cheese in the Church Hall. All are welcome.
- **St Michael's Tatenhill** will be hosting a **Bring and Share Harvest Supper** on Saturday 26th September from 7pm in the Village Hall. All are welcome to join as we celebrate the Harvest together. The Harvest Festival Service will take place on Sunday 27th September at 9:30am.
- **St James' Harvest Festival** takes place on Sunday 27th September with the harvest service at 10:30am followed by Church Family Harvest Lunch at 12:30.

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 14th September

13:30 Tea and Chat

St James' Church Hall

Tuesday 15th September

19:00 Barton PCC

St James', Barton

Wednesday 16th September

09:15 WOW Wednesday

including informal worship at 10:00

St James', Barton

12:00 Wedding of Nick and Teresa

St Mary's, Dunstall

Thursday 17th September

09:15 WOW Thursday

including informal worship at 10:00

Tatenhill Village Hall

Friday 18th September

Saturday 19th September

14:00 Wedding of James and Cheryl

St James', Barton

Sunday 20th September

09:00 Holy Communion

St Mary's, Dunstall

10:30 Holy Communion

St James', Barton

Future Dates

Thursday 24th September

13:30 Funeral of Dorothy Smith

St James', Barton

Friday 25th September

10:00 Bible Group

St James', Barton

Saturday 26th September

13:30 Vow Renewal of Richard and Hayley

St James', Barton

19:00 Bring and Share Harvest Supper

Tatenhill Village Hall

Sunday 27th September

09:00 Harvest Festival

St Michael's, Tatenhill

10:30 Harvest Festival

St James', Barton

Tuesday 29th September

12:45 Funeral of Margaret Finch

St Peter's, Yoxall

Monday 12th October

13:30 Afternoon Tea

St James' Church Hall

Sunday 18th October

10:30 Holy Communion including
thanksgiving for 80 years of Barton RBL

St James', Barton

Hello All,

This week's Gospel brings us the Parable of the Unjust Servant and Jesus' reminder to treat others as we would like to be treated ourselves.

The servant seems to have quickly forgotten the forgiveness and kindness he had received. It's a good reminder that thankfulness and humility should share the way we treat those around us.

I'll be exploring this a little more in Sunday's sermon, but for now, perhaps it's worth asking ourselves: **how grateful are we, and does that gratitude show in how we treat others?**

Every blessing, Beth

