

The Benefice Bulletin

20th September 2026 – Sixteenth 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 20th September

09:00 Holy Communion

St Mary's, Dunstall

10:30 Holy Communion

St James', Barton

Wednesday 23rd September

09:15 WoW Wednesday

including informal worship at 10:00

St James', Barton

Thursday 24th September

09:15 WoW Thursday

including informal worship at 10:00

Tatenhill Village Hall

Readings and Prayers for the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

Readings

Psalm	145
Old Testament	Jonah 3.10-4.End
New Testament	Philippians 1.21-End
Gospel	Matthew 20.1-16

The Collect

Lord of creation, whose glory is around and within us: open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you with reverence and know your peace at our lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Clergy	Revd Andy Simpson ☎01283 712359	✉ vicar.bundtbenefice@outlook.com
	Revd Liz Chamberlain ☎07917 077014	✉ lizchamberlainuk@yahoo.co.uk
Coordinator	Beth Flashman ☎07464 835189	✉ coordinator.bundtbenefice@outlook.com
Churchwardens:		
St James'	Steve Gardner ☎07960 960509	✉ stevegardneruk@gmail.com
	Linda Felgate	✉ linda_felgate@hotmail.com
St Mary's	Angela Moffat ☎01283 713735	✉ rangelamoffat@icloud.com
St Michael's	Phil & Emma Coleman ☎01283 538983	✉ stmtatenhill@gmail.com

Philippians 1.21-End

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. ²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Matthew 20.1-16

'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; ⁴ and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" ⁷ They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." ¹³ But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

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 of Australia

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

Our Deanery: Along with our deanery, we pray for the parish of St Mary's, Tutbury

Our Benefice: We pray for those who live and work on Causer Road, Sutton Crescent, Salt Drive and Keeling Drive in Barton, The Dunstall Estate in Dunstall and Sanderson Close and Hillside Road 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, Simon

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

In Benefice News...

- **St Michael's Tatenhill** will be hosting a **Bring and Share Harvest Supper** on Saturday 26th September from 19:00 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 9:30. All food donations are welcome and will be donated to the Burton YMCA Foodbank.
- **St James' Harvest Festival** takes place on Sunday 27th September with the harvest service at 10:30. Dry and fresh food donations are welcome which will be donated to Burton YMCA Foodbank and the Burton Soup Kitchen.
- **St James' Church Harvest Lunch** will take place after the service on Sunday 27th September. Please sign up by Sunday 20th September, confirming your main meal choice on the sheet at the back of church.
- The next **Churches Together Charity Lunch** will take place on Friday 25th September at Our Lady's, starting at 12:00. A lunch of soup, bread, cheese and cake. All are welcome.
- **Chalk and Cheese with Friday Voices** will take place on Friday 16th October, starting at 19:30 in church before moving to the Village Hall for the 2nd half. It is always a wonderful evening. Tickets priced at £15 available from Phil on 01283 538983 or by emailing stmtatenhill@gmail.com.

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 21st September

Tuesday 22nd September

Wednesday 23rd September

09:15 WOW Wednesday

including informal worship at 10:00

St James', Barton

Thursday 24th September

09:15 WOW Thursday

including informal worship at 10:00

Tatenhill Village Hall

13:30 Funeral of Dorothy Smith

St James', Barton

Friday 25th September

10:00 Bible Group

St James', Barton

12:00 Churches Together Charity Lunch

Our Lady's, Wales Lane

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

12:30 St James' Church Family Lunch

St James', Church Hall

Future Dates

Tuesday 29th September

12:45 Funeral of Margaret Finch

St Peter's, Yoxall

Monday 12th October

13:30 Afternoon Tea

St James' Church Hall

Friday 16th October

19:30 Chalk and Cheese

with Friday Voices

St Michael's, Tatenhill

Sunday 18th October

10:30 Holy Communion including

thanksgiving for 80 years of Barton RBL

St James', Barton

Friday 23rd October

11:00 Memorial Service for Mary Taylor

St James', Barton

Sunday 8th November

Remembrance Sunday

09:00 Holy Communion with

Act of Remembrance

St Michael's, Tatenhill

10:45 Act of Remembrance

Barton War Memorial

11:15 Service of Remembrance

St James', Barton

16:00 Evening Prayer on

Remembrance Sunday

St Mary's, Dunstall

Hello All,

"Life is unfair" is a lesson which many parents like to impart on their children, often when children complain about not getting what they want!

Last week we saw how Peter's sense of justice and fairness was turned on its head when Jesus reproached him for not being generous with his forgiving. This week more unfair generosity from God in the parable of the workers in the vineyard. Why do we find it so hard to be happy for other people? Perhaps it's because we are not truly grateful for what we have? The first workers in the vineyard had had the security of working from the beginning of the day, a sense of achievement and the joy of completing a demanding common task with others, but all this is valued at naught compared to what?...money? This parable helps us to not only reflect on what we value but also how easily we find ourselves judging others rather than seeing things from their point of view.



Yours in Christ, Rev Andy +