



The Parish Churches of St Mary the Virgin, Gillingham,
St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour and St Nicholas, Silton



Open to God, Open to all

www.achurchnearyou.com/benefice/34-154E/

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Sunday 11 October The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity (Proper 23)

CW Lectionary Phil. 4. 1 – 9; Matt. 22. 1 – 14

9:30am Harvest Festival St Mary's Church, Gillingham

For Harvest CW Lectionary 2 Cor. 9. 6 – end; Luke 12. 16 – 30

Prayers for healing are usually available after the 9:30am service in the side chapel at St Mary's

11:00am Harvest Festival St Nicholas Church, Silton

11:00am Holy Communion St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour *Hymns: 105, 172, 104, 101*

Thought for the Day by Revd Robin

In St Paul's Letter to the Christians in Philippi (ch.4 v.1-9) there was obviously a need for him to warn them to stop their bickering and to get along with each other. He mentions two names, but I am sure it was not only those two who needed to take heed that they must stop being concerned about the things that divide them and be more concerned about the things that unite them. This text includes reminders from Paul to his readers: "Whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, [etc] think about these things. and the God of peace will be with you." The passage is endearing and reassuring, yet filled with straight talk and clear directives. We are hearing Paul the father, Paul the pastor, Paul the teacher giving valuable advice not just for the congregation but for everyday living, particularly of getting into a habit of gentleness. Words in v.7 will be familiar because they are sometimes used in the blessing at the end of worship: Let your gentleness be known to everyone. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Collect for Milton

O God, forasmuch as without you we are not able to please you; mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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.

Post Communion for Milton

Holy and blessed God, you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son and filled us with your Holy Spirit: may we honour you, not only with our lips but in lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord.

For your thoughts and prayers

Norma Morris, Adam Cooke, Steve & Mary Rae, Roberta Wyatt, Rita Burns, Allen & Pauline Bryant, Carol Hebden, Diane Whitford, Sandra Haward, David Clegg, Gillian Harding, Glynis Crocker, Sue & Marie Andrew and Sarah Snook.

We commend to God's care all those who have died, especially Shirley Lynch, Anne Clarke, Margaret Luker and Nicola Bright, and we pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones.

READING Philippians 4. 1 – 9

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL Matthew 22. 1 – 14

Once more Jesus spoke to the chief priests and Pharisees in parables, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his

troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

Sunday 11 October Harvest Lunches *(for those who have bought tickets a reminder of the start times)*

12noon for 12:30pm St Mary's Harvest Lunch in the Vicarage School Room

12:30pm St Nicholas' Harvest Lunch at Silton Village Hall

Monday 12 October

1:00pm Funeral of Margaret Luker at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

Tuesday 13 October

9:30am – 9:45am CW Morning Prayer at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

2:30pm Milton on Stour CE Primary School Harvest Service at St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour

5:00pm St Nicholas PCC Meeting at Silton Village Hall

Wednesday 14 October

9:30am – 9:45am CW Morning Prayer at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

10.30am Said Eucharist at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

2:00pm – 4:30pm Eden Café and TerraCycle recycling in the Vicarage School Room

Also, today at Eden, Jo's Crafts – Christmas Card Making Workshop. Come along and join in the fun! No need to book. Cost – £2.50 which includes a donation to St Mary's Church.



Thursday 15 October

9:30am – 9:45am CW Morning Prayer at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

10:00am – 12noon Eden Café and TerraCycle recycling in the Vicarage School Room

11:00am Funeral of Nicola Bright at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

7:00pm Wave of Light at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

For Baby Loss Awareness Week – a short service with prayers and candle lighting.

Friday 16 October

9.30am – 10:00am Informal Prayer Group at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

Saturday 17 October

10:00am – 12noon Meditation in the Vicarage School Room

Sunday 18 October St Luke

CW Lectionary Ps. 147. 1 – 7; 2 Tim. 4. 5 – 17; Luke 10. 1 – 9

9:30am Parish Eucharist* St Mary's Church, Gillingham

11:00am BCP Holy Communion St Nicholas Church, Silton

6:30pm Evensong St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour

*After this service, there will be an opportunity to stay behind for a very short healing service. This will include prayers, laying on of hands and anointing. Please feel free to join us in the Good Shepherd Chapel to receive this ministry for yourself or on behalf of someone known to you.

St Simon & St Jude 100 Club October Winners: 1st Sheila Fricker, 2nd Gerry Purdue, 3rd Sue Hatch

Christmas Shoebox Appeal Please take your shoebox to the Parish Office by **Friday 20 November (not the date given in the leaflet)**. If you have any problems getting there, please let me know. I have one empty box if you need one. *Margaret Porter 822193*

Who is Isaac? A blue envelope for Isaac was left at St Simon & St Jude after the Benefice Service on Sunday 30 August. If you know who left this envelope please contact the Parish Office.