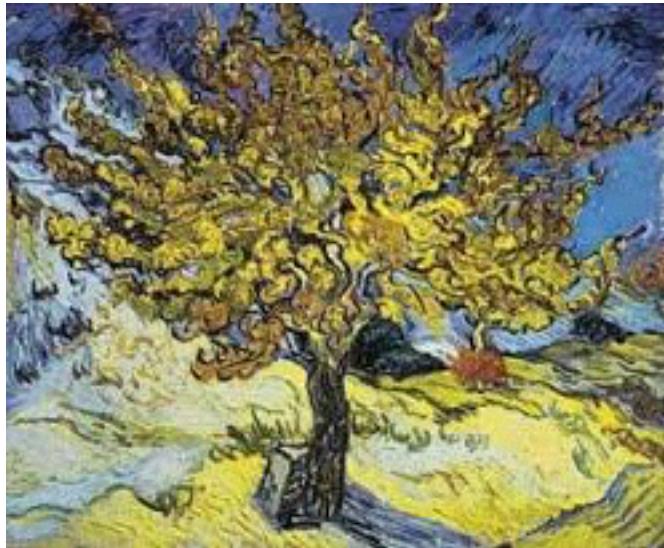


St Mary and All Saints, Dunsfold
Sunday, July 26, 2020

ePEWS NEWS

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

SUNDAY: 10am DUNSFOLD CHURCH



"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed."

COLLECT FOR 7th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY: Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; 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.

OT: Genesis 29: 15-28

NT: Romans 8: 26-end

GOSPEL: Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

SET THE DATE.. COME AND JOIN MARKS AND SPARKS AT OUR PET SERVICE, 2020



We've had to delay our ever-popular Pet Service until Sunday, September 6. But please make a date to join our service outside the Sun Inn at 10 am and also help us create a special ePews News edition.

The Maslin family have led the way with photos of the new furry inhabitants at the Rectory. Ian and Susie's son Tom is pictured above with their guinea pig Marks while Susie presents his chum Sparks. And below you can see Ian with their cat Kai.

Please send your photos of your pets to davidwalker2020@hotmail.co.uk. We're even happy for them to let you be on the photos, too. In the past we've had a real menagerie at our Pet Service with horses and snakes being brought along to join our cats, dogs and rabbits. All will be welcome!



HOW TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH

Major income streams have been denied your church during the coronavirus lockdown. We appreciate many people and families are facing their own challenges at this time but if you feel able to make a donation or take up regular giving please either contact our treasurer John Gray at treasurer@dunsfoldchurch.co.uk or you can make a donation to our account which is:
Account name: Dunsfold PCC

Sort code: 30 94 41 Account number: 01828639
Thank you.

CAN YOU HELP TO DEVELOP OUR CHURCH?

We are looking for a volunteer to help Reverend Ian with some of the many clerical issues that crop up around the parish. We need somebody with the right skill set to take on a job that will only require a few hours a week. And you will have spotted that at the moment we have to ask for voluntary help. This is not a paid post. If you're interested please call Ian on 200048.



REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL READING BY REVEREND IAN MASLIN

Today's Gospel tells us of Jesus "sowing seeds", being a gardener if you like.

In nearly all His parables He 'sows seeds'; seeds of wisdom and encouragement, seeds of knowledge and confidence.

All these seeds grow in the hearts and minds of those who listen. Among whom we, of course, belong.

They are seeds that when nurtured will flourish and be fruitful.

Typically, Jesus uses for His 'seeds' everyday examples, things His listeners would recognise and know. The tiny seed which grows to become a strong bush. The single cell of yeast helping 'flat' ingredients to become a wholesome loaf of bread.

He tells people who, in their everyday surroundings, spot real treasure. In the field and among the pearls.

Treasure which they recognise and value enough to give up all else to gain. And to people who fish for a living; he spoke of a huge harvest, fish of every kind.

The seeds that Jesus is sowing here are seeds about the kingdom of heaven.

The Kingdom can be a challenging concept for many people, but Jesus's words affirm how a smidgen of faith, a seed of love - our kingdom faith if nurtured - will grow into something great and good.

He shows that this kingdom of faith is of great worth - "beyond price" one might say. Something greatly to be desired, beyond our known measure of wealth. And the kingdom is all embracing; there is a place, a room, for all of us.

In recognising Jesus sowing seeds here, it is important to note that, whilst He may well be looking ahead to the end product, the unimaginable glory of heaven, He is in fact, in His parables of our Gospel today, focusing on the starting point.

The tiny seed which grows to become a vibrant plant, the minuscule yeast cell which acts to produce a delicious loaf.

Sometimes gardeners will start with a seed, and watch it become a beautiful flourishing plant. Sometimes they will take a well-developed strong root clump and divide it, each small part itself growing into a thriving plant.

Who first sowed a seed of faith in us? Did our faith come through what our family and friends shared with us and rooted in us?

However we received it, and however small and frail it may sometimes seem, it has brought us into the kingdom.

If we take nothing else from today's Gospel reading, we must recognise that the small seed of faith in us, that small cell of faith helping us to grow, the single jewel, is our kingdom faith.

A kingdom faith. Its potential to grow and grow is unlimited. And grow it will, as we grow in Jesus Christ.

The small seed of faith working in us does indeed make us part of the kingdom.

We are part of God's kingdom, each and every one of us who confesses Jesus as Lord, we are part of His kingdom.

Amen.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

CHURCH: The ordinands who have had their ordinations postponed this summer by Coronavirus restrictions. They are now scheduled to be ordained from September 26. We pray for God's blessings to be upon them as they set out as priests in his service.

WORLD: People everywhere who are suffering human rights abuses especially the Uighur people in China.

THE SICK: Amanda and Hugh, Sandra Baxter-Brown, Barbara and Des Crabb, Jenny Glover, Sally Rivett, Sue Simper, Judith Wheeler, Jackie Williams, Judy Bolt, Sue and Dennis Evans, Peter Hutley, Sally Davis, Lorna Thompson, Paul Wiltshire, Sami Bennewith, Dru Ridley.

THE DEPARTED: Henry (aged 15) and Bishop John Neale, 93, rector of St Peter's Hascombe before becoming the first Bishop of Ramsbury.

DUNSFOLD CHURCH COMMUNITY

The lockdown may have eased but we are well aware that some people still need to remain in voluntary isolation because of medical issues. And there are others who are fearful of venturing too far from home.

If you need help, feel lonely or afraid please call any of the people listed here for help. You may be at home but you are never alone within the Dunsfold Church Community.

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sheilajones4@btinternet.com

PS. This will be the last edition of Pews News until the weekend of August 16. Stay well and enjoy the summer and please continue to pray for the people listed above.

