

The Churches of the Forest of Galtres Benefice

Sutton on the Forest & Huby : Stillington : Marton in the Forest : Farlington : Sheriff Hutton

Issue No 335

Sunday 13th September 2026

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Introduction

Welcome to the fifteenth Sunday after Trinity – *Education Sunday*. The theme for this year's Education Sunday is *Living Well Together* with the focus on learning to reconcile, learning to forgive and learning to take responsibility. Not always easy things to do. But they are recurring features of our Christian worship and, therefore, we should always endeavour to 'practice what we preach.'

Also, this Sunday is the saint's day for Saint Chrysostom. Not, perhaps, a name on everyone's lips but nevertheless someone who was at the heart of the early Christian church; he lived between 347 and 407. He is the patron saint of preachers, public speakers, orators and lecturers – all people heavily involved in education then and right through to today. Saint Chrysostom's particular focus was on the poor, and others in need, as well as leading acts of reconciliation and preaching the need to be caring. Prayers in the name of St Chrysostom differ across the various 'branches' of Christianity but they all follow a similar theme. For the Church of England, the St Chrysostom prayer is found towards the end of both the orders of Morning and Evening Prayer and reads -

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

May the desires and petitions in our churches this Sunday follow the theme of Education Sunday and, at the same time, echo the thinking of a saint who lived over 1600 years ago.

Richard Haste, Acting Benefice Chair.

Coming to Church on Sunday – September 13th

Stillington	Morning Praise <i>This is Your Life Elizabeth Fry</i>	10.00am
Sheriff Hutton	Holy Communion	10.00am
Farlington	Shortened Matins (BCP)	10.30am

Coming to Church next Sunday – September 20th

Sutton	Morning Worship	10.00am	
Stillington	Holy Communion	10.00am	This service will be led by Archdeacon Liz Hassall
Marton	Harvest Festival	6.00pm	



The Lesson Genesis Chapter 50 : Verses 15-21**Joseph Forgives His Brothers**

Realising that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The Epistle Romans Chapter 14 : Verses 1-12**Do Not Judge Another**

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. 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. 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.

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. 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.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 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. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

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. For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.' So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Gospel Matthew Chapter 18 : Verses 21-35**The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant**

Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy times seven times.'

'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him (a talent was worth more than fifteen years' wages of a labourer). 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. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii (one denarius was the usual day's wage for a labourer), and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. 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. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

York Diocese Sunday Reflection

can be found on this link [Sunday Reflections | Diocese of York](#)