

# NEWSLETTER

**for the Churches of St Arvans, St Mary, Penterry,  
St Deiniol, Itton, St James, Devauden & Holy Cross, Kilgwrrwg  
forming part of the Severn Wye Ministry Area**

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

**Third Sunday after Trinity**

**Collect:** Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts whereby we call you Father: give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that we and all creation may be brought to the glorious liberty of the children of God; 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. **Amen.**

**A reading from the 1<sup>st</sup> Book of Samuel (15.34 – 16.13)**

Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the Lord was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, ‘How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.’

Samuel said, ‘How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.’

And the Lord said, ‘Take a heifer with you, and say, “I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.” Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.’

Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, ‘Do you come peaceably?’

He said, ‘Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.’ And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, ‘Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.’

But the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.’

Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, ‘Neither has the Lord chosen this one.’ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, ‘Neither has the Lord chosen this one.’

Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, ‘The Lord has not chosen any of these.’ Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Are all your sons here?’

And he said, ‘There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.’

And Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.’

He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, ‘Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.’

Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 20**

**R: May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble.**

The name of the God of Jacob defend you; send you help from his sanctuary, and strengthen you out of Zion; remember all your offerings, and accept your burnt sacrifice; grant you your heart's desire, and fulfil all your mind.

**R: May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble.**

May we rejoice in your salvation and triumph in the name of our God; may the Lord perform all your petitions. Now I know that the Lord will save his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven, with the mighty strength of his right hand.

**R: May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble.**

Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses, but we will call only on the name of the Lord our God. They are brought down and fallen, but we are risen and stand upright. O Lord, save the king and answer us when we call upon you.

**R: May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble.**

## **A reading from the Second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

(5.6-10, 14-17)

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord - for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Listen to the Gospel** of Christ according to St Mark (4.26-34)

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus* also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Opening Prayer** Almighty God, our hope and our strength, without you we falter. Help us to follow Christ and to live according to your will. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **AMEN**

**Prayer over the Gifts** Lord God, in this bread and wine you give us food for body and spirit. May the Eucharist renew our strength and bring us health of mind and body. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. **AMEN**

**Communion Prayer** One thing I seek: to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

**Post Communion Prayer** O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining and whose power we cannot comprehend: show us your glory as far as we can grasp it, and shield us from knowing more than we can bear until we may look upon you without fear. **Amen.**

**For our prayers:**

That we may live our lives eucharistically in thanksgiving witnessing to the reality of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and in our lives

For all pilgrims to the holy places of the faith and all who support them

All who are caught up in war or conflict

All those without adequate food or shelter

The peoples of Gaza and Israel

& for lasting peace in the Middle East

The people of Ukraine and a just and peaceful end to the war there

Those who suffer as a result of the climate emergency

For responsible stewardship of our planet

For compassion and responsibility in those elected to govern us.

For migrants & refugees, and all forced

to flee from their homelands

**For the Church:**

For the bishops of the Church:

Cherry, Bishop of Monmouth, Philip, Episcopal Visitor of the Society of the Holy Cross in Wales, Justin,

Archbishop of Canterbury. & for all who hold and teach the Catholic faith that comes to us from the Apostles.

All bishops, priests and deacons and all baptised Christians

For the reunion of all Christians: for Pope Francis, for Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew, & for the leaders of the Reformed traditions

For the Severn Wye Ministry Area,  
for its priests, licensed lay ministers  
and all its people.

**For the Sick & those in need:**

Kate Price, Roy Staples, Ralph Hamilton, Sylvia;

The Revd Helen Rodwell; Elisabeth; Anne-Louise; Helen; Mary; Peter; Kenneth Cameron; Ken Reece;  
Margaret; Margot Davies, Margi; Althea; Eira & Naylor Firth; Ivor Cavill; Jenny Sherwood;  
James Burnam; Anne Octon..

**For the Departed:**

The recently departed: our own departed relatives & friends, and those whose anniversaries of death fall at this time: Lilian Baynton; Simon Moore; Paul Belcher; Jeanette White; John Humphries