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8th Sunday after Trinity

James the Apostle

25 July 2010

If you are here for the first time, you are most welcome. If you would like to, please stay for coffee after the service. This will be an opportunity to meet some of the congregation and clergy if you wish. There are 'Welcome' leaflets in the entrance to the church and on the letters tables. These give information about services. A bell will ring 5 minutes before the 10 am service. Please feel free to use this as an opportunity to be quiet and to prepare for the service

INTROIT

Lord of life, we come to you

Lord of life, we come to you;
 Lord of all, our Saviour be;
 come to bless and to heal
 with the light of your love.

Through the days of doubt and toil,
 in our joy and in our pain,
 guide our steps in your way,
 make us one in your love.

Collect for the day

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
 we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies
 in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments;
 that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever,
 we may be preserved in body and soul;
 through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Additional Collect

Lord God,
 your Son left the riches of heaven
 and became poor for our sake:
 when we prosper save us from pride,
 when we are needy save us from despair,
 that we may trust in you alone;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jeremiah 45.1–5

The word that the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Baruch son of Neriah, when he wrote these words in a scroll at the dictation of Jeremiah, in the fourth year of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah: Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, to you, O Baruch: You said, 'Woe is me! The Lord has added sorrow to my pain; I am weary with my groaning, and I find no rest.' Thus you shall say to him, 'Thus says the Lord: I am going to break down what I have built, and pluck up what I have planted – that is, the whole land. And you, do you seek great things for yourself? Do not seek them; for I am going to bring disaster upon all flesh, says the Lord; but I will give you your life as a prize of war in every place to which you may go.'

This is the word of the Lord.....*Thanks be to God*

Psalm 126

Response: The Lord has done great things for us and we rejoiced

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
 then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongue with songs of joy.

Response

Then said they among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.'

The Lord has indeed done great things for us, and therefore we rejoiced.

Restore again our fortunes, O Lord, as the river beds of the desert.

Response

Those who sow in tears shall reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed, will come back with shouts of joy,
 bearing their sheaves with them.

Response

Acts 11.27 – 12.2

At that time prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. One of them named Agabus stood up and predicted by the Spirit that there would be a severe famine over all the world; and this took place during the reign of Claudius. The disciples determined that according to their ability, each would send relief to the believers living in Judea; this they did, sending it to the elders by Barnabas and Saul.

About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword.

This is the word of the Lord.....*Thanks be to God*

Alleluia, alleluia. Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening. You have the words of eternal life.....*Alleluia*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to*Glory to you, O Lord*

Matthew 20.20–28

The mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favour of him. And he said to her, 'What do you want?' She said to him, 'Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.' But Jesus answered, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?' They said to him, 'We are able.' He said to them, 'You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.' When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

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

PEACE My peace I leave you, my peace I give you, trouble not your hearts;
 My peace I leave you; my peace I give you; be not afraid.

PRAYER CHAIN

A number of people pray at home for St Michael's and for specific needs or thanksgivings that people may have. If you would like to be part of this network or have a prayer request please contact Joy Tobler – 818172

PRAYER WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS – If anyone would like prayer with laying on of hands, either for themselves or for someone else, this ministry is available after church services. Please ask a member of the healing team, whose names are on the healing board, or one of the clergy.

BUILDINGS COMMITTEE REQUEST YOUR HELP

Several maintenance tasks in the Church and Hall will be undertaken during August. If people could let Martin or Maureen know their availability, we will try to match the jobs with the availability of people. All abilities are welcome. Please contact Martin Elliston (01494 726016) or Maureen Meeks (01494 433820).

WEEK OF ACCOMPANIED PRAYER - CAN YOU HELP, PLEASE?

We need a host to provide bed and breakfast for one of our Prayer Companions, who will not have a car with her, so needs to be within easy walking distance of our three churches. This will be from the night of **Sunday August 1st to Friday evening 6 August**. We also need people to help with preparing and serving evening meals for our Prayer Companions. They will eat together in the Wesley Room at St Johns from Monday to Friday Aug 2-6, and hope that those who prepare the meal will join them to eat it. The meal can be prepared in the adjoining kitchen. We need 3 teams of 2 people to serve 8 to 10. Details of numbers and times to be confirmed.

Please contact Hazel Miller, 01494 773189 or Liz Waumsley, 01494 727062 liz@waumsley.com if you can help.

“INSPIRED BY CREATION” – competition of photography and words -hosted by the Diocese during September

'A little patch of earth you work on - A quiet spot you spend time at reflecting - A view that stops you in your tracks. Where do you encounter God through creation?' An opportunity to share with others a photograph and/or a poem/prayer that captures the place where people encounter God through creation. The idea is to mark creation-time and promote an awareness of environmental issues and how we can respond. Winning photos and words to be made available through packs of postcards and other resources. The competition is open to anyone and linked to the Earthing Faith website, where you can register to enter the competition – see www.earthingfaith.org/inspired

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THE BRIC-A-BRAC SALE LAST SATURDAY

Contributions of cakes, home produce, plants, books, bric-a-brac items were much appreciated and we raised £260. The next sale (and last one this year) will be on **Saturday 9 October**.

ANOTHER SUMMER EVENING WALK, ANYONE? – Free Church – Sun 25 July – TODAY - 5.30pm

Meet at AFC car park and walk from there for about an hour and a half – with rests!

‘LUNCH BREAK’ – Amersham Free Church – Tuesday 27 July - midday to 2.00pm

Lunch Café with coffee, speciality teas and snack lunches – daily newspapers. The church is open for quiet reflection and offers a varied programme of music, worship, meditation and speakers between 1.10pm and 1.30pm. We are not *only* open for those on their lunch break from the shops and offices, but for anyone who wants a bit of an oasis during the week at lunch time, every Tuesday. **Today: Twenty Minutes Worship – Revd Andrew Busby**

SUMMER LUNCH PARTIES - Sundays 01 August, 22 August, 05 September - 12.30pm to 3pm

If you would like to attend any, or all, of these events, please sign your name under the item of food you would like to bring (one item per person, please). Any queries, please contact Di Bacon 01494 774870

SATURDAY SLOT PICNIC– at St Michael’s on the grass to the north of the church– Saturday 7th August at 3pm

COMMUNION SERVICE - FREE CHURCH - led by Erna Stevenson, preacher Bryan Long - Sun 8 Aug – 6pm

PASTORAL CARE AND TUESDAY CLUB TEA PARTY – Tuesday 10 August – 3pm

Hosted by Heather and Ron Haddock. Please phone Peter on 01296 330836 if you are coming and/or would like transport.

‘GOD BEYOND CHURCH’ – presented by Sheila Cassidy – St Michael’s - Thursday 16 September – 8pm

As a young doctor, Sheila Cassidy was imprisoned and tortured for treating a wounded revolutionary in Pinochet’s Chile. After her release she became an outspoken advocate for human rights and the author of *Audacity to Believe*. She wrote about her experiences of insomnia and depression and her attempts to found a religious order for women in *Made for Laughter*. She developed new approaches to the care of young cancer patients, before training as a psychotherapist. ‘*Confessions of a lapsed Catholic*’ is the title her latest book, which she is in the process of writing. Tickets 10 / £7 concessions will be available soon from the church office.

‘ROOM FOR EVERYONE: growing church in a changing culture’ – Oxford – Sat 25 Sept – 10am to 4pm

Conference organised by the Diocese at the King’s Centre, Osney Mead, OX2 0ES - £5 per person, to include lunch. A changing culture needs a changing Church - a day for the curious, the tentative and the restlessstories, stimulating discussion and practical workshops. Keynote speaker Bishop Graham Cray, Archbishop’s Missioner and leader of the national Fresh Expressions team. Chaired by the Bishop of Dorchester. Booking forms, to be returned by **15 September**, on the Letters Table and further information from ruth.wilson@oxford.anglican.org or call 01865 208252

‘VISION DAY – Celebrating Good News’ – Wendover Christian Centre – Sat 16 Oct – 9.30am to 1.30pm

Arranged by Churches Together in Buckinghamshire. Guest speaker: Revd Bob Fyff, General Secretary for Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.

PARISH RETREAT - at the Carmelite Priory, Boars Hill, Oxford from 8 to 10 October

We have a few places left and would welcome anyone who would like to go. For details, please speak to Jan Lemos (737404) or Joy Johns.

‘AFFIRMING LIBERALISM’ Day Conference – Wellington College, Crowthorne – Sat 30 Oct – 10am to 4pm

Lecture 1 ‘Good and Bad Religion’ - Dr Peter Vardy. Lecture 2 ‘Can Liberals be Biblical Christians?’ - Canon Professor Keith Ward. Details are on the letters table. Please see Diana if you would like to go with a group from St Michael’s.

Readings for next Sunday: Ecclesiastes 1.2, 12 – 14, 2. 18 – 23; Luke 12. 13 - 21

Lady Chapel available for prayer and meditation from 8am daily.

Morning Prayer from ‘Celebrating Common Prayer’ takes place in Lady Chapel from Mon to Sat inclusive (except public holidays) 8.30- 8.55am.