

No Services & Meetings this week

The church is now open during the following times for supervised private prayer:

Sunday 12noon - 4.00pm

One of the clergy is usually available 10.15am - 12noon

Monday - Saturday 9.00am - 5.00pm

Please follow the directions on social-distancing, hygiene, direction of movement around the building, & seating.

The Parish Office will be open

on Sat 24th Oct from 9am - 10am

for the arranging of Baptisms, Weddings, etc.

The Eucharist on Sundays: see notes on page 3

All the clergy are available (by phone or email) and our details are as follows:

CLERGY AND CHURCH OFFICERS

Rector & Parish Priest

The Revd. Canon John Ward

Hon. Assistant Priests

Revd. Canon Hugh Broad

01452 541078 – Mobile 07928 455674

hugh.broad@yahoo.co.uk

Fr Ian Robb

01452 676059 – Mobile 07962 469250

ia_jdr@lineone.net

The Revd Jenny D'Esterre

01453 890384 - Mobile 07540 322 744

Revdjenny@gmail.com

Fr. Gordon Ripley

01452 883399

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Fr. Michael Garland

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The Revd Ann Morris

rev.ann@btinternet.com

Keep up to date with the latest Church news by looking at our parish website or at our Facebook pages, or find us on "A Church near You".

"Around the Spire" : the Oct issue is available in church & also on email during the coming week. Please take copies to deliver to neighbours & friends, especially those who do not have internet access or who are unable to get to church. Notes for November to Jackie Hall please ASAP!

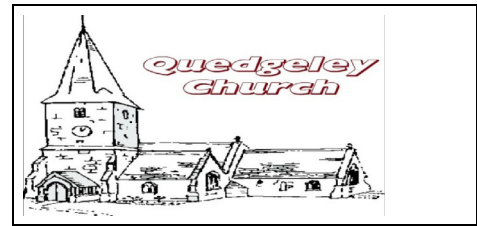
Notes for next week's **Newsheet** should be sent to Fr Ian no later than Wednesday evening. (Contact address above.)

**The Parish Church of
St JAMES the APOSTLE**

&

St MARY MAGDALENE

Quedgeley & Kingsway Diocese of Gloucester



www.quedgeleychurch.org.uk

[Www.facebook.com/saintjames'churchquedgeley](https://www.facebook.com/saintjames'churchquedgeley)

Sunday 18th October - St Luke the Evangelist

The Holy Eucharist:

10.30am (Said) Celebrant: Fr John

Preacher: Fr John

Bible readings for today:

First Reading. Acts 16. 6-12

A "man of Macedonia" inspires Paul to take the Good News to Greece.

Second Reading. 2 Timothy 4. 5-17

Paul testifies that Luke is his only companion during house-arrest in Rome.

Alleluia:

I do not call you servants but friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel. Luke 10. 1-9

In an episode recorded only by Luke, Jesus sends out 70 disciples on a missionary project.

Collect for St Luke :

Almighty God, you called Luke the physician, whose praise is in the gospel, to be an evangelist and physician of the soul: by the grace of the Spirit and through the wholesome medicine of the gospel, give your Church the same love and power to heal; 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

Next Sunday -25th Oct: Dedication Festival

10.30am Parish Eucharist

Celebrant: Fr Gordon Preacher: Fr Ian

To be followed by our Annual Church Meeting.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AT THIS PRESENT TIME.

Almighty and merciful Father, you show your love to all your creation. We come before you asking for a quick control of the coronavirus currently ravaging our world. Hear graciously the prayers we make for those affected by the virus in many parts of the world. Grant healing to the sick, eternal life to the dead, and consolation to those who have been bereaved. We pray that an effective medicine to combat the sickness be speedily found and we pray that governments and health authorities may take appropriate steps for the good of all people. Look upon us in your mercy and forgive us our failings; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday: St James' clergy & congregation; all Christians and people of goodwill.

Monday: Schools, teachers, children, & support staff as a new term begins; all Key Workers.

Tuesday: Victims of domestic abuse. All who are lonely or afraid. The Homeless.

Wednesday: The Police & Emergency Services; the Armed Forces, Aid Agencies; all in authority.

Thursday: NHS Staff & their families; Chestnut Ct, Queen Ann Ct, The Lawns & all their staff & families. The vulnerable at home. Chemists & Medical Researchers.

Friday: Those who have died: Philip Parker; Victims of Covid-19; victims of domestic violence; those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time. All who mourn their passing.

Saturday: Our shops & Supermarkets & their staff. Delivery drivers & all who supply our daily needs.

Those who are ill: Helen Jones, David Way, Barbara Ward, John Hall, Shirley Wilce, Wynn Sutch.

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God.

Merciful Father,
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
Our Saviour Jesus Christ. AMEN.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,
With St James and St Mary Magdalene,
Pray for us and all the world. AMEN.

A REMINDER to EVERYONE:

British Summer ENDS on Sat 24th Oct and we revert to Greenwich Mean Time - Remember to put your clocks BACK one hour, or you will be too early for the parish eucharist on Sunday!

A big THANK YOU from The Gloucester FoodBank who asked us to collect gifts for them. They were very pleased to receive our Harvest gifts and ask us, please, to continue with our appeal as stocks are running low. There is a box in church for your gifts, which we shall continue to receive prior to Christmas.

A note from Di Allen about the SHOEBOX

APPEAL: "Thank you to everyone who has offered to fill a box this year. Please make sure that your box is in church by **Sunday 15th November** - that is the day when they will be blessed and dispatched."

A REMINDER to Lesson-Readers: We are hoping to re-introduce our Readers' Rota on Sunday mornings. Could all those who were on our previous Rota please contact me to let me know if you are happy to continue. New volunteers will of course be most welcome. To observe social distancing, we shall ask readers not to approach the lectern in pairs.

Fr. Ian

PARISH FINANCES

It is a well known fact that because of the virus issue, churches everywhere are feeling the pinch caused at least in part by having no church collections for 17 Sundays! In addition, there are many other sources of revenue we normally could depend on are not available. There is one way in which many of us could help, and that is to make our Offering to the parish by direct debit; there are other similar possibilities, especially the Parish Giving Scheme which is run by Church House Gloucester.

In this way we would be raising the finances for which the PCC have budgetted, and our giving would then have been made whether we are in church on a particular Sunday or not.

If you need help to set this up, do please ask and there are many of us who could advise you - specially one of those whose contact details are on the back page of 'Around the Spire'

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting,

which was postponed in April, will now take place on **Sunday 25th Oct** at 12noon.

All Reports should be sent to Ian Pearce, as soon as possible, please.

Nomination Lists are on display in church from today, for you to make your proposals for Church Wardens and Church Councillors. Please make sure that you have your candidate's permission before you make the nomination.

Every candidate must be proposed and seconded by someone on our Church Electoral Roll.

Now the church is open:

You can find a **PRAYER BOARD**, together with pen & paper, for you to leave any prayer requests which will then be offered during worship on the following Sunday. In addition to any names, please say, in a few words, why prayer is requested.

The board is proving very important to many people; the requests which have been in place for some time will be removed to make room for others. It would be helpful if you could add a date when writing your request. The prayer requests are placed on the altar at the Sunday Eucharist as part of our offering.

(Please write legibly. If you wish to make an offering with your prayer, there is an offertory box nearby.)

At the back of the church, you will find a new supply of **FACE COVERINGS** which are on sale at £1 each, **in aid of Church Funds**.

*To date, we have sold over **200 face-coverings**. Our grateful thanks go to Jackie Broad for all her hard work in making these. (The good news is that Jackie has not yet stopped, so if you have not bought one, there is still time. And if you have, do you need a spare?)*

The Parish Office will be open on Sat 24th Oct 9am - 10am for the arranging of Baptisms, Weddings, etc. *(Social-distancing & hygiene guidelines will be in place.)* **Please note that the Parish Office session will be held on Saturday mornings only.**

If you are unable to get to St James for our Eucharist on Sunday:

Fr Dennis McBride offers the Holy Eucharist: go to **www.rpbooks.co.uk/holy-mass-online**.

*(Available from Saturday evening onwards.)*Enjoy!

Today is Fr John's last Sunday with us and we are delighted that he is to be our celebrant and preacher at our Parish Eucharist. We all wish him **a happy and healthy retirement** and offer him our grateful thanks for all his ministry among us and assure him that he will always be in our thoughts and prayers, just as we will be in his. Along with our prayers go many memories of good times at St James. God bless you, Fr John.

Worship in Church on Sundays continues

according to the following pattern:.

There will be ONE celebration of the Eucharist, at **10.30am in a "Said" format** - until such time as singing will be encouraged again.

After the service, the church will be cleaned / sanitised

A single service sheet will be available for use, which we ask you to take away afterwards, and there are some necessary changes to our usual pattern.

(e.g.: No sharing of The Peace; Communion will be given in one kind only; there will be no offertory procession - we shall indicate where you may leave your financial gifts. We regret that we are unable to serve coffee afterwards.)

To comply with Government "Track & tracing" requirements, we have been asked to keep a list (names only) of those attending.

Social-distancing & hygiene guidelines will be in place; GREEN seating markers will be in place.

The church will remain open for private prayer on Sundays from 12noon - 4pm.

The **10am Eucharist** will be celebrated on **Wednesday this week, 21st Oct**, when we shall keep the **Feast of Alfred the Great, king and scholar**. The Revd Ann will be the celebrant. We shall be asking the congregation to sit in the **GREEN seats** in the nave; sadly no coffee will be served afterwards. *(The Wednesday 7.30pm Eucharist will need to wait a little longer.)*

Readings for the day

2 Samuel 23. 1 - 5

1 John 2. 15 - 17

John 18. 33 - 37

Our Outreach Groups: Chatterbox & ChitChat

A Message from Jackie Hall:

"I have been asked by a number of people as to when Chatterbox will return. I think this has been prompted by the schools returning in September. Guidance from Church House Westminster for early years groups operating from church premises is that they must adhere to statutory legislation! To follow this is well outside our league as we are not a registered early years setting! So I've made a decision that groups will not recommence this year unless a vaccine is in place. I know this has a knock-on effect for church finance as well as for your plans for your children / grandchildren. However, we shall take stock in January or earlier if applicable.

With regard to Chit Chat we cannot guarantee physical distancing neither in the actual church or kitchen! The objective of these groups is social interaction not distancing & we all prefer to be together rather than apart! Thank you for your understanding and continued support. Please keep praying for a vaccine to be found - it will be a game changer."

Our November Fair

Sadly, with all the current restrictions on space & numbers with regard to public gatherings, it has proved impossible to arrange our Fair for 28th November this year. I realise this will have a major impact on our church finances and I am currently working on ways in which we might at least be able to hold a "Virtual Grand Draw". Watch this space! Jackie H.

PS: I hope you have all seen the note about fund-raising which I asked Fr Ian to circulate via email. It is also on our website & social media pages. For those without access to the internet, please ask me for a paper copy! JH.

"Thought for the Week" : - Father John

St Luke the Evangelist : 18th October

Saint Luke was most likely a disciple and loyal friend of Saint Paul, who mentions a Luke who accompanies him on his missionary journeys and who was with him in Rome, when Paul was in prison. Little is known with certainty of Luke's life. Luke more than likely wrote for a non-Jewish crowd. He translates into the Greek language words that the other Gospels leave in their original language, a hint that Luke's readers were non-Jews who could not read Hebrew and Aramaic.

To Luke alone do we owe our knowledge of the Incarnation! It is as if he is just behind the young Mary in the room when the Archangel Gabriel announces that she will be the Mother of God. Only Luke writes down the Virgin's Magnificat and gives us the scriptural basis for the "Hail Mary."

Yet in all of this, Luke himself does not appear. He must have been humble, because he recedes into the crowd while the whole cast of the Gospels climb on to the wider and growing stage of what will be known as the early church.

Luke's Acts of the Apostles is a diary of that very early Church. Acts is often told from a first-person perspective with the use of the word "we." Without this journal there would be yawning gaps in our knowledge of the birth of the Church. It is to Luke, especially, that we are indebted for our knowledge of Pentecost and the workings of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles. Luke is clearly on Saint Paul's missionary team and remains at the great evangelist's side until the bitter end.

When Paul is imprisoned in Rome, with his beheading just over the horizon, he is abandoned by all his co-workers save one. From his prison cell, Paul writes "Only Luke is with me"

Understood in a healthy way, the memory and writings of Luke, makes the good past live again. When committed to writing, memory makes the past forever present for posterity. The written Gospels, perhaps highlighted in Luke make Christ come alive.

The Word made flesh, the Word alive today in heaven, was captured at a certain moment in time by Saint Luke.

Christians believe that the Gospels capture the essentials of the life of Jesus Christ which God desires the faithful to know. And when these Gospels are read in the light of the living Gospel of the Church and supplemented by the grace of the Sacraments, the witness of the saints, the governance of the hierarchy, and the teachings of the Christian faith. In this then we have all that we need to achieve heaven.

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Saint Luke, your words in preserving the life of Christ make Him knowable and lovable to the world today. Through your intercession in heaven, we ask that the riches of your Gospel, especially your words about the Virgin Mary, our Blessed Mother, and all these writings of yours will inspire us to be better people as well as true and worthy Christians and that they create in us that deep desire to be healed and saved.
