

St Mary's Speen Pew News 366

Dear friends,

- 1) This Sunday, 20th September, Rev Joy Mawdesley will be leading a Service of Holy Communion and Jill Wilson will be providing our intercessions.

Readings : Philippians 1:21 to end of chapter 1

Matthew 20:1-16.

- 2) **HARVEST. Our Harvest festival in on Sunday 27th September.** Of course we will have to sing "We plough the fields and scatter" at home. **Janice Macdonald and Jackie Fountain are leading the service.** In keeping with our well-established theme of hospitality, please consider donating any of the following:
Tea, coffee, biscuits, sugar, dried/ long life milk, orange squash, jam, marmalade, chutney. The Foodbank are also low on these items:
meat meals in a can (chilli, stew), baked beans, custard, rice pudding, sponge puddings, sugar, tinned fruit. They will also take fresh fruit and vegetables.
Gifts should all be left in the church foyer rather than in the Chancel.

The Food Bank which, as one can imagine, is experiencing very high demand. People have lost their jobs or are suffering reduced income and families are struggling to feed their children. It is more important than ever that we give generously. So, if you would like to write a cheque as a harvest gift:

If you are not eligible for Gift Aid, then it is suggested you send a cheque payable to "West Berks Foodbank" and send to: The Treasurer, West Berks Foodbank, 23 Charter Road, Newbury, Berks. RG14 7EW.

Or, if you are registered with St Mary's as being eligible for Gift Aid, then it is suggested that you write a cheque made out to St Mary's Speen PCC, put it in one of the orange donation envelopes around in the pews, and mark on the outside FB (for Food Bank!) and our revered Treasurer will sort it all out.

NEWS for those attending St Mary's Services or Prayer afternoons..

Message from Rev Joy Mawdesley: **Change in the law from Monday 14th September**

You will be aware that the Law now says we may not meet socially with people from other households in groups of more than six. This applies indoors and outdoors. The Church of England has clarified with the government that we can continue to gather for worship in the same way, but we are expecting further guidance as regards other activities in the life of our church and what this change in law might mean for them. However, the changes do mean that after the service, we must be very mindful of social distancing and spread out around the premises and have conversations in groups no larger than six. Please continue to pray for the life of the church – both across the nation and here at St Mary's as we continue to navigate through these strange times.

- 3) **WEDNESDAY PRAYERS.** Do take the opportunity come to St Mary's on Wednesdays any time between 2 and 4pm for a time of private prayer. You can come and go when you like. Marian Burke is hosting . There are prayer resources around the church and

someone will lead us in prayer at 3pm to attend church again. This is a good opportunity to come for a short informal time.

Best Wishes, Mavis.

PS I like this!

