

ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

Sunday 8th August 2021

10th Sunday after Trinity



Readings: 1 Kings 19, v. 4 - 8; Ephesians 4, v. 25 - 5, v. 2

Gospel: John 6, v. 35 and 41 - 51

Hymns: 422 (Alleluia, sing to Jesus, v. 1 - 3); 664 (How sweet the name of Jesus sounds)

A very warm welcome to our service this morning.

Please be aware of the arrangements we have in place to keep everyone safe and follow the directions and guidance of the stewards. The information below explains the current situation.

Coronavirus Restrictions

As we said last week, the Church of England has devolved to parishes the responsibility to determine their response to the removal of the legal requirements that have been in place to combat the spread of the coronavirus in all its variant forms. The decisions of the Standing Committee, endorsed by the PCC, which we announced last week still apply as we continue our considered and gradual return to normality. There is copy of the revised Guidelines for Public Worship accompanying this pewsheet for you to take away with you. The most important guidelines remain:

Please continue to use the hand sanitiser when you enter and before you leave the building; wear a face covering whilst in church; and maintain social distancing.

Apart from the coronavirus, there are lots of other viruses and infections in circulation and it makes sense to do all we can to prevent cross-infection. To this end, we have decided to stick with our existing seating arrangements. If you wish to sit with friends in church and meet with them after the service that is your right, but we ask that you consider the needs of the whole congregation and do your best to maintain social distancing. The arrangements for the distribution of the host will also be unchanged.

Until the 16th August, we are legally required to continue to record contact details of those attending services and this we shall do.

The Government imposed restrictions regarding the number of singers permitted have been removed and this morning we are able to have an expanded choir. Also today we are introducing a limited form of congregational singing. You will have found in your pew this morning a hymn book (which has been carefully cleaned and sanitised) so that you can follow the hymns being sung by the choir and even join them if you wish to do so. However, we ask that you **remain seated and retain your face covering** whilst so doing. It is recognised that the major cause of the spreading of infection is aerosol transmission and we must be careful as we relax the measures that have kept us safe during the past 18 months.

We will continue to monitor the situation both locally and nationally (we have already scheduled a review meeting for the first week in September) with a view to continuing a gradual return to what most of us would consider 'normality'. Again, thank you for your continuing understanding and support.

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Baptism

We pray for Liam James Edward Davies who is to be baptised here today. We pray too for his parents Jane and William, his sister Esme and all those who will gather to support him. Jane and William were married in this church in 2013 and Esme baptised in 2018. The service will begin at 1.00 pm.

Prayers for Young People

Please remember in your prayers all the young people who will receive their A Level and GCSE Grades this week. The disruption of their examination preparation and the confusion over the assessment process has caused much stress for them all. We ask for the peace and comfort of God's presence in their lives as they prepare to enter the next stage of their education and development.

Toilet Twinning...

... is a charity (part of Tearfund) that seeks to bring toilet transformation to some of the poorest places on the planet. By donating £60.00 to twin a toilet, help is given to fund a project in some of the world's most impoverished communities, enabling them to have access to a basic toilet, clean water and to learn more about hygiene - which all together helps to save lives. We would like to raise at least £60.00 to 'twin' our toilet here in church; if we do, we will get a certificate and a photo of our twinned loo! If you would like to contribute, please leave your donation in an envelope at the back of church or speak to John Lomax, PCC Treasurer. We hope to also look into the possibility of raising funds to 'twin' the toilets at our church school. More information about the work of the charity is available on their website (<https://www.toilettwinning.org>). You could even look into twinning your toilet at home!

Prayers for the recently Ordained

We continue to pray for those ordained as Deacons and Priests in the past weeks and also for those who are to be ordained next month.

Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer God, who call your faithful people into a life of service, help us to nurture and hold in love all those who are ordained at this time in the life of your Church. Teach us your ways, that we might recognise your Mission in the world, your compassion in caring for others, and your love deep within every human heart.

We ask this in your Holy Name, as one undivided Trinity of love, now and for evermore. Amen.

Milnthorpe Food Bank

Thank you for your continuing generosity. As before, if you have brought any contributions today, or if you plan to bring gifts in future weeks, please leave them in your pew after the service. Your previous gifts have all been delivered to the Food Bank and have gone to support needy families. Please continue to help our support for the Food Bank which, sadly, is still very much needed.

Caring for Carers

The Diocese of Carlisle has established a scheme for offering worn-out 'carers' short restorative retreats at Rydal Hall. We clapped for them - and now we're trying to help in a practical way. The cost of this will be about £20,000, towards which £7,000 has already been raised. If you would like to make a contribution, the account details are: "The Diocese of Carlisle and Sacred Space Caring for the Carers Fund", sort code 30-96-26, bank account number 74754760. Any gift of any size will be very gratefully received.

Reordering

Despite the difficulties of the past year, plans to reorder the interior of the church have been progressing. On Wednesday 18th August we are having an Open Day when we shall be mounting a display in church to give all members of the community a chance to view the plans and to give their views on the proposals. Members of the Fabric Committee will be available throughout the day to answer questions. Following this public consultation, assuming that there are no major objections, we shall be in a position to make a formal submission to the Diocesan Advisory Committee in September for their consideration at their October meeting, with a view to commencing work in spring next year. Please come and have a look at the proposals and encourage all members of the church and the local community to do the same.

Contact Details for Pew Sheet

Brian Smalley 015395 64778 b.e.smalley@btinternet.com

Website: beethamstmichaelandallangels.co.uk