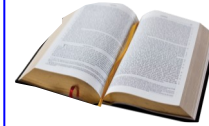


This week's service

Sunday 16th July 2023

This week's reading

Welcome to today's Holy Communion service
led by Debbie Patrick
with Rev Mike Firbank preaching



Romans 8.1-11

A thought from Mike

Dear friends,

Today we give thanks for the extraordinary words in Romans 8.

Romans 8:1 alone takes Christianity to a new place - it places it outside of any conventional religion or philosophy. It marks it out as utterly different from any other religion or belief that has ever been part of human existence.

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit."

Prayer for the week

Creator God,

you made us all in your image:

may we discern you in all that we see,

and serve you in all that we do;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Friday House Group's Summer Get Together in Sandra's garden

Last Friday, to mark the start of the summer holidays, we gathered for a bring and share lunch in the beautiful setting of Sandra and Sean's garden. We were blessed with good weather and delicious food. Jean gave each of us a surprise gift - a beautiful cross stitched book mark that she had made. Thank you Jean for your thoughtfulness.

"Thank you Sandra for your hospitality, making us feel so welcome."

"We had a pleasant afternoon, sharing food with friends and sisters in faith."



"Sitting in your garden was a real blessing to us."

Church diary for the next month

Wednesday 19th July
7pm PCC meeting at Emmanuel

Thursday 20th July
7pm Prayer meeting
3 Sharpswood Manor

Sunday 23rd July
10:45 Morning Worship
led by Nigel Worth
with Debbie Patrick preaching

Sunday 30th July
10:45 Joint Minster Service
at St Peter's
with Rev Patrick Douglas

Sunday 6th August
10:45 Morning Worship
led by Sandra O'Toole

Sunday 13th August
10:45 Morning Worship
led by Sandra O'Toole
with Debbie Patrick preaching

Cleaning Rota

Please clean the church before the date marked.

Please swap with someone else on the rota if you cannot clean during your week.

The toilets will be cleaned weekly by Sean & Sandra

23 rd July	Nige & Deb
30 th July	Christine
6 th Aug	Jane
13 th Aug	Bill
20 th Aug	Brian Redfern
27 th Aug	Val & Andy
3 rd Sept	Nige & Deb

Refreshments Rota

It's a real blessing to be able to spend time chatting with one another after the service. We have a rota for serving tea & coffee.

Please swap with someone if you cannot do a particular date. Please bring the milk. Thank you

16 th July	Deb W & Alicia
23 rd July	Carol
30 th July	James
6 th Aug	Maxine & Jane
13 th Aug	Christine
20 th Aug	Deb W & Alicia
27 th Aug	Carol
3 rd Sept	James

Statistics Don't Lie

How to stay safe in the world today: Where IS the safest place?

1. Avoid riding in automobiles - because they are responsible for 20% of all fatal accidents.
 2. Do not stay home - 17% of all accidents occur in the home.
 3. Avoid walking on streets or sidewalks - because 14% of all accidents occur to pedestrians.
 4. Avoid travelling by air, rail, or water - because 16% of all accidents involve these forms of transportation.
 5. Of the remaining 33%, 32% of all deaths occur in Hospitals - so, above all else, avoid hospitals.
- But . . . you will be pleased to learn that only .001% of all deaths occur in worship services in church, and these are usually related to previous physical disorders.

Therefore, logic tells us that the safest place for you to be at any given point in time is at church!

And Bible study is safe too! The percentage of deaths during Bible study is even less.

So, attend church, and read your Bible. IT WILL SAVE YOUR LIFE!

GOD BLESS YOU!

Funny Stories from the Church Times and Pews News

Rehearse The Church Service: A True Story

At a Methodist wedding ceremony at which Father Brian Hamilton was officiating, he was seen to raise his hand in order to give the final blessing at the end of the service.

Louise, the bride, totally misunderstood this gesture and surprised the vicar with a high-five.

Not wanting to exclude Mark, the groom, Father Brian also offered him a high-five.

Father Brian was eventually able to give the blessing, this time with the laughter of the guests ringing in his ears.