



This week at St Mary's Sunday 5 August 2018

I doubt it has escaped anyone's notice that my first aim when I preach is to speak of the Grace of God. As Christianity is a religion of grace, it might be assumed this can be taken as read. But I can still hear the words of the Vice Principal of Cranmer Hall, Durham, in 1989 as he finished his course on 'homiletics' (preaching), 'Make sure the heart of what you say is grace not law.'

Grace sermons should leave the listener wonderstruck and deeply grateful for all that God has done for us in the coming and death and resurrection of Jesus. This will lead to the sort of response Isaac Watts gives us in the well-known hymn, *When I survey the wondrous cross, Were the whole realm of nature mine/ That were an offering far too small/ Love so amazing so divine/ Demands my soul, my life my all.* In contrast, a sermon which has 'law' at heart often leads us to respond inwardly, 'I need to do more for God'. Clearly, if gently (!) point out to me, please, when I am on that road.

Grace filled Christianity alone has the power to change a life, a church community and a city. It alone can change our perspective of what God is like, of our fellow humans and of ourselves. It's the soil in which the Holy Spirit, in His wonderful creativity, causes seeds of new life to grow, leading to transformation.

A person, at whatever stage of their life, who dares to believe that God Himself, as a free gift, has done it all for us, has truly arrived at a life changing moment, to decide to be open in a new way, to a fullness of God's love and grace.

Tom Gillman

PLEASE NOTE THAT SERVICES UNTIL 9 SEPTEMBER ARE

Sunday 10.45am Parish Communion

Sunday 6.30pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 1.15pm Holy Communion

Rev'd JO TATUM

Really grateful to Jo for being with us this Sunday (We are in Scotland for a few days, following my officiating at a wedding near Blairgowrie.) As Workplace Chaplain, doing all she is in the Lace Market, I look forward to working closely with her. See the very moving article about her in 'Nifty Notes'.

<http://southwell.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Clergy-mailing-Aug18.pdf15>

SERVICES WHEN THE CHOIR IS AWAY

Until the choir is back (9th September) the PCC decided to **locate Sunday Services** as follows:

- **Parish Eucharist** (10.45) in **the Nave** (rather than in the choir stalls as in previous years)
- **Evensong** (6.30) in **the Lady Chapel** (Chapel of the Holy Spirit.)

The **flexibility of the Nave** has a number of benefits, not least that parents with young children can continue to participate with us in worship. Also, **disability access** is not possible in the Chancel. And expecting, as we do, **visitors** each week, to ask them walk all the way to the chancel is likely to be too long a journey for some to make.

We are working on how best during this time to **arrange the furniture** in both Nave and Chapel to enhance the experience of worship at St Mary's. Do let us know if you have suggestions.

INSIGHT MEETING: Money – Good or Evil?

15 August, St Nic's Church, Maid Marian Way, 12 -1.30pm. Chris Sheldon, chief executive will speak about Kingdom Bank, a Christian bank with a difference based in Nottingham. To challenge our thinking and explore how money be used for good. Buffet lunch provided, RSVP lensimmonds@aol.com

QUIET DAY – 1 September

All welcome to join with the 2nd Thursday prayer group's day of silent meditation at Sacrista Prebend, Southwell, 10am - 4pm. To be led by Angela Ashwin on the theme 'Light touch, Deep Wisdom: Insights from the Desert Fathers and Mothers'. Cost between £20 - £25, bring a packed lunch. Contact Margaret Wiedemann mjwh57@gmail.com or 0115 941 3922. (New members are also very welcome at the monthly group meeting.)

REAL LIFE COURSE

Discipleship course designed to envision, empower and equip God's people in making the life-long journey of following-after Christ. Three ten-week blocks (Life CORE, Life CREDO and Life STORY), which in their own different ways will look at ten aspects of discipleship that emerge from the teaching and example of Jesus in Luke 9. To hear more watch 'Real LIFE discipleship course' on youtube. It begins in week of 24 September, and running on Tuesdays at St Giles, West Bridgford NG2 6AY and Wednesdays at St Margaret's, Aspley NG8 5GE

Deanery Pilgrimage – Saturday 29 September 2018

A chance to journey together to the Minster – walking, cycling or driving – please click on the link for more information <https://www.facebook.com/events/236994490443808/> and get in touch with Kirsty Cowley Kirsty.cowley@southwell.anglican.org if you would like to be involved in helping plan the event.

SETTING GOD'S PEOPLE FREE for MONDAY TO SATURDAY - Saturday 17 November

A conference for the laity at The Minster School, Southwell 9.30am-4pm. Key note speaker: **Alison Coulter** - Winchester Diocese Chair of Laity, General Synod Member and Co-author of the report, Setting God's People Free.

CONFIRMATION

Please discuss with Tom if you think this might be the right time for you -

Deanery Confirmation service is 6pm on Sunday 18 November, here at St Mary's.

10:45am Eucharist Celebrant/Preacher: Rev'd Jo Tatum Hymns:Amazing Grace 239, 426, 221 Readings:Exodus 16.2-4, 9-15 :John 6.24-35	6:30pm Evensong Lay Officiant Matthew Hammonds Hymns:113, 201, 283 Readings:Ps 88 :Job 28 :Luke 12.13-21
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Please continue to pray for

Estelle Barks

Debbie Butler

Daniel Hanson

Pauline Miller

Harry Palmer

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