



***This week at St Mary's      Sunday 16 September 2018***

### **Embracing Our Brokenness**

Bryan Stephenson's book, *Just Mercy* is rightly highly acclaimed. He is a lawyer who has for the past 25 years has acted for the poorest in the south of the USA, many on death row. Towards the end of the book he writes these powerful words.

*"We are bodies of broken bones." (Thomas Merton) I guess I'd always known but never fully considered that being broken is what makes us human. We all have our reasons. Sometimes we're fractured by the choices we make; sometimes we are shattered by the things we would not have chosen. But our brokenness is also the source of our common humanity, the basis for our shared search for comfort, meaning and healing. Our shared vulnerability and imperfection nurtures and sustains our capacity for compassion."*

I am very taken with his Merton quote. What an important contribution he makes to the help us highlight what lies at the heart of being human. It's a subject close to the heart of the Christian. Because for many we'd far rather not think of ourselves as broken, it may well not be the first word which comes to mind. The bread at Holy Communion takes us to 'the body of Christ, broken for you'. Brokenness is certainly at the forefront of God's mind, it's His point of contact with us.

Stephenson ends with this challenge, informed by his years of being with, and befriending, deeply 'broken' people. *"We have a choice. We can embrace our humanness which means embracing our broken natures and the compassion that remains our best hope for healing. Or we can deny our brokenness, forswear compassion and as a result deny our humanity."* I totally agree with him.

*Tom Gillman*

## **Weekly Services from 16 September 2018**

**Sunday 10.45am RAF 100/Battle of Britain Service**

**Sunday 6.30pm Sung Eucharist**

**Wednesday 8.30am Holy Communion**

**Wednesday 6.15pm Evensong**

**Thursday 1.15pm Holy Communion**

## **NOTTINGHAM WORKPLACE CHAPLAINCY INSIGHT MEETING: 19 September Developing a Generation of Future Leaders**

12-1.30pm at YMCA, NCVS building on Mansfield Road opposite the House of Fraser. Beth Yearsley, the College Leader, will speak about the Younger Leaders College, an initiative of the diocese. The aim is to develop younger Christian leaders and also help people use their gifts and passions in shaping culture and transforming society wherever they are called to serve. The goal - 1,000 new leaders by 2023. Buffet lunch provided, RSVP [lensimmonds@aol.com](mailto:lensimmonds@aol.com)

## **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 runs 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](mailto: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.

### **10:45 RAF 100 & Battle of Britain Service 16 September**

**The service is conducted by the Vicar of St Mary's, the Rev'd Tom Gillum, assisted by the Venerable (Air Vice-Marshal) Robin Turner CB DL RAF (ret'd)  
The preacher is the Rt Rev'd Paul Williams, Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham**

***See Order of Service***

### **6:30pm Sung Eucharist 16 September**

**Officiant: Rev Tom Gillum**

*Byrd Mass in Four Parts*  
*O sacrum convivium Tallis*

**Hymns: 162, 234, 262, 202**

**IRIS WRIGHT's Funeral – Monday 1 October 12.30 Bramcote Crematorium**

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**Please continue to pray for**

Brenda Palmer

Estelle Barks

Debbie Butler

Daniel Hanson

Pauline Miller

Harry Palmer

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**Email** [dillsley@stmarynotts.org](mailto:dillsley@stmarynotts.org)

**Web** [www.stmarysnottingham.org](http://www.stmarysnottingham.org)

**Telephone Office Mon-Fri 10-2pm 0115 958 2105**

**Rev'd Tom Gillum 07825 041 432**

