

This Week at St Mary's

10 July 2022

THE LEGACY WE LEAVE

The Genesis storyteller does not mince words in describing Jacob as a less than desirable character. Using humour to engage us in what is anything but a 'funny' story, we find described how it was through Jacob's (many) children that the nation of Israel came into being; therein is his legacy.

It does not come from his being a man of exceptional virtue. The name Jacob means 'cheat' or 'deceiver'. That's what he was. After falling out big time with his older brother Esau, he came like a wrecking ball into his uncle Laban's family. From the start there is conflict, over which daughter he married and then over their commercial arrangements. The two daughters, Leah and Rachel are set against each other, over childbearing.

Jacob's twelve sons come from four women - the family tensions boil over when ten of them turn against the favourite, Joseph. The legacy Jacob leaves is not in a harmonious family, anything but. Rather, he comes to see that can only be in his trusting in the promises of God and living consistently with them, each day.

For the Christian, there is lots in this story I find inspiring. What a relief it is that someone like flawed Jacob is seen as leaving a permanent legacy. That gives hope to us all. The promises of God all came together later in one who was truly virtuous and through whom all can be children of God. Jesus Christ can be trusted to take the broken pieces of each of our lives to make something truly beautiful, to transform the crumbs we offer into a feast.

It is in the here and now, in this life, in whatever life brings, whatever people throw at us and the enemy ravages, that we choose to believe the promises of God, day by day living consistently with them.

Tom Gillman

From the NUH SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING & REMEMBRANCE

The main glimmer of hope in a season of darkness was called "RECOVERY". It didn't sound enough for either the patients or us: we needed "rescue" or "salvation". I remember the day it was announced that we could book our slot for a vaccine. I hammered at the keyboard like Apple had just released a new iPhone or a favourite band had announced a tour.

But still COVID spewed forth like an active volcano. Along came variants and as the days once again drew in, Christmas was bereft of the hope it should bring. Hospitals everywhere were bulging at the seams. Patients were shuffled around the country to solve the impossible equation. More difficult phone calls - "We're moving your wife 100 miles away". The fact that they were chosen as the fittest for the transfer was no consolation.

As the year went on, it was time to set up a new clinic to care for the survivors. The stories were stark. "I can't make it out of my house", "I'm breathless all the time", "I'm terrified to go to sleep in case I don't wake". And more than once, with guilt in their voice: "I know I'm lucky to have survived but..." The therapists worked tirelessly with them. End of the drive became end of the street. Zimmer frame became stick and then the stick was forgotten. "I've done my workout video!" He exclaimed. You're discharged I smiled.

COVID changed the lives of so many. It changed us all. We worked together before, of course we did. We were colleagues, we were reservists. We left the pandemic as veterans. As family. And as I write this, my son snuggles in my arms and giggles as dappled sunlight falls on his face. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

James Bonnington

Consultant in Critical Care/respiratory Medicine

LAST WEEK AT ST MARY'S

Wednesday (29th) - Visit by 6th Form students from Jamia al-hudaa Girls School

Saturday - Worth the Weight clothes sale

Sunday - Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance for NUH during Covid-19,
AGM of the Friends of St Mary's

Cecilia has been one of our choral scholars. She reflects on this time

“I studied fashion design at Nottingham Trent University, 2019-2022. I have been a choral scholar at St. Mary’s Choir throughout my time at university. I have thoroughly enjoyed singing in the choir. The choir has been a huge part of my university life in Nottingham and it has helped me develop my confidence as well as improving my singing technique. Alongside this scholarship I was accepted for the vocal scholarship at my university which I had throughout my time there. My university scholarship gave me weekly singing lessons. Having these scholarships has been very rewarding and has reinforced my passion for singing. I particularly enjoyed socialising in the choir and I am looking forward to the choir tour in Canada. Although my career choice does not correlate with music I will continue to sing in choirs. I’d like to thank everyone at St. Mary’s for these past three years.”

INSIGHT MEETING Wed 13 July 12-1.30pm at St Mary’s. Rev’d James Pacey, a chaplain in 2 NHS city hospitals, will give an *INSIGHT* into the varied ministry of a hospital chaplain. Book at lensimmonds@gmail.com.

NOTTINGHAM SHAKESPEARE COMPANY Thurs 14 July 7pm
The Comedy of Errors. Open air in the beautiful grounds of St Mary’s. Bring a blanket & picnic. Free entry.

NOTTINGHAM CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL Sat 16 July
Beethoven Play-Along session 6-8:30pm: Villiers Quartet; Beethoven Op 132. **Sun 17 July - Closing Concert 3.30-5.30.**

GIVING TO ST MARY’S We rely on your financial support. Kindly use online banking (NatWest 56-00-61, St Mary’s PCC a/c 00834602); cash or cheque in the donations chest; the card reader; or via the website. Please use Gift Aid if you are a UK tax-payer. Standing order forms are by the south porch.

WORKPLACE WEDNESDAY at St Mary’s, each week, a third space to work away from home & the office. St Mary’s is a unique setting with wi-fi & fresh coffee. 9 to 12pm, no fee or need to book.

MEADOWS FOODBANK please support with tinned fruit, meat & tuna; UHT milk; noodles; toilet rolls; shampoo; toiletries; bags for life. Tues 5.30-7.15, Fri 10-12, Sat 11-1pm NG2 2JD

Wherever you are, we extend a very warm greeting to you,
especially if you've recently discovered St Mary's

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

10.45am CHORAL EUCHARIST

also Audio Broadcast live via our website
(follow the link, including for Order of Service)

6.30pm EVENSONG Live & Broadcast

6.15pm WEDNESDAY EVENSONG

12.45PM THURSDAY COMMUNION

6pm THURSDAY EVENING PRAYER

On skype - contact Grant - gwalton@stmarynotts.org

ST MARY'S REMAINS COVID SENSITIVE,
especially to the most vulnerable,
in respect of the use of masks, distancing and sanitising.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR

Estelle Barks Jenny Du May & her husband Peter
Stephen Morris Kirsten Solway

Email admin@stmarynotts.org Web stmarysnottingham.org

Facebook Instagram Twitter [@stmarysnotts](https://www.instagram.com/stmarysnotts)

Office Mon-Fri 10-3pm 0115 958 2105

St Mary's Church in the Lace Market High Pavement Nottingham NG1 1HN

Rev'd Tom Gillum 07825 041 432 tom.gillum@stmarynotts.org