

THE SUNDAY SUPPLEMENT

13th June 2021 – The Second Sunday after Trinity (Proper 6)

NOTICES

Christian Aid Week

I am pleased to pass on the news that our Christian Aid Week activities raised altogether just over £1,600 – the current total is £1,615, which is a fantastic sum. Please join me in giving thanks for the generosity of our neighbours and for the hard work of our collectors and other volunteers – without whom this would not have been possible.

Pilgrimage to Walsingham



The Barrow churches are organising a pilgrimage to Walsingham later this year and once again extend the invitation to the Furness churches. The pilgrimage will run from 20th to 23rd September 2021, staying in the pilgrim accommodation at the shrine. The cost of £305 per person includes coach travel and full board from supper Monday to breakfast Thursday. There will be an excursion to Wells next the Sea on the Tuesday and pilgrims may participate in as much or as little of the shrine worship as they wish. For more information or a booking form, please contact Stephen.

Kirkby APCM date and time

In Kirkby, please make sure that you are on the electoral roll ahead of the APCM, **Wednesday 23rd June, 7pm.**

<https://www.parishresources.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Application-for-Enrolment-Electoral-Roll.pdf>



Stephen met with representatives of the local Gideons this week, to discuss ways in which we might support each other in the future.

After the passage of the Equality Act, the Gideons were compelled by law to move in a direction which many in the UK had already been taking quietly. The Gideons were founded as an organisation of ‘businessmen and their wives’. That’s clearly not a limitation which is acceptable in the UK – and it has meant turning away potential supporters and volunteers in the past – although it continues to be a permissible model in the

US. The change has meant a formal separation between some worldwide Gideon groups and the US parent. In the UK, the Gideons are temporarily going under the name “*Good News for Everyone (formerly known as GideonsUK)*” but a consultation with interested parties and the Charity Commission looks like producing “*Go Ministries International*” as a final name across many parts of the world. This of course is a reference to the Great Commission in Matthew 28:19: “*therefore go and make disciples of all nations*”. More news about the work of the Gideons in Barrow and the North West very soon, together with opportunities to give them your support.

New weekday group – prepared for restrictions

Our new home group is due to start on Thursday 24th June. We are anxiously awaiting the government’s announcement as to future Covid restrictions, to determine whether and how we will be able to go ahead. We may need a few weeks of temporary arrangements, such as meeting outside. Normal practice will be coffee, open to absolutely everyone, from 9am with study from 10am, in the Broughton Methodist Church. The group welcomes you, no matter which church or area you are from and whether or not you have previous experience of church groups. We hope that using a Methodist building in the centre of our area will underline that this is a group for everyone: for established Christians and those exploring faith for the first time. Please let Stephen or Liz know if you are intending to come.



Save the date – also subject to restrictions

Again subject to Covid restrictions, Charlotte and Stephen are planning a mid-afternoon open garden on Saturday 10th July. Keep the date in your diary, but be aware that we will not go ahead if there are significant social restrictions still in place at that date.

READINGS AND PRAYERS

Collect

Lord, you have taught us
that all our doings without love are nothing worth:
send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts
that most excellent gift of love,
the true bond of peace and of all virtues,
without which whoever lives
is counted dead before you.

Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Ezekiel 17:22-end

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel.

²² Thus says the Lord God:

I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out.
I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;
I myself will plant it
on a high and lofty mountain.

²³ On the mountain height of Israel
I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.

²⁴ All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the Lord.

I bring low the high tree,
I make high the low tree;
I dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish.
I the Lord have spoken;
I will accomplish it.

*This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

Psalms 92:1-4, 12-end

¹ It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
² to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night,
³ to the music of the lute and the harp,
to the melody of the lyre.
⁴ For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

¹² The righteous flourish like the palm tree,
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

¹³ They are planted in the house of the Lord;
they flourish in the courts of our God.

¹⁴ In old age they still produce fruit;
they are always green and full of sap,

¹⁵ showing that the Lord is upright;
he is my rock,
and there is no unrighteousness in him.

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

A reading from St Paul's second letter to the Church in Corinth.

⁶ So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— ⁷ for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸ Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹ So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰ For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹⁴ For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵ And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

*This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

Mark 4:26-34

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.***

²⁶ He also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸ The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

³⁰ He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³² yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

³³ With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴ he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.***

Prayer after Communion

Loving Father,
we thank you for feeding us at the supper of your Son:
sustain us with your Spirit,
that we may serve you here on earth
until our joy is complete in heaven,
and we share in the eternal banquet
with Jesus Christ our Lord.