

This week's diary

Sunday 17th	FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
8.00am	Eucharist
9.15am	Choir Practice
10.00am	Sung Eucharist
Monday 18th	<i>No services today</i>
5.00pm	Beaver Scouts
6.30pm	Cub Scouts
Tuesday 19th	7.00pm Scouts
	7.15pm Eucharist
Wednesday 20th	5.30pm Eucharist
	7.00pm Youth Group
Thursday 21st	ST MATTHEW
10.00am	Eucharist
7.45pm	Badminton Group
Friday 22nd	8.30am Eucharist
	6.30pm Evening Prayer
Saturday 23rd	9.30am Eucharist
Sunday 24th	HARVEST FESTIVAL
	(FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY)
8.00am	Eucharist
<u>10.15am</u>	Choir Practice
<u>11.00am</u>	Harvest Festival, followed by lunch in the Hall



THE ORBIT

WELCOME
to St. Edmund's
Sunday 17th Sept 2017

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Today's Services

8.00am Eucharist

10.00am Sung Eucharist

Prelude: Pavane pour une infante defunte – M.Ravel

Setting: Bairstow (Thorne Gloria)

Anthem: Cantate Domino – G.Pitoni

Hymns: 468, 294, 95, 276, 436

Postlude: Toccata –G.Mushel

*Please join us for refreshments after the 10am Eucharist
in the Hall*

Vicar: Father Michael Miller
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☎ 020 8866 9230

www.saintedmundschurch.org.uk

**Please take this home with you
for your reference and prayers this week**

orbit@saintedmundschurch.org.uk

Today's Readings

Genesis 50.15-21; Romans 14.1-12; Matthew 18.21-35

Forgiveness is the theme of the readings today.

The passage from Genesis comes at the end of a lengthy narrative that recounts the dying Jacob blessing Joseph's sons (Ephraim and Manasseh), and predicting the futures of his twelve sons. The request to Joseph by his brothers for forgiveness comes from fear rather than sorrow, and involves inventing a story about what Jacob might have said. In forgiving his brothers, Joseph places their perfidy in a larger narrative, in which God works all things for a greater good 'to preserve a numerous people'. The theme of this passage seems to be 'forgive offences against you and let God determine the rest'.

The passage from Romans comes from a section about religious diet and abstaining from certain foods, and the issue may be whether Christians should eat meat on sale in the marketplace that may have been sacrificed to pagan gods. Those who were strong in faith, like Paul himself, thought that idols were nothing, and eating food offered to them by pagan priests was inconsequential. However, the 'weak in faith' still had scruples about being contaminated by 'unclean' food. Paul's purpose here is to preserve unity among both sides. The strong must not despise the weak; the abstainers must not judge the more liberal. Everything you do, you must do 'in honour of the Lord': eating, abstaining, celebrating, living, dying. Perhaps the theme of unlimited forgiveness in the passage from Matthew clashes with the treatment of the unrepentant in last week's Gospel. The Greek of esus' answer to Peter could mean 'seventy times seven' or 'seventy-seven times', but as this is about forgiving one person in a single day, the meaning is clear: it must be unlimited. It is possible to reconcile unconditional forgiveness with trying to change people's behaviour.

The parable which follows is about clearing debts, wiping the slate clean – and while it is not an allegory, the king represents God and all who choose to imitate him. It reflects the mutual forgiveness of the Lord's Prayer. Yet the saying at the end is hard, for the 'entire debt' is so high that it could never be cleared. Forgiving others is a threat as well as a privilege.

For your prayers this week...

The sick: Amy Austin, Julie Bent, Barbara Fairclough, Bernard Fairclough, Kay Fletcher, Ollie Gardiner, Betty Glass, Iris Golding, Darren Hale, Saman Khan, Margaret Messenger, Suzanne Nicholls, Emil Pimm, Margery Richards, Joan Rix, Ian Roberts, Ros Shirran, Charlie Shirran, Fred Webb, Julie Windsor, Rachel Windsor, Nora Wood

Anniversaries of death: Alice Andrews, Renee Cotton, John Hardy

Notices

5TH SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS Please see Steve Castle if you could help with refreshments in months with a fifth Sunday.

HARVEST FESTIVAL will be celebrated at 11am next Sunday and will be followed by a meal together in the Hall - please add your name to the list at the back of church. Harvest gifts will be donated to New Hope again this year and a shopping list of items they would value can be found at the back of the church.

QUIZ Our Quiz will take place on Saturday Oct 7th. The hall opens 6.30pm and the quiz begins at 7.00pm. Tickets £10 per person which includes a light supper. Tea/coffee will be available, bring any other drinks with you. Tickets are now available from Jenny Jones either after the 10.00am Service or ring 020 8866 7173. There will be 10 tables of 8 people and you can make up your own or join with others on the night but tickets need to be purchased in advance. There will also be a raffle.

FILM NIGHT We will be showing "The Importance of being Earnest" on Saturday Oct 28th. Doors open at 6.00pm, fish or chicken and Chips at 6.15pm. Film starts at approximately 6.45pm. Tickets £12 per person, available from Jenny Jones either after the 10.00am Service or ring 020 8866 7173. Tea and coffee will be available - bring any other drinks with you. Orders for supper must be with Jenny by Wednesday Oct 25th.

FACING DEPRESSION TOGETHER AWARENESS DAY An opportunity to learn about depression and how to support those living with depression. The day will include a clinical, a personal and a pastoral perspective of depression, a dramatic perspective to challenge stigma and an introduction to the work of PeerTalk, a charity underpinned by the Methodist Church. This free event takes place on Sat 14 Oct, 10am – 3.30pm, at The Holiday Inn, Egerton Road, Guildford. Lunch is provided. Booking essential. More details at www.peertalk.org.uk/index.php/events or contact admin@peertalk.org.uk.