

St Arvans Church On line Community Bulletin Wednesday 23rd September

Some reminders:

Evening Prayer: tonight at 8pm

Sunday Eucharist: Please note that as from last Sunday – **FACEMASKS MUST BE WORN.**

You must book your place every time you would like to come. If you do not receive our local emailed Newsletters, please **Post a Comment** on our website and we will get back to you as soon as we are able with booking details.

Harvest Service at St Deiniol's Itton this Sunday, 27th

St Arvans online

Find our live service stream at:

https://www.facebook.com/pg/vicaragecello1/videos/?ref-page_internal

Sunday Morning Eucharist will be broadcast live at **10am**

Wednesday evening: Night Prayer will be broadcast live at **8 pm**

On our webpage at: www.starvanschurch.org.uk

On **Facebook** : St Arvan's Parish group – please like us and become a follower

On **Instagram**: **starvanschurch**

On **Twitter**: St Arvans Church **@Arvanschurch**

Please send any contributions to this bulletin to starvanschurchnews@btinternet.com

Please share it with others whom you think will be interested, and invite them to contact us if they want to go on the mailing list at: starvanschurchnews@btinternet.com

Harvest Service at St Deiniols

An outdoor Harvest Service will be celebrated at St Deiniols, in the new church yard, at 3pm on Sunday 27 September, if weather permits.

All are very welcome, but because of current restrictions on numbers we are limited to 30 people, so attendance has to be by prior booking only. Please post a **Comment on the Website** and we will get back to you as soon as we are able.

Any harvest contributions you may wish to bring will be given to Chepstow Food Bank. Please bring your own chairs if you wish to sit during the service. If we decide we cannot hold the service because of bad weather, we will of course let everyone who has booked know beforehand, if possible by the Saturday evening.

We very much look forward to celebrating this our first service since lockdown.

Prayer and meditation

Today, Friday and Saturday are the three Autumn Ember days. Traditionally three days are set apart for fasting, abstinence, and prayer during each of the four seasons of the year to thank God for the gifts of nature, to teach men to make use of them in moderation, and to assist the needy.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah. 1: 4-9

Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” But the LORD said to me,

“Do not say, ‘I am only a boy’;
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
and you shall speak whatever I command you.
Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
says the LORD.”

Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me,

“Now I have put my words in your mouth.

Psalm 84

How lovely is your dwelling place,
O LORD of hosts!
My soul longs, indeed it faints
for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh sing for joy
to the living God.
Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.
Happy are those who live in your house,
ever singing your praise.*Selah*
Happy are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.[Ⓜ]
As they go through the valley of Baca

they make it a place of springs;
the early rain also covers it with pools.
They go from strength to strength;
the God of gods will be seen in Zion.
O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
give ear, O God of Jacob!*Selah*
Behold our shield, O God;
look on the face of your anointed.
For a day in your courts is better
than a thousand elsewhere.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than live in the tents of wickedness.
For the LORD God is a sun and shield;
he bestows favor and honor.
No good thing does the LORD withhold
from those who walk uprightly.
O LORD of hosts,
happy is everyone who trusts in you.

The Gospel of St Matthew 9: 35-38

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Music

This week's hymn is Firmly I Believe and Truly, sung by the choir of Trinity College, Cambridge

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D2FQZnoRuw4>

Ralph Vaughan Williams' O taste and see, sung by the Cambridge Singers.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=heiiATCrwVQ>

On the lighter side

Things you might learn from the story of Noah and the Ark

1. Don't miss the boat.
 2. Try to remember that we're all in the same boat.
 3. Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark, you know.
 4. Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone might ask you to do something REALLY big.
 5. Don't listen to critics, just get on with what has to be done.
 6. Build your future on high ground.
 7. For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
 8. Two heads are better than one.
 9. Speed isn't always an advantage; after all, the snails were on board with the cheetahs.
 10. When you're stressed, try floating awhile.
 11. Remember that the ark was built by amateurs; it was the Titanic that was built by professionals.
 12. Remember that woodpeckers inside are a larger threat than storms outside.
 13. No matter what the difficulty, trust in the Almighty: There'll be a rainbow at the end of the storm.
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