



Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Services for this Sunday in Church

- 8.00am Trad. Communion **at Findon Church**
10.00am Worship & Praise **at Findon Church**
10.00am Said Eucharist **at Clapham Church**
8pm Compline — *(On-line service via Zoom – see note below)*

Tuesday:

- 10.00am Communion at Findon Church

Our Churches are open for private prayer, details on website.

There is social distancing in all 3 Churches –

Please remember to sanitise your hands when going in and again when coming out.

Collect



Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Bible reading for this Sunday: Matt 14: 13-21

Now when Jesus heard this he went away from there privately in a boat to an isolated place. But when the crowd heard about it, they followed him on foot from the towns. As he got out he saw the large crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. When evening arrived, his disciples came to him saying, "This is an isolated place and the hour is already late. Send the crowds away so that they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves." But he replied, "They don't need to go. You give them something to eat." They said to him, "We have here only five loaves and two fish." "Bring them here to me," he replied. Then he instructed the crowds to sit down on the grass.

He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven he gave thanks and broke the loaves. He gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the broken pieces left over, twelve baskets full. Not counting women and children, there were about 5,000 men who ate.

Reflection on the reading

Jesus has just learnt of the violent death of his cousin, John the Baptist. As you or I would do, he seeks a quiet space to come to terms with what has happened. But for Jesus, there is no escape from the crowds; seeing where the boat is headed, they make their way there, arriving ahead of him. Being Jesus, in compassion for those seeking him, he puts aside his own needs, to teach and heal. As the evening draws on, his disciples are concerned that the people will be hungry, advising Jesus to end the session, send them away; but Jesus puts the responsibility on them, they can feed the hungry crowd! Like in the parables about the Kingdom we've heard recently, God can make something tiny into something huge. By blessing the loaves and fish, Jesus reminds them of the divine presence and in feeding the people, he shows his concern for their wellbeing, physical and material as well as spiritual. The hunger is relieved. The abundance of the gift is shown by what is collected up at the end, nothing is wasted. There's a lesson for us there too....

The faithful are called to relieve hunger from their own resources; as we are fed, we are sent out to feed others - not in our own strength but through Jesus, by his grace alone.

Let us pray: Lord, as you feed and nourish us in word and sacrament, may we also be a source of food for others in spiritual hunger. In Jesus' name, Amen

Other readings for today: Isa 55: 1-5; Rom 9: 1-5

Post Communion prayer:

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever. **Amen.**

Weekly Readings:

Monday: Matt 14: 13-21

Tuesday: Matt 15: 1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Matt 15: 21-28

Thursday: Luke 9: 28-36

Friday: Matt 16: 24-28

Saturday: Matt 17: 14-20

Sunday: 1 Kings 19:9-18; Rom 10: 5-15; Matt 14: 22-33

Please remember in your prayers:

- Our children and young people; staff from our schools and preschool; our work with children and young people.
- Those in London Road, Clapham Lodge and Patching Street.
- **The sick and those who care for them** including: Dilys Allcorn, Julie Brooks, John Childs, Anna Davison, Matthew Moppett, Teresa Street, Ann and Richard Currer-Briggs, Mabel Carson, Jeremy and Liliias
- **On their Anniversary:** 4th Ellis Rose

Chichester Cathedral: Following the announcement on 23rd June by the Prime Minister, public worship in Chichester Cathedral will resume from Sunday 5th July 2020. They look forward to welcoming worshippers. For further guidance see the Cathedral website, where you can also sign up to the Cathedral's weekly e-newsletter (at the bottom of the website) which gives regularly updated information on services, events and resources.

Website: www.chichestercathedral.org.uk

Face Coverings: People are encouraged to wear face coverings in enclosed public spaces where there are people they do not normally meet, such as a place of worship. The Government **strongly advise** that face coverings should be worn by all those attending a place of worship.

Finances: In common with other charities, the Churches finances are considerably down this year and Helena would like to thank those members of our community who have generously made an extra donation to our Churches funds recently. Our Treasurer has thanked individuals, but Helena wanted to also acknowledge it here. Please consider joining our Parish Giving Scheme if you have not already done so.

The APCM 2020 Report is now available at all three Churches to read, but not to take away. If anyone would like a copy, please let the Parish office know.

We need 4 representatives for Deanery Synod, as this is the year all members are renewed. Please see Helena for further details.

Our neighbours During this challenging time when our neighbours may be confined to home please let the Rectory know of anyone needing assistance with shopping or the like and we will coordinate help. (Tel 873601) Let us know of anyone in need of our prayers at this time please.

HD Tribes have introduced a new **Bereavement Counselling Service**.

They are offering 6 face to face sessions as a free service with their fully qualified and accredited counsellor. There is also a new bereavement group where people can safely share their experiences and responses to grief. If you would like any further information, please contact Christine Brownbridge, AD Prof Dip PC, Bereavement Counsellor, T: 01903 249913, E: cb@hdtribe.co.uk



Please visit our Facebook page: **Parish of Findon, Clapham and Patching**

Contributions for pew sheet notices are invited to be submitted to the Rectory by 10.00am on Friday: findoncrectory@gmail.com, 873601.