

Parish of St. Thomas, Apostle & Martyr, Ipswich

5th September 2021—14th Sunday after Trinity

Collect:

Merciful God, your Son came to save us and bore our sins on the cross: may we trust in your mercy and know your love, rejoicing in the righteousness that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Psalm 125

1 Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides for ever.

2 As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people, from this time on and for evermore.

3 For the sceptre of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous, so that the righteous



may not stretch out their hands to do wrong.

4 Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts.

5 But those who turn aside to their own crooked ways the Lord will lead away with evildoers. Peace be upon Israel!

A reading from the Letter of James (2.1-10, 14-17)

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. **This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (7.24-end)

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.' So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.' **This is the gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.**

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Notices:

Harvest donations: Our Harvest festival will be on Sunday 26th September. **If you would like to donate some money for harvest flowers please give that money to Alison** . We will be collecting food donations, and like we did a couple of years ago, we're asking you to bring donations of different things each week. They can be from any shop. Remember to check your use by dates. We are donating food to FIND and also the local Women's Refuge. Starting today, we ask you to bring: **WEEK 1:** Long grain rice, and/or long-life whole milk. **WEEK 2:** Tins (vegetables, fruit, meat, soup, dessert, etc.) **WEEK 3:** Tea, coffee, sugar. **WEEK 4:** toiletries for men, women and children. Of course, if you want to donate other non-perishable items, please do so! Other items can also be brought any week. Not only are we collecting food for harvest we are also collecting for TWAM, who do amazing work sending tools around the world where they will have a second life and help change the world. If you have anything you would like to donate, please bring it with you to church by 26th September for our Harvest Festival.

Harvest Supper & Party: on Friday 24th September, 6pm, we are having a Bring-and-Share Harvest supper and party! There will be a sign up sheet in church so we know who is coming, and please bring some food with you on the night!

Ride and Stride: Saturday 11th Sept - There are still some empty slots for church sitting on Saturday. Please help out if you can, even if just for one hour!

Pilgrimage: on Sunday 12th September, 3pm, there is a short ecumenical Pilgrimage happening in town, ending at the new shrine at St Mary Elms Church. See the attached flyer.

Servers: if you're interested in joining the team of servers at the Eucharist, we are doing a training session in September. Speak to Malcolm or Rachel if you might be interested!

Deanery Online Conference: on 16th October from 9.30am to 3.30pm. Do join for this if possible. We may be able to all gather in church to join on Zoom together!

Pet Blessing Service: save the date! Sunday 3rd October, 4pm, we are planning to have a pet blessing service. Bring your animals along! We will also be collecting donations of pet food at the service.

'Bible Basics': starting in September we will be looking at the Psalms. Please let Cat know if you are interested. Date and time tbc.



Mary Bullass (7th)
Margaret Christian (8th)
Roger Elmer (10th)

This Week:

Sunday 5th September (Trinity 14)

10am: Eucharist with Facebook livestream & Father John Irwin's first service (AD Rhiannon preaching)

Monday 6th September

11.30-1.30: Church open for prayer

Tuesday 7th September

6.30-7.30pm: Zoom Meditation Group.

Contact Lucy for details & link:

lucydrake22@gmail.com

Wednesday 8th September

10am: Eucharist

Thursday 9th September

11.30-1.30: Church open for prayer

Sunday 12th September (Trinity 15)

10am: Eucharist with Facebook livestream

Please pray for:

Those with chronic or long-term illness: Rosemary, Eric, Jenny, Kathy, Andrew, Peggy, Margaret, Natacha, Samantha, Theresa, Judi

Those undergoing treatment or currently ill: Gloria, Leslie, Angela, Helen, Pat, Katie

Those who have recently died, and their families mourning their loss: Marion Derrett

Church Website:

<http://stthomasipswich.org.uk/>

Sunday Worship & other Worship resources on the Church Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/stthomasipswich/>

Contacts:

Priest in Charge: Revd Rachel Revely

m: 07429 325559 **Email:** rachel.revely@outlook.com

Rachel's days off: Fridays and Saturdays

Assistant Curate: Revd Cat Connolly

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Cat's day off: Mondays

Lay Evangelist: Malcolm Gibbs **m:** 07906 663530

Director of Music: Simon Clark BA FLCM FRCO

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Church wardens: Roger Elmer **m:** 07810 274586

Stephen Marginson 01473 258791

If you would like to chat, you could also ring:

Mary Bullass 625135

Gloria Elmer 745590

Rev Jackie 07962 172639

Rev Pat 464748

Rev Canon Chris 462109