

Time to Reflect

Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them. There is a distinction between sympathy and empathy. Sympathy is an expression of support for someone going through a difficult situation, looking in from the outside, as it were. Empathy, to quote Harper Lee in "To Kill a Mocking Bird" is getting into their shoes and walking about. The author of the Letter to the Hebrews knew the distinction and suggests to us, in our pastoral care of those we meet, that this practice, of imagining life from their perspective, is more Jesus-like than standing apart.

And it is more costly. At the end of the reading today, we hear the word "sacrifice" in the context of our involvement with others. In other words, if we merely pat someone on the head and say "there, there", this costs us nothing and is, essentially, pointless, patronising and demeaning. If we, however, brace ourselves and step inside their lives, if we imagine experiencing life as they are, then the likelihood is that our reaction will be rather different, more humane, more open.

A couple of weeks ago I went to hear a speaker talk about the complexity of relationships. She made the point that we can, as Christians, approach life from one of two directions. Either we can absorb the doctrine and see and judge and react to people and situations through the "rules" that the teaching gives us; or we can listen to the experience (walk about in their shoes) and then, in the light of tradition, tease out how best to be authentically Jesus-like in our response. Which approach works for you?

Worship and Activities this week

Sun	8.40am Parish Breakfast
	2.30pm Mothers' Union Deanery Festival
	4.00pm Baptism Preparation
	5.00pm Office Hour
	6.30pm Evensong
Mon	9.30am Morning Prayer
	1.00pm "In-house" @ House on t'Rock
Tues	7.30pm Gideons @ Manna House, Irwell St
Wed	11.00am Holy Communion
	7.00pm Study Group @ Ashton Room
Thurs	9.30am Morning Prayer
	10.00am Tiddlers @ Church House
	12.45pm Holy Communion
	2.00pm Funeral of Maria Francis Russell
Fri	8.00am Dustbusters
	9.30am Morning Prayer
	12.30pm Lunchtime Concerts with John Powell (baritone) and Elin Rees (piano)
	4.00pm Choir School resumes
	7.00pm Choir Practice

Heritage Weekend

Church open from 9.30am.

11.00am Choral Matins
2.00pm Guided Tour
4.00pm Story Telling Service

Next Week : 13th Sunday after Trinity

15 September

8.00am Said Holy Communion
10.00am Parish Eucharist and Sunday School followed by coffee in the Blackburne Hall
Office Hour
12 noon Battle of Britain
5.00pm Office Hour
6.30pm Evensong

12th Sunday after Trinity

8th September 2019

www.buryparishchurch.com



We welcome you and hope you enjoy being with us. If you're not familiar with our services, don't worry. We follow a written order of service and at times will tell you which page we're on.

We also welcome children in church. If your child gets restive in church, don't be afraid to get up and move around if this helps. There is a toilet at the back of church.

There is a **Hearing Loop** for those who would value it.



8.00am Said Holy Communion
11th Sunday after Trinity (Pg. 170)
President: Julian Heaton, Rector
Preaching: Julian Heaton, Rector

10.00am Parish Eucharist, with Parade and Welcome for those exploring baptism
President: Julian Heaton, Rector
Preaching: Julian Heaton, Rector
Hymns : service sheet
Anthem : Philip Wilby : If ye love me
Edward Elgar : Ave Maria

6.30pm Evensong
Minister: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R'tr
Preaching: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R'tr
Hymns: 142; 219; 14
Psalm 121 (Pg.513)
Isaiah 43. 14—44.5 (Pg.578)
John 5. 30-end. (pg. 881)
Anthem : Charles H H Parry : I know my soul hath power

Cornerstone

Serving Bury, deepening our faith, caring for the marginalised, sharing the Good News of Jesus.

Today's Readings

The Collect

God of constant mercy,
who sent your Son to save us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may grow,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

A reading from the letter of Paul to Philemon

(Philemon 1-21)

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love - and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without

your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother - especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

(Luke 14.25-33)

Glory to you, O Lord

Large crowds were travelling with him; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not

sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Heritage Open Day—14 September

Every year, in mid September, churches, museums, galleries and all sorts of other places throw open their doors and invite people in.

We will open at 9.30am as usual.

Highlights will include

- ☺ display of our Silverware, our Registers, our vestments
- ☺ Trips up the tower and to the Clerestory
- ☺ 11.00am Matins (as sung in 1876)
- ☺ Guided Tour
- ☺ Victorian Refreshments all day.

To do all this, we need;

- ◇ manikins for our vestments.
- ◇ Can you give an hour?
- ◇ folks to manage stairways to tower & Clerestory

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Baptisms & Weddings.

Speak to any of the clergy after the service. Our monthly Parish Magazine has a full list of contact details for clergy and organisations on the inside of the back page. For inclusion on the weekly pew sheet: please email: bpc.office@tiscali.co.uk by *Wednesday*.