

Time to Reflect

Recently, I took a leap of faith. Literally. It involved jumping from a narrow wooden platform attached to a metal stanchion 25 feet up and grabbing on to a triangular trapeze swing hanging about a metre away.

Swaying about in mid-air high above the ground felt extraordinary! I never thought I'd be able to conquer my aversion to heights but having been told that as a vicar, I of all people should be ready to take a leap of faith (100 year 7s from Bury C of E High School had already done it) then there was only one thing for it - just get on with it!

Sometimes we can over-spiritualise faith. It's like some magic spell that if we can just commit it to memory and recite it quickly enough at the appropriate time, then we'll be alright.

But the disciples' plea to Jesus: "Increase our faith!" comes off the back of Jesus talking about something very practical and often very difficult - forgiving people who've wronged us.

Not just once, but countless times. and we'll probably keep on doing it for as long as we're around them. And does Jesus talk about having vast tanks of faith that we draw on for the grace to forgive? No. All you need, he says, is a mustard seed-sized sliver of faith. That decision to say yes, I choose to put my foot on that step that'll take me further up the metal stanchion. And the next one - and the next. Until before you know it, you've reached the wooden platform and you're ready to take that leap into the unknown - knowing that the Lord has the other end of the rope and will hold you fast.

And after the faithful ordinary plodding comes the spectacular, extraordinary joy of having obeyed what the Lord has asked us to do in taking a risk and trusting him.

Faith is ordinary and extraordinary. Amount doesn't matter to God. The fact that we have some, does.

Worship and Activities this week

Sun	5.00pm Office Hour 6.30pm Evensong
Mon	9.30am Morning Prayer 1.00pm "In-house" @ House on t'Rock 7.00pm Pastoral Care Group in the Ashton Room
Wed	11.00am Holy Communion 7.00pm No Study Group this week
Thurs	9.30am Morning Prayer 10.00am Tiddlers @ Church House 12.45pm Holy Communion
Fri	8.00am Dustbusters 9.30am Morning Prayer 12.30pm Lunchtime Concert with Matthew Lam (piano) 4.00pm Choir School 7.00pm Choir Practice
Sat	10.00am Harvest Flowers Preparation

Next Week : Harvest Sunday

17th Sunday after Trinity 13 October

8.00am	Said Holy Communion
10.00am	Parish Eucharist, with Parade and Welcome for those exploring baptism followed by coffee in the Blackburne Hall
12.00noon	Harvest Parish Lunch in Blackburn Hall
4.00pm	Baptism Preparation
5.00pm	Office Hour
6.30pm	Evensong

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.

16th Sunday after Trinity

6th October 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

16th Sunday after Trinity (Pg. 182)

President: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R'tr
Preaching: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R'tr

10.00am Parish Eucharist and Sunday School

President: Sheila Beattie. Curate
Preaching: Ian McVeety, Hon Assist't
Hymns: 612; 583; 300; 323; 562
Anthem: Philip Stopford: Teach me, O Lord

6.30pm Evensong

Minister: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R'tr
Preaching: Rhiannon Jones, Assoc R'tr
Hymns: 204; 375 (omit 5&6); 456
Psalm 142 (Pg.529)
Nehemiah 5. 1-13 (Pg.389)
John 9 (pg. 887)
Anthem: John Mundy: Sing joyfully

Cornerstone

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

Today's Readings

The Collect

Lord of creation,
whose glory is around and within us:
open our eyes to your wonders,
that we may serve you with reverence
and know your peace at our lives' end,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A reading from the book of Habakkuk
(*Habakkuk 1.1-4; 2.1-4*)

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous-- therefore judgment comes forth perverted. I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. Then the LORD answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God



Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

(*Luke 17.5-10*)

Glory to You, O Lord

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

Songs of Praise

27th October at 5.00pm

We all have a favourite hymn. How about sharing your choice, sharing with us why you like it, what it says to you about the world, about God, about life? If you would like to choose a hymn, please let Marc or Julian know. We will ask you for a three minute explanation. Can you let us know by Sunday 20 October. Refreshments are served following our hymn singing.



Diocesan Finance Survey

Each October we are asked to complete an anonymous income survey for the Diocese. This is used to calculate our Parish Share. Each regular member of the congregation, over the age of 16, is asked to complete this form once during the month. For more information, chat to Pat Uden.

Harvest 2019

Parish Harvest Lunch

Three Course meal on
Sunday, 13th Oct. at 12
noon. Tickets at £5.00 are available after services and at The House on the Rock



Harvest Flowers – Help Wanted !!

Jean Sutcliffe has offered to oversee this year's Harvest Festival Flowers and seeking help Flower arranging will take place on Saturday 12th October 2019 with the deliveries being made on Monday 14th October 2019.

Food Bank Donations—new items

We are so grateful for all who bring food for the Food Bank. Following a recent conversation, the topic of 'Period Poverty' come up. So, if you could include appropriate items, health related, including all toiletries, that would be great. Thanks in advance.

Collects from *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England; Common Worship: Pastoral Services; The Christian Year: Calendar, Lectionary and Collects 2000*
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