



The Benefice of Ross  
with Walford  
and  
Brampton  
Abbotts

# Newsletter

12th July 2020

Fifth Sunday after Trinity

*We offer a warm welcome to everyone at our services today, in person and virtually.*

*Inspiring faith, hope and love*

[rawchurch.org.uk](http://rawchurch.org.uk)



Last Sunday watching Tiffany's licensing I had a nice little trip down memory lane. Can you guess which part of the service? Well, it wasn't the lining up in front of the bishop, nor was it the famous words that we find everything in Ancient Formularies and the Book of Common Prayer, nor was it the actual vows, no, it was a line from the Deans prayers. At some point he prayed for the candidates families that had 'brought them thus far'; and when he said that I went right off into my own little world of remembering my Deaconing and missed out on the rest of the Dean's prayer (smack hand! or just being normal!)

At my Deaconing I had blood family and church family from the church that launched me into ministry and the church to which I was being licensed as well as a Jewish hotelier who had been one of my referees and a Buddhist chef who kept a gentle watch that I lived up to my badge "Jesus Lives". To this day I can remember how wonderful it was to have them all physically with me. I know that among them there were believers and non believers, but they were all there because they loved me and wanted to support me.

Tiffany, I don't know how and when you are going to be Deaconed, but this I do know, I will pray for your family and friends who have 'brought you thus far'. There will be some in the church who will talk of your Priesting as "more" important, but if your family is anything like mine they will see the Deaconing as the big change and as many from your international family as can travel will want to be with you and you will love having them there. May the good Lord make it happen.

Colin

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**The Rev'd Canon Chris Blanchard** | 01989 762368 | [frchris2@icloud.com](mailto:frchris2@icloud.com) (Sun - Wed)

**Intergenerational Missioner: Christine Cattanach** | [christine.cattanach@hereford.anglican.org](mailto:christine.cattanach@hereford.anglican.org)

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## *Today's Collect*

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Almighty God,  
send down upon your Church  
the riches of your Spirit,  
and kindle in all who minister the gospel  
your countless gifts of grace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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## *We pray for those who are ill*

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All those infected and affected by the  
coronavirus

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## *We remember those who have died*

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Ann Purvis and John Edwards and we  
pray for their families and loved ones,  
and for all those who mourn at this time.

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## *Today's Readings*

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### **First Reading Isaiah 55.10-13**

Thus says the LORD: 10 For as the rain  
and the snow come down from heaven,  
and do not return there until they have  
watered the earth, making it bring forth  
and sprout, giving seed to the sower and  
bread to the eater, 11 so shall my word  
be that goes out from my mouth; it shall  
not return to me empty, but it shall  
accomplish that which I purpose, and  
succeed in the thing for which I sent it. 12  
For you shall go out in joy, and be led  
back in peace; the mountains and the  
hills before you shall burst into song, and  
all the trees of the field shall clap their  
hands. 13 Instead of the thorn shall come  
up the cypress; instead of the brier shall  
come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the  
LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting  
sign that shall not be cut off.

### **Second Reading Romans 8.1-11**

There is now no condemnation for those  
who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of  
the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you  
free from the law of sin and of death. 3 For  
God has done what the law, weakened by  
the flesh, could not do: by sending his own  
Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to  
deal with sin, he condemned sin in the  
flesh, 4 so that the just requirement of the  
law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not  
according to the flesh but according to the  
Spirit. 5 For those who live according to  
the flesh set their minds on the things of  
the flesh, but those who live according to  
the Spirit set their minds on the things of  
the Spirit. 6 To set the mind on the flesh is  
death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is  
life and peace. 7 For this reason the mind  
that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it  
does not submit to God's law – indeed it  
cannot, 8 and those who are in the flesh  
cannot please God. 9 But you are not in  
the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the  
Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who  
does not have the Spirit of Christ does not  
belong to him. 10 But if Christ is in you,  
though the body is dead because of sin,  
the Spirit is life because of righteousness.  
11 If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus  
from the dead dwells in you, he who raised  
Christ from the dead will give life to your  
mortal bodies also through his Spirit that  
dwells in you.

## Gospel Reading Matthew 13.1-9,18-23

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. 2 Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. 6 But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 Let anyone with ears listen! 18 Hear then the parable of the sower. 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21 yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. 23 But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

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## *This Week and Beyond*

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**St Mary's Cleaning** - The immediate problem of cleaning the church now that it is open for private prayer has been solved, but we need to look ahead to the time when we can return to something like a normal pattern of services and other events. We shall need to revert to regular cleaning for which we shall have to reconstitute a cleaning team. Otherwise we shall have to raise extra money to pay for professional cleaning - there is not enough money in the current (deficit) budget for it. It takes a group of 4 – 5 people 1 to 1 ½ hours to clean the church, including the kitchen area and the toilets. That is quite a commitment every week, but if, for instance, we could get a team of 20, each person would need to clean only about once every four weeks. It's not all unremitting slog – there's time to chat both with other cleaners and with visitors! If we decide to go for professional cleaning, we would have to pay for 5 hours a week at at least £10 an hour. (We have an estimate from a local firm for just over £80 a week including equipment, cleaning materials and VAT.) Please get in touch with me if you feel you can help, or have any other ideas for solving the problem. Tel.769266. [janetcooper272@btinternet.com](mailto:janetcooper272@btinternet.com); Janet

**LEAF** - as a one off would anyone be available to help with LEAF next week on Friday 17th July, from 5pm-6pm please? If you are available please contact Christine: [christine.cattanach@hereford.anglican.org](mailto:christine.cattanach@hereford.anglican.org)

**Ross Remembers** is a new website (<https://rossremembers.org>) where you can remember a loved one who has died. All you need to do that, is a photograph (or more) and a short piece of text about the person. There is the option to add prayers and poetry, anything really that you think is relevant. All is explained on the site. The site is free to use and you can include anyone there who has died for any reason. It is open to people of any faith and none.

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### *Morning Prayer this week*

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Morning prayer continues by Zoom again this week, at 9am each weekday. Follow the link from our benefice website to join in. You will also find the order of service which you can use to pray Morning Prayer at home, or with us via Zoom.

<https://rawchurch.org.uk/morning-prayer/>

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### *Gospel readings through this week*

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Download an info sheet on reading, reflecting and praying with the gospel reading set for each day from our website. (See link below)

Mon: Matthew 10.34-11.1

Tues: Matthew 11.20-24

Weds: Matthew 11.25-27

Thurs: Matthew 11.28-end

Fri: Matthew 12.1-8

Sat: Matthew 12.14-21

Sun: Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43

<https://rawchurch.org.uk/faith-at-home/>

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### *Our Service Today*

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**We have a service in St Mary's today at 9.30am. This service will be livestreamed:**  
[rawchurch.org.uk/digital-services](http://rawchurch.org.uk/digital-services)

**Please take note of the following if you are attending the service in St Mary's:**

Please enter the church by the South Porch as our normal entrance (the North Porch) is currently being reordered. The Chancel door will also be open should some prefer to enter by this door.

There will be hand sanitiser available as you enter the church, and we ask you to sanitise your hands before being seated. Face masks will also be available should you want to use one. Please sit socially distanced. We cannot hand out orders of service. Please print out the service that is attached to this email or that can be found on our website <https://rossparishes.uk/2020/06/30/church-this-week/>. Alternatively, if you have a smartphone or tablet please bring your device to church and you will be able to scan a QR code to see the order of service on your device. (You will need to have previously downloaded a QR reader app). Due to concerns about multiple people using the lectern, we will need to cut back on people sharing in the leading of worship. We must not shake hands or hug, and so there will be no Sharing of The Peace. Sadly, the choir cannot lead our worship and we cannot sing hymns at this time. Please bring your own hand sanitiser to church to sanitise your hands at the time of communion. We will line up 2m apart and queue to receive communion in one kind (the host) from the priest in front of the nave altar. We cannot kneel or use the altar rail at this time. The service will be livestreamed via our website. Week by week these restrictions are likely to change, and so we recommend that you consult our website regularly, and we will do all we can to keep you informed.