

<p><b>Collect for the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity</b>          Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. <span style="float: right;">Amen</span></p>	<p><b>Post Communion Prayer</b>          Lord, we pray that your grace may may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. <span style="float: right;">Amen</span></p>
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**PRAYER POINTS:**

- For Helen House
- For the courageous Chinese Church leaders publicly declaring their allegiance to Christ and calling for religious freedom
- For those who have lost everything in the typhoon and hurricane affecting China and the USA.
- For our Churchwardens, PCC and all who volunteer at St Mary's, helping to make St Mary's the great Church community that it is.
- For David as he flies out to France to start his pilgrimage today.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF HEALING AND PEACE:**

Jeffrey and Joy John, Tony Eccleston, Brian Panter, Alan and Iris Austin, Oliver Baillie, Gladys Page, Suzie Aries, Michael Hopkins, Kelly May, Gordon & Kathleen Plumridge, Joyce Bapty, Richard Heaney, Alex Lake, Hazel Sullivan, Philip and Sally Jones, Shirley and Eric Watts, Barbara Higgins and Ken McMurray.

**WE HAVE ALSO BEEN ASKED TO PRAY FOR:**

Ashleigh Nichas, Gideon, Mary Jefferies, Alex Chauhan, Keith & Judy Brambleby, Barbara Platts, Tony Mead, Hazel Boon, Jorge, Peter Braithwaite.

**WE REMEMBER WITH THANKSGIVING THE LIVES OF:**

Douglas (known as Dick) Hands and Carol Fitch.

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**St Mary's**  
 with  
**St Peter's**  
 PRINCES RISBOROUGH  
 & ILMER

# News

## Sunday 23rd September 2018, Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity and Gift Sunday

Dear Friends

### ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS

This was one of the sayings that helped raise me. A more recent popular expression is "Walk the talk!"

Both these expressions are very relevant for this week, Gift Sunday, as we continue to look at the subject of giving; especially financially. The Apostle Paul is struck by the contrast between the generous financial giving of the poor Macedonians with the meanness of the more affluent Corinthians. I remember when I was involved in "Christian Aid" collecting some years ago, that it was the poorer streets who gave more generously compared with the richer ones in our then village.

What we learn from Paul, in Corinthians, is that Christian giving is all about attitude. If we are truly grateful for our relationship with God and all he has given us, then willing giving should flow from us as an expression of God's Grace within us, our joy in the Lord, a sign of true faith in God and our obedience to His will. Giving enables our cooperation with God's plan that all Christians should have enough to live on, wherever we live; with our being freed to both give and receive at different times in our lives. In addition, giving strengthens the bonds of relationship in the Christian Community.

Giving results in a God-given continuous chain-reaction: -

first, God giving through Jesus Christ to us, > our generosity to others > theirs for others etc. > God releasing blessings in all sorts of ways back to us.

It is easy to find reasons not to give to God's Church and other Christians as there are many calls on our purse-strings. Yet, a reluctance to give, generously, hinders God's work in the world and His blessings to us and others. It hinders our spiritual growth. Each of us, therefore, needs to address with God one-to-one, through prayer, what He is calling us to give from what He has given us. It is not a matter for us to judge each other, personally, but to apply for ourselves God's principles of giving.

Then, our actions will speak as loudly as our words!

**Averil Stephenson**

## NEWS & NOTICES

**NATIONAL PRAYER WEEKEND:** As part of this event, St Mary's will be holding an Evening of Prayer on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September from 7.30pm to 9.15pm. During the evening, there will be a talk entitled 'Focus on Prayer and Healing' by Revd Michael McDonald-Woodhall. There will also be quiet reflection, worship-led contemplation, prayer stations, plus an informal Holy Communion. All welcome. There will also be a prayer walk on Sat 29<sup>th</sup> at 11am, see flyer in Church.

**LADIES' BREAKFAST:** The next Ladies' Breakfast will be on Sat 29<sup>th</sup> September at 9am and the speaker will be Louise Fell 'Keeping Faith through Adoption'. Please sign the sheet in Church if you wish to attend or contact the Office or Jo Williams.

**HARVEST LUNCH:** There will be a harvest bring and share lunch on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October** at 1pm. Please sign the sheet in Church if you can come.

**CHARITIES UPDATE:** The PCC have voted on *the charities for 2019*.

**Major award-** CMS-Uganda (Nicci Maxwell) **Minor awards -:**

1. Christian Aid. 2. London City Mission. 3. Mercy Ships 4. ROPE 5. Hamlin Fistula. 6. Helen and Douglas House. 7. The Princes Centre. Christian Aid had the second highest vote and will receive a single major award due to ending awards to Gideon's Trust. Thank you to everyone who nominated charities.

**AUTUMN DISCIPLESHIP COURSE:** This starts on Weds October 3<sup>rd</sup> and finishes on Weds 14<sup>th</sup> November and is entitled 'Letters to the Exiles' based on the film series 'For the Life of the World'. Time 7.30pm. Starts with a hot meal. For details please contact Dan on revdbeesley@gmail.com.

**CHILDREN'S WORK SOS:** We need you! The Sunday Children's groups have been running at crisis point for over a year now, we need more helpers and leaders, there may be Sundays that we are unable to run all of our age groups. The Church continues to hold this ministry as a priority and is looking at different ways of providing for our children and young people. Please consider if this is a ministry that you could help with, no experience necessary, resources provided, and rewards immeasurable. Contact Stella Upton 342129 or church office for more information.

**PRAYER BREAKFAST:** On Sat Oct 6<sup>th</sup> from 8am, there will be a prayer breakfast at Princes Risborough Methodist Church. Everyone welcome.

**HELEN AND DOUGLAS HOUSE:** 'The penny fund has reached £6000! Thank you to everyone for their continued support.' Frances Ibell.

**YVONNE MULLINS:** is away on her Parochial Church Placement for the next 2 months as part of her final year of Theological Training. She will be back in December.

## Gift Sunday

**Sunday 23rd September, Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity**

**Readings: 2 Corinthians 8: 1-5, 13-15, 9:12-15. Luke 18:18-30**

**8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's

**9.30am** Parish Communion followed by coffee

**11.00am** Family Service at St Peter's. Ilmer

**11.15am** TGIS

**6.00pm** Deeper at St Mary's

**What's on in the week beginning Monday 24th September**

**Weds 26<sup>th</sup> 9.00am** Wednesday Prayers at St Mary's

**10.30am** Holy Communion followed by coffee

**2-4pm** Church open for prayer

**Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> 10.30am** Coffee in the Chapter House

**Fri 28<sup>th</sup> 2.00pm** Praise and Play in the Chapter House

**7.00pm** Puppet Club in the Church Hall

**7.30pm** Evening of Prayer at St Mary's

**Sat 29th 9.00am** Ladies breakfast in Church

**11.00am** Prayer walk around Princes Risborough from St Mary's

**Sunday 30th September, Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity**

**Readings: Numbers 11: 4-6, 10-16, 24-29, Mark 9: 38-end**

**8.00am** Holy Communion at St Mary's

**9.30am** Parish Communion followed by coffee

**11.15am** TGIS

**3.00pm** Open Door, a harvest tea in the Chapter House

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**Rector:** Revd. David Williams 346984

**Associate Minister:** Revd. Michael Hunt 344150;

**Curate:** Revd. Dan Beesley 345521;

**Assistant Clergy:** Revds. David & Nancy Wallace 290670;

Revds. Steve & Rose Williams 274225; Canon Nick Molony 273895;

Revd. Jenny Deverill 274269; **LLM:** Averil Stephenson 343649

**Churchwardens:** David Stephenson and Bryan Matthew