

# PARTNERS

## weekly newsletter



## 12th September 2021 - Trinity 15

Today we in Fordingbridge are celebrating the birth of St. Mary. Already Hale and Breamore have celebrated, and last Sunday at the 10.00am Allsorts we looked at Mary through our church building and the items which adorn it.

But have you every thought about this young humble Jewish girl, plucked from obscurity by God, to be the earthly Mother of his Son Jesus. There she was, humble, young, poor, engaged to be married to an older man, a carpenter. An arranged marriage. Yet God had a much different plan for Mary, than the life she expected. She was chosen to be the “God Bearer” in a reversal of fortunes which was to change the world. The start of this amazing change, God sent his Holy Spirit upon her, and she was able to proclaim God’s Holy name, and proclaim that she was his servant in all things. A young girl who becomes pregnant, a social disgrace. They journey to a foreign place where she gives birth in a filthy stable with only Joseph to help her. They witness amazing things. They become refugees going to Egypt. They return home, and then her Son, becomes an itinerant preacher, with the ability to heal people. She follows him around. She is present, as her Son, now a criminal goes to his place of public execution, the utter shame. She watches him die, the most awful death. She sees him rise again, how wonderful but frightening, and she is told that he is taken up to heaven, and then witnesses the growing start of a church, founded by him based his teachings.

What an extraordinary life, and a reminder that it is the poor and oppressed, the down trodden, those despised for their social class, not the rich & successful who God sent his Son into the world, to comfort and care for.

Let us thank God, for Mary.

*Ian Newman*

St Mary’s  
Fordingbridge  
SP6 1BB

St Mary’s  
Breamore  
SP6 2DF

Holy Ascension  
Hyde  
SP6 2QJ

St Giles  
Godshill  
SP6 2JJ

St Boniface  
Woodgreen  
SP6 2AJ

St Mary’s  
Hale  
SP6 2RF

Sandleheath  
Uniting Church  
SP6 IPT

*We welcome all, especially visitors and those attending for the first time. If you need gluten free wafers at Communion, please speak to someone at the door before the service. Please take this newsletter home with you for the week ahead. God Bless*

# Readings for this week

## 12th September 2021 - Trinity 15

### **COLLECT:**

Lord God,  
defend your Church from all false teaching  
and give to your people knowledge of your truth,  
that we may enjoy eternal life  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**AMEN.**

### **PSALM 19:1-6** *(For Morning Prayer)*

1. The heavens are telling the glory of God  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
2. One day pours out its song to another  
and one night unfolds knowledge to another.
3. They have neither speech nor language  
and their voices are not heard,
4. Yet their sound has gone out into all lands  
and their words to the ends of the world.
5. In them has he set a tabernacle for the sun,  
that comes forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber  
and rejoices as a champion to run his course.
6. It goes forth from the end of the heavens  
and runs to the very end again,  
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

## A Reading from the Letter of James

James 3:1-12

*Christians are encouraged to be careful how they speak, for words can be a curse as well as a blessing.*

<sup>1</sup> Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup> For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup> If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup> Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup> So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup> And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup> For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup> but no one can tame the tongue -a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup> With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup> From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup> Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup> Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

*At the end, the Reader says:*

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### THE GOSPEL READING

*Please stand and turn to face the Gospel Reader*

*When the Gospel is announced, the Reader says:*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Mark*.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**(Glory be to thee, O Lord.)**

*Peter makes his great confession of faith in Jesus as the Messiah. Jesus warns his followers that his way of being the Messiah will involve suffering, and they must be prepared to share the discipline of taking up the cross.*

<sup>27</sup> Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that I am?' <sup>28</sup> And they answered him, 'John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.' <sup>29</sup> Jesus asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Messiah.' <sup>30</sup> And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. <sup>31</sup> Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup> He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup> But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' <sup>34</sup> He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup> For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup> Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup> Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

*At the end, the Reader says:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(At the end, the Reader says:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.


***Praise be to thee, O Christ.***)

*(c) New Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible.*

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

Keep, O Lord, your Church,  
with your perpetual mercy;  
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,  
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,  
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**AMEN.**

 **OUT & ABOUT:** **Monday**, Morning Prayer and meeting with Tom in the morning, followed by Diocesan Meeting in Winchester in the afternoon, and leading Evensong in the Cathedral on the way back. **Tuesday-Wednesday**, on a residential course in Salisbury on 'Working with the Newly Ordained' **Thursday**, Hyde School Service in the morning, meetings during the day, and Staff Team Meal in the evening.

**REVIEW OF OUR ON-LINE OFFERING:** We think it's time to have a review of our on-line offering – TftDs, Saturday Conversations, and Sunday Services – and perhaps other things. We've arranged a meeting (by Zoom, appropriately) to discuss this on Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 7.00p.m. Anyone is welcome to come – but if, not, could you let me know your thoughts on what we are currently doing, and what we might do in the future.

In particular, would you like to continue as a contributor to TftD – or would you like to become one? We are still getting a very regular following on-line, live and afterwards, and people still feel they are being fed by it. But what is sustainable, and what is desirable?

*Zoom Meeting ID: 871 2936 1945 and Passcode: 096122 and direct link in Partners email. Telephone: 0131 460 1196*

**HOLY ASCENSION HYDE PET SERVICE** : All are welcome to our Pet Service this Sunday at 4pm, in Hyde Church Centre. Bring your family and your pets, or pet photos, or toy representatives of your pets. Enjoy a friendly service, with songs, blessings and tea.

**OMEGA GROUP** : is meeting on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>, at Hyde Club (tbc) SP6 2QH, 6.00-7.00. This is an informal group, discussing the big questions of theology and ethics – it's open to everyone, no prior training needed! All welcome.

**CONFIRMATION:** There is going to be a Confirmation at Christchurch Priory on Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, at 2.00p.m. Anyone who is interested in being confirmed, is asked to be in touch with Gary as soon as possible – there is still plenty of time for preparation. Do ask if you are interested or want to find out more. Gary.

**EMERGENCY PRAYER CHAIN** *Please send all requests for prayer to [prayer@avonvalleychurches.org.uk](mailto:prayer@avonvalleychurches.org.uk). If you feel able to commit to regular prayer for those on the list and wish to become a prayer partner, please email the above address.*



**JIGSAW JAMBOREE HELP NEEDED!** Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October and Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October between 10am and 4pm. We need lots of people to help!! There will be 3 two-hour time slots each day to cover anything from helping put puzzles out, taking payment, serving refreshments and washing up. Some kind people have already offered, thank you so much. **If you are able to help in any way** please let Judith Dowsett know asap (01425 650335, j.dowsett7@btinternet.com). A rota will be drawn up by Jean and Judith to cover everything that is needed.

**And Jean needs cakes please!** The usual favourites of traybakes, lemon drizzle, coffee walnut and so on will be very gratefully received. Jean will put a cake donation list up in St Mary's Fordingbridge for you to sign up or contact her direct (01202 822187, jean.groves539@btinternet.com) with your offers of delicious cakes.

**Please continue to donate puzzles in boxes, bring to the Hall on Tuesday 14 or 21 Sept, 1-3pm.** Thank you all so much with your support of this major and much needed fundraiser for St Mary's Fordingbridge. **Please tell your friends and neighbours to come and buy!** Judith, Viv and Jean.

**TALENTS CREAM TEA** : all are welcome on Thursday 16th September, 2.30pm to 5.30pm at 7 Bowerwood Road, Fordingbridge SP6 1BJ for cream team. Cost £3 for cream tea/cake. All proceeds for upkeep of St Mary's Fordingbridge. Contact Di Evans on 01425 291958 to confirm attendance.

**BREAMORE HARVEST LUNCH – Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.** This will be held in the Hulse Hall at Breamore following the Harvest Festival Service, with coffee from 11.15am and lunch at 12noon. Everyone is welcome to attend, and although there is no charge (donations will be welcome) to assist with catering please let Mary Melbourne know that you would like to join us either by calling 07710 288361 or email mary.awdford@btopenworld.com.

**FROGHAM CHAPEL** : extends a very warm welcome to all as it recommences services on Services on Sunday 19th September at 11am.

**PROPERTIES TO RENT** : If anyone knows of a property available to rent for a Fordingbridge family, please contact Ann Beynon via email AnnBeynon53@gmail.com **AND** if anyone knows of a suitable house-share in the Fordingbridge area, please contact Rhian Bond via email rhian\_bond@yahoo.co.uk Many thanks

**ACCESS TO ON-LINE WORSHIP** : All our online services are available on our **telephone line**, 01425 543305, charged at your normal local rate. If you want to listen to live or recorded worship (and to hear Gary's cheerful greeting!), it's usually easier to put your phone onto speakerphone, so you can sit back and enjoy.

**AFGHANISTAN is 2nd on Open Doors annual ranking** of countries where Christians face the most extreme persecution. We are witnessing the decimation of the country and people of Afghanistan. The Taliban has a hit list of known Christians that they are targeting to hunt down and kill. Let's pray for them. And also let us thank God that persecution grows the church, and that there is news that many many Afghans are turning to Christ and finding that He is the Way, the Truth and the Life. There are some new Open Doors Prayer leaflets in the porch. Pat Bloomfield

**CHURCH OFFICE** : will be closed Wednesday 15th and Friday 17th September.

**REFLECTION** : *'Remembering our past involves something like letting light into more and more of the corners and byways of our identity; what returns in memory is now set in a larger landscape. We have learned; we have grown. The past is never over; but it is not everything.'*

A 'big' birthday recently caused me to reflect on these words of Archbishop Rowan Williams. Another author writes in similar vein: *'The past isn't dead. It isn't even past.'* We all carry with us a cluster of significant memories and experiences, joyful and painful, which influence our lives in the present. Perhaps birthdays are occasions to recognize what has been most significant in shaping our lives.

Each year the church celebrates three birthdays - Christ himself, John the Baptist and the Blessed Virgin Mary. Her festival is September 8<sup>th</sup> and St Mary's Fordingbridge celebrates its Patronal on the Sunday closest to this date. The Blessed Virgin Mary is also remembered at Candlemas, March 25th, Aug 15th, and Dec 8<sup>th</sup> so what do we particularly remember at her birth? Perhaps it can cause us to celebrate a life that teaches us that in all the joys and sorrows of human life we too can be bearers of God's life within us. The past is never over but it is not everything and does not determine the future or restrict God's grace in the future. The words of the Christmas carol refer to Mary but can also be true of us:

*'Behold the great Creator makes  
Himself a house of clay'*

*Nigel Coates*

# This Week - 12th September 2021 - Trinity 15

Online/live streamed services via Facebook, Website or Faith Online  
and available afterwards on YouTube "Avon Valley Churches"

|                       |                |   |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------|---|----------------------|
| <b>Sunday 12 Sept</b> | <b>8.15am</b>  | <b>Holy Communion</b>                         | <b>Hyde</b>          |
|                       | <b>10.00am</b> | <b>Holy Communion</b>                         | <b>Breamore</b>      |
|                       | <b>10.00am</b> | <b>Patronal Sung Communion +<br/>streamed</b> | <b>Fordingbridge</b> |
|                       | <b>10.00am</b> | <b>Morning Service</b>                        | <b>Woodgreen</b>     |
|                       | <b>10.45am</b> | <b>Morning Service</b>                        | <b>Sandleheath</b>   |
|                       | <b>4.00pm</b>  | <b>Pet service, Church Centre</b>             | <b>Hyde</b>          |
|                       | <b>6.00pm</b>  | <b>Evensong</b>                               | <b>Fordingbridge</b> |

|            |         |                     |
|------------|---------|---------------------|
| Mon to Fri | 10.00am | Thought for the Day |
|------------|---------|---------------------|

|         |         |   |                 |
|---------|---------|---|-----------------|
| Mon 13  | 9.00am  | Morning Prayer (Meeting ID: 157 284<br>292, Password: 764200) | On-line (Zoom)  |
| Tue 14  |         | Hyde LCC Meeting  | Hyde            |
| Wed 15  | 9.00am  | Morning Prayer (details as Monday)                            | On-line (Zoom)  |
|         | 10.00am | Bible Study, Heather Cottage                                  | Rockford Common |
| Thur 16 | 7.30pm  | Bellringing   | Fordingbridge   |
| Fri 17  | 12noon  | Wedding - Lindsay Sims & Martin Reeder                        | Hale            |
| Sat 18  | 10.00am | The Saturday Conversation                                     | On-line         |

|                       |                |                                    |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Sunday 19 Sept</b> | <b>8.15am</b>  | <b>Holy Communion</b>              | <b>Fordingbridge</b> |
|                       | <b>10.00am</b> | <b>Mattins + streamed</b>          | <b>Breamore</b>      |
|                       | <b>10.00am</b> | <b>Morning Service</b>             | <b>Fordingbridge</b> |
|                       | <b>10.00am</b> | <b>Morning Service</b>             | <b>Hale</b>          |
|                       | <b>10.00am</b> | <b>Morning Service</b>             | <b>Hyde</b>          |
|                       | <b>10.45am</b> | <b>Morning Service</b>             | <b>Sandleheath</b>   |
|                       | <b>6.00pm</b>  | <b>Omega Group (Hyde Club TBC)</b> | <b>Hyde</b>          |

## CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED TO VISITORS

Contact : Gail Newell or Jackie Rowe, Parish Administrators  
Email : [Office@AvonValleyChurches.org.uk](mailto:Office@AvonValleyChurches.org.uk) or call 01425 653163  
Website : [www.AvonValleyChurches.org.uk](http://www.AvonValleyChurches.org.uk)