



Sunday 25th September 2022

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity – Proper 21

‘According to the Scriptures’

The media coverage of the funeral of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has been remarkable in both its extent and content. While some may have become a little bored with the range and number of people giving an opinion about the many and varied content, from military precision and pomp to fashion statement and critique, one thing is certain. We have never had so much exposure to and comment upon the Christian faith in the media.

This is, in large part, down to the faith and witness of Her Late Majesty. In recent decades as her own faith has deepened, she became more open in sharing her belief in Jesus as our Saviour and the impact that belief has had on her life and actions. Echoing the George Herbert poem and hymn “Seven whole days not one in seven” increasingly reminding us that the Lord’s teaching and calling is for all aspects of our lives, and certainly not only for attendance in church on a Sunday.

I understand that Her Majesty’s deepening of faith came from a lifetime of prayer and engagement with the scriptures, each and every day, and that at different parts of her life – as in the preparation for her coronation – she would have a more involved engagement with the support of others. We can and do claim that our lives are full of business and responsibility, and they are, but so was that of the late Queen, while our tasks may be somewhat more mundane, hers were no less onerous. It all comes down to what our priorities are.

If we want to make sure we have and gain all that we desire or think we deserve, then we will be distracted by all the disappointments we encounter on the way and invest time and energy in revising our plans to get these things. If we put God at the centre of all that we do, starting the

day at His feet reading the scriptures, saying our prayers and listening for Him to speak to us through them, we will find that the need for other things fades and we are left with the true treasure, which is a closer walk with God in Christ Jesus.

Our standard prayer books are good for this, made up as they are of texts drawn from all over the scriptures – even the first words at morning prayer “O Lord open our lips” are taken from a psalm – but what are we to do if we do not understand. As the Eunuch said to Phillip ‘how can I know if I have no-one to teach me?’, and we can do this in one of two ways. We can find ourselves a book, one of the many one volume editions of scriptural commentary or we can meet with a group of like-minded souls and talk about them together. This is what we have been doing in the Wednesday afternoon Bible Study sessions on zoom. I meet with a small group of people and we talk about the scriptures for the following Sunday, not in a lecture or academic way, but trying to answer the question, “what does this reading mean for me, in my life?”. Conversations roam far and wide, and we even laugh sometimes, so if you would like to come please use this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87473143322?pwd=OFRXQ0kyd2hRR3VOc3NiZFIOY2Jadz09> at 3pm next Wednesday 28th September and you will be able to join us (readings are on the chart elsewhere in the newsletter). If you and or a group would rather do it in person over a cup of tea, I would be pleased to join you just get in touch.

Every Blessing in Christ
Fr. Colin

Benefice Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for the Coker Ridge Benefice,
that we may discern the vocations and ministries
of individuals and parishes so bringing us together
that we may serve you in holiness and truth,
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Collect –Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Communion

*God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:
grant that your people may be fervent
in the fellowship of the gospel
that, always abiding in you,
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in
service;
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.*



Post Communion

*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.*

Invitation to join a Local Learning Group

My name is Chris Varley and I regularly attend St Martin's in West Coker.

In answer to our Benefice Prayer I have recently been called to become a Licenced Lay Minister, otherwise called a Reader. This is a two-year training program sponsored by the Diocese of Bath & Wells in association with Sarum Theological College and the University of Durham. When licenced, I will be qualified to conduct some services like Matins and funerals, but not to lead the administration of the sacraments.

As part of my training, I have to form a Local Learning Group of about seven people to hear what I have been learning and to provide feedback. It would be beneficial, if each of the Benefice Churches would be willing to appoint one volunteer to participate in this Local Learning Group. The time commitment would be about 1.5 hours per five weeks. If you are interested in learning more or perhaps joining, please contact me at 01935 – 863383.

Thank you, Chris

The Coker Ridge Benefice Weekly Lectionary and Suggested Hymns

| Date Liturgical Week | Day, Festival or Memorial and Colour | Morning Prayer Readings | Holy Communion Readings | Suggested Hymns for Holy Communion | Evening Prayer Readings | Weekday Service and Location |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|------------------------------------|
| Sunday 25th September Proper 21 | 15th Sunday after Trinity (Green) | Psalm 132, Isaiah 48. 12- end, Luke 11. 37-end | Amos 6. 1a. 4-7, Psalm 146, 1 Timothy 6.6-19, Luke 16. 19-end | | Psalms 134, 135, Nehemiah 2, John 8. 31-38, 48-end | |
| Monday 26th Sept | Wilson Carlile, Founder - Church Army 1942 (G) | | | | | |
| Tuesday 27th Sept | Vincent de Paul, Founder – Lazarists 1660 (G) | | | | | 5pm Evening Prayer WC |
| Wednesday 28th Sept | Feria (G) | | | | | |
| Thursday 29th Sept | Michael and All Angels (W) | | | | | 10am HC & Coffee EC |
| Friday 30th Sept | Jerome, Translator, teacher of the faith 420 (G) | | | | | |
| Saturday 1st October | Remigius, Bishop 533 (G) | | | | | |
| Date Liturgical Week | Day, Festival or Memorial and Colour | Morning Prayer Readings | Holy Communion Readings | Suggested Hymns for Holy Communion | Evening Prayer Readings | Weekday Service and Location |
| Sunday 2nd October Proper 22 | 16th Sunday after Trinity (Green) | Psalm 141, Isaiah 49. 13- 23, Luke 12. 1- 12 | Habakkuk 1. 1-4; 2. 1-4, Psalm 37. 1-9, 2 Timothy 1. 1-14, Luke 17. 5- 10. | | Psalm 142, Nehemiah 5. 1- 13, John 9. | |
| Monday 3rd October | George Bell, Bishop 1958 (G) | | | | | |
| Tuesday 4th October | Francis of Assisi 1226 | | | | | 5pm Evening Prayer WC |
| Wednesday 5th October | Feria (G) | | | | | |
| Thursday 6th October | William Tyndale, Martyr 1536 | | | | | 10am HC & Coffee EC |
| Friday 7th October | Feria (G) | | | | | |
| Saturday 8th October | Feria (G) | | | | | |

Notes:

1. Days in Red type are Feast or Festival days and should be celebrated in the benefice
2. Hymns are the Rector's suggestions and may be amended with his agreement in advance

3. The Colour is the liturgical colour of the day and all Altar Frontals, Hangings and Vestments are to be this colour
4. The Liturgical Week is the Proper week of the year outside the seasonal provision
5. Hymns I – Entry, G – Gradual, O – Offertory, C – Communion [not all churches use this], R- Recessional (Final)
6. Distribution: Churchwardens, Stephen Taylor-Davies, Rita Coward, Alison Charles, Michael Waite, Jacqueline Clough, Barbs Hampshire, others by request to rectorcokerridge@gmail.com

The Departed

Please remember in your prayers the following people who have died recently and are united with our Lord in Glory:

Martyn Davies, Alan Pike, Charles Hayman, Gwendoline Rose Ballentyne, Trevor Paine and Graham Ash

A Prayer for those who mourn:

Father, grant me gospel joy; help me to rejoice in Christ even as I grieve. Envelope me with the peace and comfort only you can provide. As the days move into months, may this burden lessen. As the months move to years, use me to encourage and bless someone else who must walk a similar path. Help me to point them to you as the God of all comfort. I know that you are always with me and that your love never ceases. Help me to find refuge in you and nowhere else. **Amen**

Please include in your Prayers Geoff Doye of East Coker who continues his road to recovery

Our church buildings are open for private prayers, and reflection. East Coker, West Coker, Pendomer, Hardington, East Chinnock and Sutton Bingham churches are open every day.



The Churches in the Coker Ridge Benefice are committed to safeguarding all people. If you have any concerns about the welfare of a child or adult at risk please speak to our Safeguarding Officer, Mick Collins 01935 863129.

Coker Ridge Benefice Church and Online Services:

| Date | Time | Parish | Service | Led By |
|-----------------------|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 25 th Sept | 08:00 | West Coker Church | BCP | CS |
| | 09:45 | Pendomer Church | FS also via Zoom | Lay |
| | 15:00 | Hardington Church | Harvest Festival | Lay |
| | 11:00 | East Coker Church | Harvest Festival | CS |
| | 11:00 | West Coker Church | MW | Lay |
| | 18:30 | Closworth Church | Evensong | CS |
| 28 th Sept | 10:30 | East Chinnock Home | Home Communion | CS |
| 29 th Sept | 10:00 | East Coker Church | HC & Coffee | CS |
| 2 nd Oct | 09:15 | East Chinnock Church | HC | CS |
| | 11:00 | Sutton Bingham Church | BCP Harvest Festival | CS |
| | 11:00 | West Coker Church | Harvest Festival* | Lay Led |
| | 11:00 | East Coker Village Hall | FS | EC Chapel |
| 6 th Oct | 10:00 | East Coker Church | HC & Coffee | CS |
| 9 th Oct | 09:15 | Closworth Church | BCP | CS |
| | 09:45 | Pendomer Church | FS – Also via Zoom | Lay Led |
| | 11:00 | East Coker Church | MP | JC |
| | 11:00 | Hardington Church | HC | CS |
| | 11:00 | West Coker Church | FS | Lay |
| | 18:00 | East Chinnock | EP | CS |
| 13 th Oct | 10:00 | East Coker Church | HC & Coffee | CS |
| 16 th Oct | 09:15 | Pendomer Church | HC also via Zoom | CS |
| | 09:45 | East Chinnock Village Hall | Café Church | Lay |
| | 11:00 | West Coker Church | HC | CS |
| | 18:00 | East Coker Church | ES | Lay |
| 20 th Oct | 10:00 | East Coker Church | HC & Coffee | CS |
| 23 rd Oct | 08:00 | West Coker Church | BCP | CS |
| | 09:45 | Pendomer Church | FS also via Zoom | Lay |
| | 10:30 | Hardington Church | FS | Lay |
| | 11:00 | East Coker Church | HC | CS |
| | 11:00 | West Coker Church | MW | Lay |
| | 18:30 | Closworth Church | Evensong | CS |
| 26 th Oct | 10:30 | East Chinnock Home | HC | CS |
| 27 th Oct | 10:00 | East Coker Church | HC & Coffee | CS |

Please continue to be Covid Cautious - take measures to help prevent the spread of infection.

Kids Corner:

Please pray for the following – The continuation of Collective Worship with the children of West Coker School throughout the coming year.

The next Collective Worship will be on Tuesday 11th October.

That God's love will shine through everything we do, and a bright and fulfilling future is taken into the hearts of children and grown ups.



Acorns

stay and play

a fun and social group for babies, toddlers
and their grown – ups!

Tuesday mornings in term time,

**Looking forward to seeing old friends and new on
Tuesday 6th Sept for the start of the Autumn Term**

9.30 – 11.15am

at

West Coker School

(parking in West Coker Church carpark)

Everyone welcome from villages around West Coker

£1 per family per session

For more details contact

01935 862568

acorns.cokerridge@gmail.com

Notices:

- **Friends of St Mary's present an evening of Organ Music** from Bach to Lennon and McCartney, played by Peter Shepherd, Assistant Organist at Paisley Abbey, **on Friday 30th September at 7.30pm at St Mary's Church, East Chinnock.** tickets £7 with £2 for drinks at the interval. Tickets available now or at the door. More information 862003 or email gilliantettmar@gmail.com
- **St Mary's East Chinnock invites you to our Cafe Church in East Chinnock Village Hall**, which takes place every third Sunday. This informal, family friendly service includes hot drinks, warm croissants, activities for children, and uplifting worship. **Our next Cafe church is on 18th September at 9.45am**
- **Harvest Services throughout the Benefice:**
 - **25th September at 15.00hrs – St Mary's, Hardington Mandeville**
 - **25th September at 11am – St Michael's, East Coker**

- *** 2nd October at 11.00hrs – St Martin of Tours, West Coker – Join us for a Harvest lunch afterwards, All are welcome.**
- **2nd October at 11.00hrs – All Saints, Sutton Bingham All are welcome**

St Mary's East Chinnock Streets Prayer Focus - In September we are praying for households in West Ways, Cod Lane, Eastfield Farm, Barrows Hill, and Broad Lane.

- **Lords Larder Yeovil** – It is now even more important we continue to support this vital initiative. This week they are in need of: Tins of Baked Beans and Sausages, Tins of Spaghetti, Tins of Meatballs, Cuppa Soup, Shower Gel. **Please note there are drop off boxes in some of our churches (Hardington and West Coker) if you are not able to go into Yeovil.**
- **St Martin of Tours Churchyard Day – Saturday 15th October 10am till 1230pm.** Volunteers needed to help get the churchyard ready for the winter – All welcome, bring your own tools. Tea, Coffee and Cake provided.
- **West Coker PCC – Quiz Night** – Friday 18th November at West Coker Commemoration Hall, doors open 1830, eyes down for 1900hrs. Light Supper and Bar available. Please book your table with Sue Bonning on 01935 862351

Ministry Team Contacts

We are all available to all and any who may need pastoral support.

Reverend Colin Simpson email- rectorcokerridge@gmail.com

Tel: 01935 862429, The Rectory, 7 Cedar Fields, West Coker, Somerset BA22 9DB

www.CokerRidge.org.uk, & [The Coker Ridge Benefice FB](#).

Office Hours Wed & Fri 10am – 1pm

Barbs Hampshire email – officecokerridge@gmail.com

Office Hours Wed & Fri 10am – 13:30pm – 01935 864574

Monica Whipp – email - m.whipp278@btinternet.com

Tel: 01935 862834