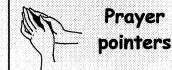


August Dairy



Perhaps you could use these in this more relaxed month (if it is) and develop your prayer life for the benefit of all God's people and his world.

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Service of the Word Service of the Word

21 Trinity 13

9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.30 a.m. Family Service
6.00 p.m. Holy Communion (Common Worship)
August 28 Trinity 14
9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
10.30 a.m. Family Communion (Common Worship)

6.00 p.m. Service of the Word

Communion Readings

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There will be no September edition of the magazine. Information for the month will be published in the notices and in a short leaflet available at the end of August. Information to Anne Roberts, please, by 21st August.

> **Prayer Pointer** for all our services in August—that those who preach and those who lead will be guided and anointed by the Holy Spirit and that we will give ourselves to God and each other as we meet

# The Rector Writes

### Spending a life

Each one of us has a life to spend. What are you going to spend it on today?

We think a lot about how we spend our money. In fact rarely does a day go by when we don't spend money on something. Even when I think I am not spending money I am. For instance when I go out walking on my day off I can think I am not spending money, but I am. What about the running costs of the car which I use to get me to the start of my walk? And I'm sure if I checked my bank account details, something I am loath to do, I would probably discover that at least one standing order payment has been made on my day off.

How we spend our money is really important, but even more important is how we spend our life. The question that should confront us each morning is, "How will I spend my life today?" It may seem an odd question – but it's a crucially important one.

You see, if we don't think in this way it can only mean one thing - we are not living our lives with any sense of purpose. But you may say, "Well that's not true, I live my life in such a way as to get by." But is that a good way for you to spend your life? Your life is more important than your money. Your life is more important than just getting by. Your life is what you love God with, and it's what you give to those around you.

Your life is so much more than your money. It's you – your heart, your mind, your soul, your gifts and your talents. So you see, there is a lot to spend on something.

I once read in a book that one of the worst things a Christian can say is "I'm killing time." The writer went on to explain that the Christian is not called upon to kill time but to redeem it, to use it usefully and carefully as a gift from God. I'm conscious that I need to spend my time more profitably — maybe not to browse the internet so much; to be careful as to how much TV I watch. Of course it's easy to think of all the things I shouldn't be doing with my time. But how about the things I should be doing - making more time to pray, reading my Bible more, pondering on my Bible study notes more carefully, encouraging fellow Christians in their walk with the Lord. And when I meet with others I need to be thinking how I might serve the person I have met through advice or encouragement or empathy, and to look also for what I can learn from them. I also think that one of my great failings is that I don't create enough space in my days just to relax and be me, with God. I somehow think that I need to be on the go all the time to justify my existence.

I'm sure that what I have written applies not just to me, but maybe to you as well. We all need to think very carefully about how we spend our lives. Each one of us needs to ask God how we can serve those around us. We all need to ensure that our lives are "well spent".

#### Turn on some power in your life

One of the most powerful ways we have in the Church of overcoming Satan is by prayer. It is high time that we as believers came to recognise that prayer, as someone once said, "is not overcoming God's reluctance, but laying hold on his greatest willingness."

It is not simply breathing out words into thin air, but implementing on earth the decisions which Christ makes in heaven. If this is indeed the truth, then prayer is the most important activity in which we as God's people can be engaged. Selwyn Hughes (Reflections)

### Ordained Local Ministry: Elizabeth Plant writes

When the Bishop of Manchester phoned me on July 1st to say that I had been selected for training for ordination, it was the end of a process which had formally begun twelve months ago when Deane PCC put my name forward for Ordained Local Ministry, but for me the process began a long time ago. Even as a child I had thought about ordination, but, forty years ago, ordination for women in the C of E was impossible. However, I did wonder if it was something God wanted me to do when I was older. So when the PCC put my name forward, it seemed that the call I had felt all those years ago was finally coming to be. Ordained Local Ministry (OLM) differs in several ways from other forms of non-stipendiary ministry. Firstly, as I have indicated, the feeling that one is called to be ordained comes not only from the person concerned, but also from the PCC. Secondly when I am ordained, I will be serving in the parish of Deane, and not in a completely different parish chosen by the diocese. Thirdly the PCC suggests a focus for OLM ministry, in my case the 9am communion service and also mission awareness.

But not all people put forward for OLM are accepted for training. I had to have six interviews in the Manchester diocese before going to a 3 day national selection conference in St Alban's. Before that there was a lot of paperwork to complete! At the selection conference all the candidates had three interviews, a written exercise and a group task to complete. Then we all had to wait over a week for the decision, which comes from the Bishop of the diocese. Training will last three years part-time. It takes place in Manchester at Church House on Monday evenings. There are four study weekends and some Saturdays. In addition there are community-based projects, church placements and about ten hours private study a week. Life will be busy, since like most OLMs I will be continuing with a day job, in my case teaching. Please do pray for me as I begin this next stage in my Christian life.

## Watch What You Eat!

A few months ago the PCC agreed that we should become a "Fairtrade" Church, but what does this mean and what is Fairtrade all about? In order to explain, I want to take you on a trip to Peru. FAIRTRADE

In a remote village in the tropical north, Rosa's home is dark. Thick mud walls do nothing to create the illusion of space. Five children live here, all dependent on Rosa's coffee bean crop to pay for their food and education. If she gets a bad price for the harvest, they have to go without. "We lack the things that we used to be able to buy, like school books for the children." says Rosa. "I don't have money for the things my family needs." Rosa doesn't have a say in the price she gets for her coffee. She says, "I feel afflicted when we receive low prices, but we don't have the power to negotiate." Current trade rules, decided by the rich nations, emphasise free trade and privatisation without counting the human cost. An issue that the Make Poverty History Campaign is seeking to change.

Let's travel now to the arid Piura region of north-west Peru. Here Manuel Castillo grows bananas - the UK's favourite fruit and the highest value grocery item in the UK, so a major source of profits for supermarkets. Manuel is a member of Valle del Chira, a co-operative of 182 small-scale banana farmers who are getting a better deal by selling their crops to the Fairtrade market. Manuel explains the difference Fairtrade has made: "With the better price, I've bought things to improve my home; a stove, bicycles for my sons and a battery powered TV. Before having a stove, we used to use kerosene and wood. My sons are able to get to our plot of land on their bicycles. We are better off now." The farmers have also used the additional premium that Fairtrade produces to improve the roads around their plots of land. Before this, when it rained they couldn't transport the bananas from their fields. With improved roads, they can.

Fairtrade makes a massive difference to farmers throughout

the developing world and by buying Fairtrade products in the supermarkets we can support farmers like Manuel. When buying these products we can know that the farmers who have grown the crops have received a fair price for them, rather than the profit being made by those in the trade chain. We can also know they have fair and safe working conditions – a privilege few in the developing world know.

Bananas and coffee are probably the best well known Fairtrade products but there are now more than 250 products in the UK with the Fairtrade mark - look out for sugar, tea, cocoa, chocolate bars, pineapple slices, apples and pears, to name a few I spotted on a recent trip to the supermarket. Yes, Fairtrade products do cost more - but that extra money is ensuring a living wage for those who produce the crops for us. We do not tolerate the exploitation of workers in our country and should not tolerate them elsewhere either.

To be a Fairtrade church we have to:

- Use Fairtrade tea and coffee for all meetings that the church is responsible for (you may not have noticed but the tea and coffee after the service is now Fairtrade)
- Move forward on using other Fairtrade products such as sugar, biscuits and fruit
- Promote fair trade both during Fairtrade Fortnight (early March each year) and through other activities whenever possible.

In order to do this we need the help of the entire congregation, for example in buying these products for the meeting you are responsible for. It would be good to set up a stall of Fairtrade products, say once a month after the service – perhaps you could do this. But above all we need you to use these products yourselves every day and by doing so you will make a tremendous difference to the lives of many of the very poor on the world.

Visit the Fairtrade website— www.fairtrade.org.uk for more information and some delicious recipes using Fairtrade products.

> Pray for justice for all food producers and that we will all play a part in gaining this for them.

### Introducing the new Archbishop of York

The Rt Revd Dr John Sentamu, currently Bishop of Birmingham, is to succeed the Rt Revd Dr David Hope as the next Archbishop of York. Here are some background notes to introduce him:

Bishop Sentamu, who is 56, was born in Uganda. He was educated in Uganda, graduating in Law from Makerere University, Kampala and is an Advocate of the High Court of Uganda. He practised Law both at the Bar and at the Bench before he came to the UK in 1974.

Here he read theology at Selwyn College Cambridge. He trained for ordination at Ridley Hall, Cambridge, then part of the Cambridge Federation of Theological Colleges. Following his ordination in 1979 he served as Assistant Chaplain at Selwyn College, Cambridge. From 1979-1982 he was Chaplain at HM Remand Centre Lachmere House. After some years a Curate and Vicar in various parishes he was appointed Bishop of Stepney in 1996 and Bishop of Birmingham in 2002.

Bishop Sentamu says: "I am looking forward to working with the Archbishop of Canterbury and other bishops to lead the Church of England in its mission to the nation. It is imperative that the Church regains her vision and confidence in mission, developing ways that will enable the Church of England to reconnect imaginatively with England.

"It is important that the Church of England's voice is heard locally, nationally and internationally, standing up for justice, bringing Good News to the poor, healing to the broken-hearted, setting at liberty those who are oppressed, and proclaiming the death of Christ and his resurrection until he comes again. What an exciting prospect."

Bishop Sentamu is married to Margaret, a Senior Selection Secretary in the Ministry Division of the Archbishops' Council, and they have two grown-up children, Grace and Geoffrey. Bishop Sentamu's interests include music, cooking, reading, athletics, rugby and football.

### SERMON NOTEBOOK - "People Like Us"

Sinful Woman: Luke 7: 36-50

#### Simon's Reaction

As a Pharisee, Simon invited Jesus to dinner in order to find out more about his guest. Although he ignored the woman, a well-known prostitute in the town, her behaviour reinforced his question regarding Jesus' identity as a prophet. He simply failed to see the way that Jesus' message of forgiveness had completely changed her life. **In what ways can we misread people's motives?** 

### The Woman's Response

It was normal for dinner guests to eat outside in a courtyard, so enabling outsiders like the woman to come and go. The way in which she anointed Jesus' feet with perfume broke with convention, especially that of men and women not touching in public. However, she was overcome with the emotion of Jesus' acceptance of her, despite her past.

# In what areas does our relationship with Jesus touch our emotions?

#### Jesus' Reassurance

Jesus' words to the woman were designed to reassure her, 'your sins continue to be forgiven'. He accepted her action as evidence of the work of healing and restoration in her life, which is the very thing that Simon missed. Jesus' story of the two debtors was intended to underline her love and devotion, 'for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little'.

How should knowing God's forgiveness change our lives?

Prayer Pointers from pages 8 and 9:

- that John Sentamu and his family will be protected by God
- that the church will be enriched by learning from his vision and wisdom
- that the C of E we will 'reconnect imaginatively with England'
- that we will let Jesus change us from the inside

### St Clare, friend of St Francis

Clare whose feast day is August 11th founded the Poor Clares. Born in 1194 at Assisi of a wealthy family, Clare grew up to hear the teaching of St Francis of Assisi, and at 18 she renounced all her possessions and joined him at the Portiuncula, where she became a nun. Soon Francis found her and her companions a small house adjacent to the church of San Damiano, Assisi, which he had so lovingly restored. And so it was that Clare became abbess in 1216 of a community of women who wished to live according to the rule and spirit of St Francis. The way of life was one of extreme poverty and austerity, but this did not seem to discourage anyone. For like the Franciscan friars, Clare's nuns soon spread to other parts of Europe, especially Spain, Bohemia, France and England, where four convents were founded in the late 13th and 14th centuries. Clare never left her convent at Assisi - she became distinguished as one of the great medieval contemplatives, devoted to serving her community in great joy, and practising Franciscan ideals, including the love of nature. Clare's life was one of extreme self-denial and constant contemplative prayer. The Poor Clares continue today in many countries as a contemplative order.

You can read about Clare and Francis in 'Living the Gospel' by Helen Julian CSF, published by brf = £5.99.

#### Jokes for Holiday time

**A Fishy line** The fishing was so bad on our holiday that even the liars didn't catch any.

**Pretty** The little girl's visiting aunt said to her: "You're pretty dirty, aren't you?"

"Yes," the little girl replied, "But I'm even prettier clean."

**Ouch** Eager little Billy was determined to try the diving board. When he jumped and landed with a whacking bellyflop, he struggled ashore to announce, "Well, I did it, but that swimming pool could sure use some water softener!"

Texts exhibition goes online The British Library has launched an online exhibi- tion of sacred texts from its collection. Expressions of Faith includes prayer books, scrolls and illuminated	Notice Board
manuscripts from Christian- ity, Judaism, Islam, Hindu- ism and other religions. Visitors to www.collectbritain.co.uk/ galleries/faith can view the zoomable images and read notes on the exhibits.	<ul> <li>Prayer Pointers from p 11</li> <li>and 12</li> <li>Pray for family life over the holiday period, that families will enjoy being together and grow in love and respect</li> </ul>
<b>Thank You</b> Deane Guides would like to thank everyone who came to their barbecue/campfire reun- ion on their 75 th birthday, and for making the night such a memorable occasion. Special thanks go to Pauline Ridyard, one of the oldest former guides of the unit, for attending and for presenting the Baden Powell Challenge Award to Bethany Dewhurst-Taylor, Shivani	<ul> <li>After the London bomb- ing, pray that there will not be any deterioration in inter-faith relations in the UK, but rather a greater effort to under- stand one another.</li> <li>for leaders for Brownies</li> <li>for Elizabeth as she sets out on OLM training</li> <li>For the Ladies' Guild, that God will renew them in his love as they meet</li> </ul>
Sodha and Rachel Fleming. Congratulations to all the girls on their achievement and to Rachael Kirkby who has also gained the award.	<b>Congratulations</b> Congratulations to Elizabeth Plant who has been accepted for training for ordination. Elizabeth writes about her call elsewhere in the magazine.
Ladies Guild August 9 th Marjorettes	(Chidren's Dance Group)
August 13 th Saturday Day T	

