

Building the Church



**Worshipping, Caring, Pioneering
'Growing God's Kingdom'**



**Sunday worship and weekly news
23 August 2020**

Welcome everyone

We welcome our visiting priest
Canon Andrew Braddock to celebrate with us today.

It is several weeks now that our new style, social distanced, public worship has been allowed. Perhaps already the initial strangeness is wearing off as the new requirements become familiar.

The idea that the man Jesus of Nazareth is also 'the Christ', the Jewish Messiah, the Son of the living God, is also familiar. So familiar that as we read and hear the gospel reading today we may forget just how mind-blowing that first recorded declaration of faith by Simon Peter was for those first disciples.



They still had a long way to go, they certainly didn't understand it all, but their journey of faith had begun. May we continue our own journey together.

Lorraine Best

To keep us all safe, we will keep doors open for ventilation.

Please:-

Use hand sanitiser
Stay 2 metres apart
Avoid touching
Sing with your heart – not your voice

The Church of England "strongly advises that face coverings should be worn by all those attending worship remembering that they are mainly intended to protect other people, not the wearer, from coronavirus COVID 19 and that they are not a replacement for physical distancing and regular hand washing."

Processional Hymn
Lift High the Cross
(Refrain)

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ
proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in unity combine.

Each new born servant of the Crucified
Bears on the brow the seal of Him who died.

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised draw the world to thee.

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory.

Prayer for Today

God of glory,
the end of our searching,
help us to lay aside
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,
and to give all that we have
to gain the pearl beyond all price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Romans 12 The New Life in Christ

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.



Prayer:

Thank you, Lord for your gifts to us all. Help each of us to play our part. Amen

Psalm 124 Thanksgiving for Israel's Deliverance

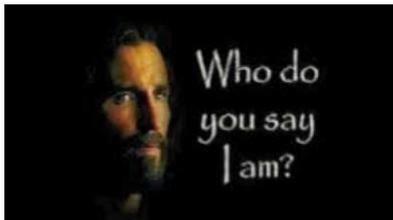
- ¹ If the Lord himself had not been on our side,
now may Israel say;
² If the Lord had not been on our side,
when enemies rose up against us;
³ Then would they have swallowed us alive
when their anger burned against us;
⁴ Then would the waters have overwhelmed us
and the torrent gone over our soul;
⁵ Over our soul would have
swept the raging waters;
⁶ But blessed be the Lord
who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
⁷ Our soul has escaped as a bird from the snare of the fowler;
the snare is broken and we are delivered.
⁸ Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who has made heaven and earth.

Prayer

*O God, maker of heaven and earth,
you save us in the water of baptism
and by the suffering of your Son you set us free;
help us to put our trust in his victory
and to know the salvation won for us
by Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen*

Matthew 16 Peter's Declaration about Jesus

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' ¹⁴ And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' ¹⁵ He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah,



the Son of the living God.' ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood

has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.' ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Prayer:

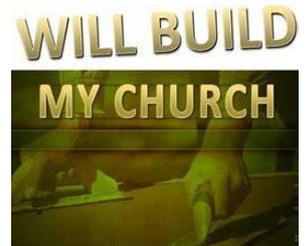
Living Lord, we thank you for revealing your true identity to Peter and to us, your church. Amen

Reflection from Canon Andrew Braddock

Building the Church

On a walk in the Cotswold's recently, I came across a length of dry stone wall being rebuilt. These walls require great skill as the builders assess the different size and shape, strengths and weaknesses, of the stones they have, placing them together so that the wall itself is strong.

In today's gospel reading we hear Jesus's bold promise that Peter is 'the rock' on which the church will be built. From what we see of Peter in the New Testament, we know this is a rock that could be quite unstable. Peter is so full of enthusiasm, yet so often full of hesitations and doubts too. In the storm on the Sea of Galilee he asks to walk towards Jesus, but then begins to sink as he sees the scale of the waves. On the night of Jesus' arrest he promises never to leave him, and then denies him three times. Peter may be the rock, but it's a rock that – left to itself - wobbles.



That's why the words that really matter in today's Gospel, are Jesus' promise: 'I will build my church'. Peter, with all his faults, is called to be the foundation, but the strength of the church rests in the skill of Jesus the master builder to take us and shape us to his purposes. Like a Cotswold wall, our different shapes, our strengths and weaknesses, can be blended together by God to make something stronger than the separate parts.

Paul talks of this in the letter to the Romans. He emphasises that God gives us different gifts. We need to give and receive from each other if the church is to be strong. God takes both our strengths and weaknesses, blending them together to form a life-giving community of faith.

We declare together our commitment to faith:

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.
We affirm: Jesus is Lord of our lives.**

Intercessions from Linda Medwell

Loving Lord we share with you our loving concern for our communities and churches We pray for our continued cooperation with English Martyrs, Grange Baptist and Saint Barnabas. We remember



today our young people who received their exam results some rejoicing, some disappointed. May they continue to feel valued and go on to fulfil their true potential. Surround them with such love that they may know that they are precious to you and make us willing to be part of your answer to our prayers for them.

Lord when we switch on our televisions and radios there is almost a temptation to switch off immediately. Lord help us to stay with it as we pray for our damaged and broken world.

Lord we ask that you might purify the minds of those involved in bringing violence and terrorism to the world that all may know Christ's peace without which society loses hope and direction.

Lord hear our prayer for all who need your healing touch. Be close to the lonely despairing and desperate we thank you for those who care with such thoughtfulness and practical help for all who are ill and in need at this time.

Lord we pray for the recently departed and those anniversaries fall at this time. Be with all who mourn. May they find comfort in your presence as we know you will be with them in their darkest hours. Let us take a moment of silence to remember all those that we have known and loved and those known only to you.

Lord as we go out into the world we pray that we may reflect your love in our families, our church and our community; so that the world can witness that we are followers of Christ and draw others into his loving care. Amen.

Offertory Hymn

Firmly I believe and truly

Firmly I believe and truly
God is Three and God is One;
And I next acknowledge duly
Manhood taken by the Son.

And I trust and hope most fully
In that Manhood crucified;
And each thought and deed unruly
Do to death, as He has died.

Simply to his grace and wholly
Light and life and strength belong;
And I love supremely, solely,
Him the holy, Him the strong.

Adoration ay be given,
With and through the angelic host,
To the God of earth and heaven.
Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

Preparing to receive Holy Communion

After the priest says to us all: "the body and blood of Christ keep you in eternal life", we all respond Amen
A steward will guide you forward.
We each receive a wafer; the priest alone receives the wine on behalf of us all.
We receive communion with arms outstretched, and in silence.
Please maintain a 2 metre distance at all times.

Final Hymn

Take my life and let it be

Consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,

Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for thee,

Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from thee,

Take my will and make it Thine;
It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne,

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee,



Please leave the building immediately after the priest and catch up outside.

This week's News

Next week we welcome Archdeacon Hilary Dawson as our visiting celebrant.

If you missed the retirement presentation from St George's and St Margaret's to **Bruce & Rosie Clifford** and wish to borrow the DVD of the event please give your name to **Hans** or **any church warden**. Once viewed please return the DVD quickly.

In memoriam:
Philip Brown, Ruby Lodge, Marjorie Griffiths RIP

We pray for all who are ill or in need at this time mentioning by name:

Laura, Dot, Laura and Mike, Lynne, Ann and Steve, Mike, Julia, Sarah, Christine, Susan, Susan and Sophie, Angela, Georgina, Margaret, Baby Obi Brammer (cochlear implant being switched on the 27th of August)

Anniversaries of death:

Violet Meadows, Paul Chaffe, Dennis Evans, Ronald Peart, Gertrude Howell, Laura Martin, Gladys Hail, David Bradford, Chris Neale, Anne Waite, Fred Pears, Alan Deeley, Vera Taylor, Audrey Moore, Terry Wootton.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Rose Hail 24th, Mike Brammer, 25th, Bruce & Gloria Wiggall celebrate their Diamond wedding anniversary on 3rd.

DIARY DATES – August 23 – 30

Sun 23	9.00am	*	Parish Communion
	10.30am		Parish Communion
Mon 24			Crossroads printing
	1.00pm	MH	Bluebird Care
Tue 25	7.30pm	online	Bible Course
Wed 26	8.15am	zoom	Morning Prayer
	3.30pm	MH	Slimming World and at 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Thu 27	10.30am	*	Parish Communion
Fri 28	2.30pm	zoom	Quiet Prayer Group
Sun 30			White Box day
	9.00am	*	Parish Communion
	10.30am		Parish Communion
	4.00pm	MH	Private Let
		* =	St Margaret's

Announcement of **Banns of Marriage – 1st calling** at St George's of: -
Robert Samuel Share & Deborah Elizabeth Redfern.

2020 ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS

The much delayed APCMs of St George's and St Margaret's will take place on Sunday 4 October. St George's will follow the 10.30am service and St Margaret's will follow the 5.00pm Evensong. Anyone whose name does not appear on the Electoral Rolls will not be eligible to vote or be elected to the PCC. The current Electoral Rolls will be displayed on notice boards shortly.

This is the time we elect our Parish Church Councils and our Churchwardens. Please consider people you may like to nominate for the privilege and responsibility

of sharing the leadership of our churches in this way. Also consider humbly and honestly whether you yourself might be willing to serve your church too!

Nomination forms will be pinned to the porch noticeboards in both churches soon so watch out for them and make your nominations as soon as you are able.

WHAT TO DO for THIS WEEK:

❖ Keep bringing items for the **Foodbank**; **new collection point is the Church Centre hallway Toiletries now accepted at the foodbank.**

Thank you!

❖ Borrow a good book (some are new) from Sarah's church library.

❖ Need any cooking apples? Help yourself from a basket of apples behind the St George's.

Know someone who:

❖ is stuck at home without support?

❖ can't make ends meet?

❖ Just wants to talk?

Then **Contact Gloucestershire Community Help Hub on 01452 583519**

Keep picking up the phone!

People are finding phone calls with friends invaluable to combat loneliness. Thank you everyone; please keep up the good work!



CONTACTING US:

Vicar: Vacancy (please pray for new appointment)

Reader:

Jonathan MacKechnie-Jarvis 01452 502174

Pioneer: Helen McGeoch 07729 615993

Email: tuffleypioneer@gmail.com

Website: www.glos-stg-stm.org.uk

Facebook: St. George's, Tuffley and St Margaret's Whaddon

Administrator: Glenda Stevens 01452 307456

Email: stgeorgeschurch1@gmail.com

The Administration office is open on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9.00am until midday until further notice. Please contact the Church Administrator by email or leave a message on the office telephone and our Administrator will get back to you.

We are part of the **Church in Tuffley**, working in partnership with English Martyrs (Roman Catholic), Grange (Baptist) and St Barnabas (Anglican).



THE CHURCH IN TUFFLEY