

THE PEW NEWS

Sunday 11th October 2020

18th Sunday after Trinity

Dear friends,

We experience "happiness" when we feel content, when life seems to be working out for us- the job is going well, there's enough cash in the account, everyone is healthy. But, of course life doesn't always work out that way. From time to time every single one of us has personal problems, relationship problems, financial issues, health issues. On top of that we live in a world that is often very scary and quite chaotic at times.

If you look at the biblical texts in both the Hebrew Scriptures as well as the New Testament, you almost never see the word "happy;" but the word "joy" is used consistently. In fact, Saint Paul tells one of his congregations:

Rejoice in the Lord always, I say it again, rejoice!

Paul is not writing when everything is all good. He isn't writing after he has had a mountain top experience, but rather when his life is full of challenges. However, despite the hardships, he says, "Rejoice in the Lord always!"

Some may think that the opposite of joy is "sadness," but the fact is that opposite of joy is "fear." As I see it, there are plenty of times when I might not feel happy, plenty of reasons not to have a big smile, but I honestly believe that we can indeed always be joyful because the bottom line is that we do not need to be afraid of anything in life, come what may. In fact, we don't even have to be afraid of death.

It is very easy for us to feel anxious and although we know that there is no guarantee in this world against suffering we do know that God is ultimately in control and will always hear our prayers on any topic. We can have joy because "The Lord is at hand." He is near to help us, to give us patience, wisdom, strength, and grace. Since our God is close at hand, we do not have to be anxious about anything, "but in prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God." We can bring our requests, both big and small, to Him, since He is our Father through faith in Jesus. We don't have to be anxious because we can leave all matters to God's fatherly direction and care.

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;
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.

New Testament Reading

Philippians 4.1–9

⁴ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Matthew 22.1–14

22 Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ² “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, “Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.” ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.” ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ ‘But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?” And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.’

Services This Week

Sunday 11th October Trinity 18

Philippians 4. 1-9/Matthew 22.1-14

9am Holy Communion - Goathill

10.30am Holy Communion - Milborne Port

6pm Evensong and AGM - Charlton Horethorne

Services next week...

Sunday 18th October Luke/Trinity 19

Acts 16.6-12/Luke 10.1-9

10.30am Family communion - Milborne Port

6pm Holy Communion - Charlton Horethorne

Charlton Horethorne APCM

The APCM postponed from April will be held in church on this Sunday 11th October after a shortened Evensong at 6pm. We will review 2019 and present the accounts and elect our PCC. If you are on Charlton Horethorne's church electoral roll you are entitled to vote.

Apologies to Charlie or Sarah please.

Should current restriction tighten we will hold the APCM online.

Church News

Goathill Virtual Duck Race!

A big thank you to those who bought a duck and to Steve and Fiona at the Gainsborough who allowed us to premiere the race at the Gainsborough after a big breakfast. After donations we made around £465 which will pay for the architect's report.

Here are the winners and prizes:

Vicars Race 38 **John Gray** - £20

Gainsborough Race 45 **Paul and Sue** - Voucher for the carvery

Clockspire Race 2 **Jacky Clegg** - Champagne

Waynes Race 12 **Jacquie Hall** - meat voucher

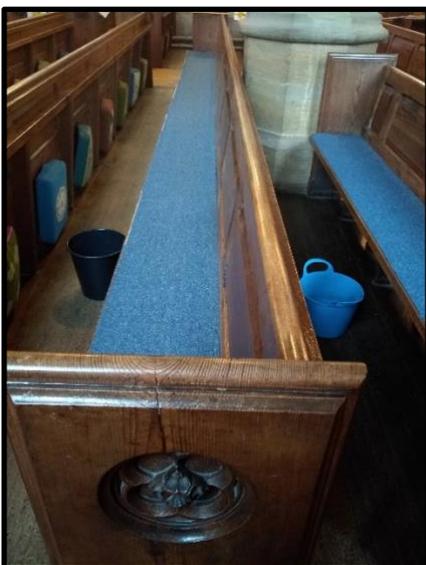
Co-op Race 19 **Harold Clarke**- Co-op products

Pcc race 23 **Rachel Rich**-Champagne

We have now held all our harvest services across the benefice, and they all had a very different feel. A huge thank you to everyone who took part.

Thank you to the ladies who decorated Milborne Port with so many beautiful flowers and the choir singing a harvest hymn. Thank you for the readers in various places. Thank for Stowell who raised over £50 for the food bank with their auction of produce. And thank you to the 11 hardy souls at Milborne Wick who held their service outside in the pouring rain.

A big thank you to Tone Higgins, Harold Clarke and Mark Pattimore for planting daffodil and crocus bulbs in Goathill churchyard. We are looking forward to seeing them come up in the spring the Spring.



Apologies for the buckets in Milborne Port church.

Please be careful where you sit, or you will have to use an umbrella in church. It is hard to pinpoint where the water is finding its way into church.

We will have a major fund-raising campaign this November to fix the roof.