

## Thought for the Week

Jesus preached to so many people because he was driven by deep seated pity and concern. He was heartbroken that the crowds were so far from God. Our passage shows us that he expected his disciples, both past and present, to share his compassion and continue his mission. Even Simeon Stylites understood this and spent some time passing on the message of God's love, even allowing people to come up and talk to him via a ladder.

If we are honest keeping ourselves to ourselves can seem the safer option. Living in a world that is often hostile to the Christian faith, where temptations abound, we can perhaps understand why the Pharisees also felt such fear. Jesus however does not seem to have worried that his disciples might fall away as a result of mixing with people who lived at a distance from God. Even though they were only young in faith, he sent his small and inexperienced group of disciples out into the unbelieving towns and villages around, confident that they would have more impact on the world than the world would have on them. There would be opposition and even persecution, as the later part of our reading reflects. However, Jesus knew that there was a vast harvest out there and his disciples would powerfully affect, influence and change many of those they went to with the Gospel message. As Jesus teaches elsewhere, the kingdom of God is like yeast that is mixed in to the dough. Even a tiny measure of yeast spreads rapidly through all the dough and completely transforms it.

So when we are daunted by the task of continuing Christ's mission and reaching out, let us be encouraged by Jesus' optimistic belief in the transforming power of the Gospel and God's ability to work through and protect us, as we reach out with the Good News.

## For Your Diaries

Two concerts in July in St Michael's

15<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm

**The Per Piacere Chamber Orchestra**

22<sup>nd</sup> July at 7.30 pm

**The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra  
Inspiration Choir**

## Intercessions

**In the name of Jesus we pray for healing for those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, and for those who care for them**

Karen, Sara Hall, Laurie, Joan Pritchard, Kevin, Lucy, Jenny, Becky and Jean, Caroline Gailor, Betty Tripp, Mike Naylor, Derek White, Tracy Nicholls, Alice Pink, Barbara Mills, Karen, Gordon, Barbara Shearman, Ivy Webb, Loretta, Paul Hanscombe, Stan and Gill Gibbons, Jill, Don and Carol Knott, Bill Spiller, Crawford, and Zara Toop.

**We remember those who have died recently, and pray for their families and friends especially**

Jon Stanwyck, Margot McClure, Tony Whillis and Colin Pontin.

## The Week Ahead

<b>Mon 19</b>	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Band Practice St M</b>
	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>PCC Merton Cottage CC</b>
	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Deanery Synod Sway</b>
<b>Tues 20</b>	<b>7.15 pm</b>	<b>Home Group Whinwood</b>
	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Rock Choir rehearsal</b>
<b>Weds 21</b>	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion and coffee in Nondescripts</b>
	<b>11.00 am</b>	<b>Bellringing AS</b>
<b>Thurs 22</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Homegroup AS</b>
	<b>7.30 pm</b>	<b>Bellringing St M and AS</b>
<b>Fri 23</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Visiting Bellringers St M</b>
	<b>3.00 pm</b>	<b>Kneeler Group AS</b>
<b>Sat 24</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>Visiting Bellringers AS</b>
	<b>Noon</b>	<b>St Albans Chamber Choir AS</b>

## Next Sunday Trinity 2

25<sup>th</sup> June

10.30 am	Holy Communion (reserved sacrament) CC
10.30 am	Coffee then Altogether Worship St M
10.30 am	Service of the Word AS

**Genesis 21. 9-21**

GNB OT 20

**Romans 6. 1-14**

GNB NT 185

**Matthew 10. 16-33**

GNB NT 14

# All Saints Saturday 24th June

St Albans Chamber Choir at noon. Conducted by John Gibbons, the choir will be singing for pleasure Everyone welcome, very informal! Retiring collection will be in aid of the All Saints' Tower Fund.

<http://stalbanschamberchoir.org.uk/>

## July

### 2<sup>nd</sup> July Trinity 3

9.30 am Morning Worship and Christening AS  
10.30 am Morning Prayer CC  
11.00 am Holy Communion, Young Church and coffee St M

### 9<sup>th</sup> July Trinity 4

9.30 am Holy Communion CC  
10.30 am Coffee then Morning Worship and Christening St M  
4.15 pm Discussion Group and Tea AS  
6.00 pm Evensong AS

### 16<sup>th</sup> July Trinity 5

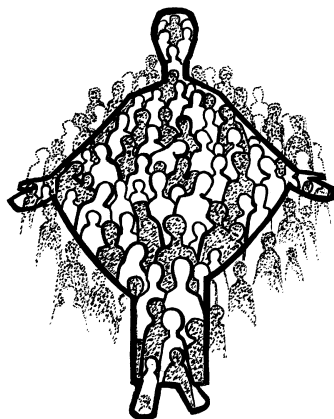
9.30 am Holy Communion AS  
11.00 am Holy Communion, Young Church and coffee St M  
6.00 pm Sunday at Six CC

### 23<sup>rd</sup> July Trinity 6

10.30 am Holy Communion (reserved sacrament) CC  
10.30 am Coffee then Altogether Worship St M  
10.30 am Service of the Word AS

### 30<sup>th</sup> July Trinity 7

10.30 am Café Church St M  
10.30 am Service of the Worship and Music  
10.30 am Morning Worship CC



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND in  
LYNDHURST & EMERY DOWN & MINSTEAD  
Trusting Christ  
Transforming Church Transforming Community

Trinity 1 18<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Welcome to our gathering today!  
If you wish to know more about the activities of our churches, please talk to one of the welcomers, call the Benefice Office (8028 2154 / 3175) email us [benefice@newforestparishes.com](mailto:benefice@newforestparishes.com) or look us up on Facebook, or the website ([www.newforestparishes.com](http://www.newforestparishes.com)).

9.30 am Holy Communion AS  
11.00 am Holy Communion, Young Church and coffee St M  
6.00 pm Sunday at Six CC

## Collect

**O God, the strength of all those  
who put their trust in you,  
mercifully accept our prayers and,  
because through the weakness  
of our mortal nature we can do  
no good thing without you,  
grant us the help of your grace,  
that in the keeping of your commandments  
we may please you both in will and deed;  
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. Amen**

## Today's Readings

**Genesis 18. 1-15** GNB OT 17  
Abraham and Sarah lavishly entertain the Lord, in the guise of three strangers who visit them by the oaks of Mamre. In return the Lord promises them a son, despite their advancing years.

**Romans 5. 1-11** GNB NT 184  
Paul has been explaining that it is faith, rather than good works, that makes people right with God, and now goes on to develop this thought further.

**Matthew 9. 35-10. 15** GNB NT 13  
Despite facing increasing criticism from the Pharisees, who have questioned his deliverance ministry and disapprove of him mixing with sinners, Jesus continues to reach out to people