

Thought for the Week

Many of us have wished we could have met Jesus and spent some quality time with him, listening to his words and asking questions. Sometimes it feels as if we have missed out compared with those who were lucky enough to have lived alongside our Lord. Yet today's passage points out that far from lamenting our situation, we can rejoice, for what is available to us is infinitely better – we have Christ's Spirit living within us, helping us to understand Jesus and giving us the strength to follow him.

The transformation of the disciples gives us all hope. They went from a timid group who struggled to understand Jesus' message and hid away in fear, to leaders boldly preaching to thousands. Pentecost reminds us that there is a supernatural aspect to our faith, and this is not something to be feared but something to rejoice in, for the Spirit enables us all to be used by God regardless of our circumstances, weaknesses and struggles. Whenever we feel we are ineffective witnesses for Christ, let us not despair, but ask the Holy Spirit to come alongside us and empower us.

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

Stuart Forman, Ray, Kevin, Mason,
Archie Webster, Elaine Harrod, Jennifer Lane,
Liz Galton, Berna, Daphne Carty, Snowy,
Joy from Hillrise,
Joan Pritchard, Beth Hirst, Mark,
Lorna Sturney, Becky, Joyce Upward,
Strat Liddiard, Karen, Lucy, Jenny,
Betty Tripp, Derek White, Tracy Nicholls,
Alice Pink, Barbara Shearman, Loretta,
Paul Hanscombe, Stanley and Gill Gibbons,
Crawford, Ralph and Zara Toop, Zac, The
Lenaerts family, Jasmine, Michael, Alison, Carol
and Don Knott.

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

Ivy Webb, Maureen Oldham.

Praying as a Benefice

Please use the following text and prayer in quiet time; the text is from this Sunday's readings and the prayer is from Bishop Jonathan. Please pray either at noon or 5.55 pm (or both) every day.

This week's Bible Text

Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. (Acts 2: 3-4)

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. (John 16: 13-14)

The Prayer

Glorious God,
You have taken hold of us and made us Your own. In the power of Your Spirit give us grace to press on in Your purposes, loving one another, learning together and living the mission of Him who calls us onwards, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Week Ahead

Tues 22	7.15 pm	Homegroup David and Peggy 8028 3154
	7.30 pm	Rock Choir St M
Weds 23	10.30 am	Holy Communion and coffee in Nondescripts
	11.00 am	Bellringing AS
Thurs 24	7.30 pm	Homegroup AS
	7.30 pm	Bellringing St M and AS
Fri 25	3.00 pm	Kneeler Group AS
Sat 26	10.30 am	Jumble Sale St M
	3.00 pm	Burial of ashes of John Allsop AS

Next Sunday 27th May 2018

Trinity

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

Isaiah 6. 1-8

Romans 8. 12-17

John 3. 1-17

GNB OT 661

GNB NT 187

GNB NT 115

Notices

8th Annual Plant and Cake Sale at Dunelm

Please accept a huge vote of thanks for the generous support you gave to the Plant Sale last Saturday. So many of you baked cakes, grew plants and donated items of bric-à-brac or bottles for the tombola stall. We can only apologise for the traffic problems on the day, the queues at the gate and at the refreshment table, but not for the chat and laughter that was heard at the event. All proceeds are to go to CAFOD's work in Ethiopia and the current total is in excess of £3,600 which is another record for the event. Plans are already afoot for the ninth sale which will be next May. With our good wishes and grateful thanks. Henry and Nuala Rosenvinge.

Garden Party for Christian Aid

The Bee Garden Bank on Saturday 2nd June at 2.30 pm No tickets. Donations on the day please. Prizes for Raffle and Cakes for Stall would be most welcome. Look forward to seeing you. Telephone 8028 2378.

Jumble Sale

Saturday 26th May 10.30 am St Michael's

Benefice Office Hours

Monday 10 am-2 pm Wednesday 10 am-3.30 pm
Thursday 1.30 pm-3.30 pm and
Friday 10 am-2pm
And if we are not in please leave a message and we will get back to you. 8028 3175

June

3rd June

9.30 am Holy Communion AS
10.30 am Holy Communion for Dedication Festival CC
11.00 am Holy Communion and coffee St M

10th June

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

17th June

9.30 am Holy Communion AS
11.00 am Holy Communion and coffee St M
6.00 pm Sunday at Six - Animal Blessing with the Reverend Peter Murphy CC

24th June

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

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

20th May 2018

Pentecost

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 3175) email us benefice@newforestparishes.com or look us up on Facebook, or the website (www.newforestparishes.com).

Today's Services

9.30 am Holy Communion AS
10.30 am Holy Communion CC
11.00 am Holy Communion and coffee St M
3.00 pm Churches Together Unity Service and Picnic St M

Collect

**God, who as at this time
taught the hearts of your
faithful people by sending to them
the light of your Holy Spirit:
grant us by the same Spirit
to have a right judgement
in all things and evermore
to rejoice in his holy comfort;
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen**

Today's Readings

Acts 2.1-21 **GNB NT 143**
The disciples receive the Holy Spirit as was foretold by the prophets and promised by Jesus.

Romans 8.22-27 **GNB NT 188**
Paul says that the whole created order longs for Christ's return when death, decay and suffering will end. He encourages Christians to await this with confidence.

John 15. 26-27 **GNB NT 134**
As his death draws near, Christ reassures his disciples that they will not be left alone but will know the help of the Holy Spirit.