

RETHINK LAUNCH DAY

Saturday, 6th October, 9 am-12.30 pm
Colston Hall, Gerrards Cross

Join us for an inspiring morning to launch our Rethink Week from 21-25 November. Becky Pippert will speak about "How can we reach our friends and colleagues for Jesus." Sign up on the list at the back of church or at www.eventbrite.co.uk (search 'Rethink')

"Exploring Worship": A three-part interactive course for everyone

STARTS Thursday 27th Sep, 8-9.30pm

This course is for everyone who wants to understand, explore and help to develop our worship. In the three sessions we will explore what it means to be a *worshipper*, the relationship between worship and mission, and how we can continue to develop our worship here in Denham. *The course continues on the 4th and 11th October. Participants are also invited to join the choir rehearsal from 7pm. To sign up, please contact our church office or put your name down on the list at the back of church.*

Decorating Church for Harvest.

We will be decorating the church on Friday 5th October from 10am for Harvest service. Please contact Carole Wadlow on 01753 887672 if you are able to spare some time and help with the decorating.

WEEKLY DIARY

Monday 24th September

10.00am Lifegroup for Women.
The Rectory
8.00pm Lifegroup. *The Rectory*

Wednesday 26th September

10.00am Little Lions Toddler Group.
St Mark's

Thursday 27th September

10.00am Holy Communion. BCP.
St Mary's Vestry
8.00pm "Exploring Worship"
The Vestry

HARVEST THANKSGIVING:

Sun 7th October

10.30 am:
Family Service for all ages
3.30 pm:
Special Café Church with Harvest Tea
(replacing the Harvest Supper this year).

A Service of Thanksgiving for Julie Jones will be held at St Mary's Church on Friday, 28th September, 1.30pm. All church family members are invited to attend.

Please continue to pray for our part-time associate ministers, who will be joining us in January. *Ian Jennings* is a retired minister, living in Sheffield. *Nnamdi Maduka* is a self-supporting minister in Northolt. They will introduce themselves in the November edition of *Denham Parish News*.

Remembrance 100. Please pick up a daily prayer guide for this week from the back of church or download it at www.remembrance100.co.uk/100-days/



PAROUSIA

Weekly News Sheet

23rd September 2018

17th Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to church! If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello to the service leader or a member of the welcome team so we can welcome you personally. During the 10.30 service there is Sunday club for children. If your child is under three or if you would like to help him/her settle, you are welcome to join in.
Christoph Lindner, Rector

RETHINKING GOD AND FAITH

In 1983 Russian novelist Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn explained the ruinous and violent history of the Soviet Union with these words: "Men have forgotten God." He also offered this short sentence as a summary of the entire 20th century.

We have all seen massive changes during the course of our lives. Multiculturalism and the rise of a 'new atheism' are two of them. Recent polls show that less people than ever consider themselves to be "Church of England."

But there is another, more hopeful, statistic: The *Pew Research Center* has found that the biggest group in our country is not people without faith or religion. It is the non-practising Christians by a wide margin:

Church-attending Christians: 18 %	Non-practising Christians: 55 %
Religiously unaffiliated: 23 %	Other religions: 4 %

How will we help those 55 % to reconnect with their Christian roots and values, so that they – in turn – hand on their faith to children and grandchildren? Because the most concerning statistic is how number of Christians is dropping off among young adults today.

In November churches in our area will be hosting a series of events under the banner "Rethink – helping believers think and thinkers believe". We are planning a range of exciting events here in Denham, addressing the big questions we all have about God, life and faith. Please join us for the launch of "Rethink" on Saturday 6th October (find out more on the back page).

Also in October (14th, 21st, 28th), at our 10.30 am service, we will be asking: *What is so good about the Christian Good News and how can share it?* Because the first step in connecting with those who have given up on church is being confident of why we believe in Jesus. Our generation has a unique opportunity to do this. Let's not waste it!

Christoph Lindner, Rector

Worship today



23rd September 17th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion *St Mary's*

Sidesman: Carlene Litchmore

Reader: Philip Constable

Readings: Ephes. 4. 1-6
Luke 14.1-11

9.55-10.00 Pre-service Prayer

St Mary's, front of church

10.30am Sung Communion

St Mary's with Sunday club for children

Sidesmen: Anne Thomas & John Breese

Readings and readers:

James 3. 13-4.3,7-8a Beverley Gray

Mark 9. 30-37 Anne Thomas

Prayers: Michael Carmody

Servers: David & Judith Babb

Sunday Club Leader: Edda Lindner

Collect

Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

James 3. 13-4.3,7-8a

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

4 Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Mark 9. 30-37

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁰ They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, 'The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.' ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³ Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the way?' ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Worship next week



30th September 18th Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion *St Mary's*

Sidesman: Philip Constable

Reader: Alison Barrett

Readings: 1 Cor 1. 4-8
Matt. 22. 34-end

9.55-10.00 Pre-service Prayer

St Mary's, front of church

10.30am Morning Worship

St Mary's with Sunday club for children

Sidesmen: Sharon Williams & Victoria Lucas

Readings and readers:

James 5. 13-end Pam Montgomery

Mark 9. 38-end Caroline Ashcroft

Prayers: Carole Wadlow

Sunday Club Leader: Sonja Clements

In your prayers this week, please remember **Thelma Mann, Vi Slade and Christine Willson.**

Also anyone known to us who is sick or suffering the pain of bereavement at this time especially the families of **Julie Jones, Alfred Pruden & Michael Bonnici.**

