



PAROUSIA

Weekly News and Service Sheet

27th June 2021

4th Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to St Mary's Church! We are so glad you are here. Today's service is a Holy Communion Service. Due to current restrictions it will be in one kind (bread) only. Please familiarise yourself with the detailed information in this booklet.

Christoph Lindner, Rector

A First Look at the Results of Our Church Survey

Thank you to all 110 people who completed our survey. Here are some of the headlines.

Flexibility is the biggest advantage of online services.

80% say they like the fact that they can take part wherever they are. Many of you also appreciate that there is no journey or parking and that you can watch the service later. A fair number of people are joining us online on Sundays who do not live locally.

Many of you have missed being in the same place and singing together.

86% of those who have been part of our online services have missed being together in one place, closely followed by the 80% who would like to sing together again. Many Christians in the UK are lobbying our government to change this regulation as soon as possible. Singing is also the single-most requested aspect of our services that will persuade people to come back to an onsite service (70% agree or strongly agree).

Bible Book Clubs have been appreciated by many.

Nearly 42% have appreciated being part of one of our Bible Book Clubs, which we only at the beginning of the pandemic

Only 12% feel that online services should *not* continue.

This is a clear confirmation of our plan to continue to offer online and onsite services. We are still working out the details and will experiment with different models over the next months. Nearly three-quarters of you say that you will continue to take part in online services.

Many of you are up for trying different kinds of service.

54% like the idea of an outdoor service and nearly 53% would welcome all-age services. We are planning a couple of "Worship in the Woods" services for the summer.

Nearly half of you feel more connected with our church than before the pandemic.

(46% more, 37% about the same, 14% less). We are very much aware that these 14% represent a fair number of people (and others who are less connected will not have completed the survey). Now is a time to reconnect, have cups of tea together and support one another as we recover from the pandemic. We look forward to the day when we can have more people at our St Mary's service. We have started other services again, such as the Holy Communion at Denham Garden Village and our monthly service at White Plains.

Three-quarters feel that the Covid crisis has affected their faith positively.

We thank God for this but are not at all dismissing the 9% whose faith has been affected negatively. Please reach out to a Christian friend and don't struggle alone.

STAY SAFE • STAY CONNECTED • STAY HOPEFUL

WELCOME

Psalm 126

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them." The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses in the Negeb. May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

HYMN

Christ be in my waking,
As the sun is rising
In my day of working,
With me ev'ry hour
Christ be in my resting,
As the day is ending
Calming and refreshing,
watching through the night.

Christ be in my thinking,
and my understanding
Guarding me from evil,
walking in the light
Christ be in my speaking,
every word a blessing
Pure and not deceiving,
grace to all who hear.

*Jesus this is my devotion
All my life to know You
Every day to walk with You
Saviour You're my deepest longing
You're the One I live for
Teach me Lord to walk with You*

Christ be in my gladness,
for the joy of living
Thankful for the goodness,
of the Father's hand
Christ be in my sorrow,
in my day of darkness
Knowing that I follow,
in the steps He trod

Christ when hope has faded,
nothing left to cling to
Every pleasure jaded,
every well is dry
Christ the loving Shepherd,
draws me with His kindness
Leads me from the desert,
to the streams of life

SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.
Amen. Lord, have mercy.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in thought and word and deed; through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen..

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT

Gracious Father, by the obedience of Jesus you brought salvation to our wayward world: draw us into harmony with your will, that we may find all things restored in him, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST READING: 1 Peter 4. 12-19

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice in so far as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, a criminal, or even as a mischief-maker. Yet if any of you suffers as a Christian, do not consider it a disgrace, but glorify God because you bear this name. For the time has come for judgement to begin with the household of God; if it begins with us, what will be the end for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And 'If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinners?' Therefore, let those suffering in accordance with God's will entrust themselves to a faithful Creator, while continuing to do good.

GOSPEL READING: Matt. 5. 1-2, 10

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

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

THE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord,
Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came
down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand
of the Father.**

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS

Merciful Father,
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word; through him you have created all things from the beginning, and formed us in your own image. Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin, giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross; you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit, and made us a people for your own possession.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many,
we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

At present we receive Holy Communion in one kind (bread) only.

We have devised a one-way system for receiving the bread and then returning to your place through the empty first pew. Please refer to the diagram on page 7 for details and familiarise yourself with your pew number. We are inviting people to come forward by pew number starting with pew No. 1.

Please follow the directions of our sidesteam and keep a distance of two meters to the person in front of you. If you'd like to receive a blessing, please keep your hands at your sides as you come forward. Please walk back to your pew after you receive the wafer and consume it there.

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

HYMN

What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
ev'rything to him in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged:
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful,
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus know our ev'ry weakness
Take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Jesus only is our refuge,

Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.

THE BLESSING

Christ, who has nourished us with
himself the living bread, make you one
in praise and love, and raise you up at
the last day; and the blessing of God
almighty, the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit, be among us and remain
with us always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen

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**Blessed are the poor in
spirit, for theirs is the
kingdom of heaven.**

**Blessed are those
who mourn, for
they will be
comforted.**

**Blessed are
the meek, for
they will inherit
the earth.**

**Blessed are those who
hunger and thirst for
righteousness, for they will
be filled.**

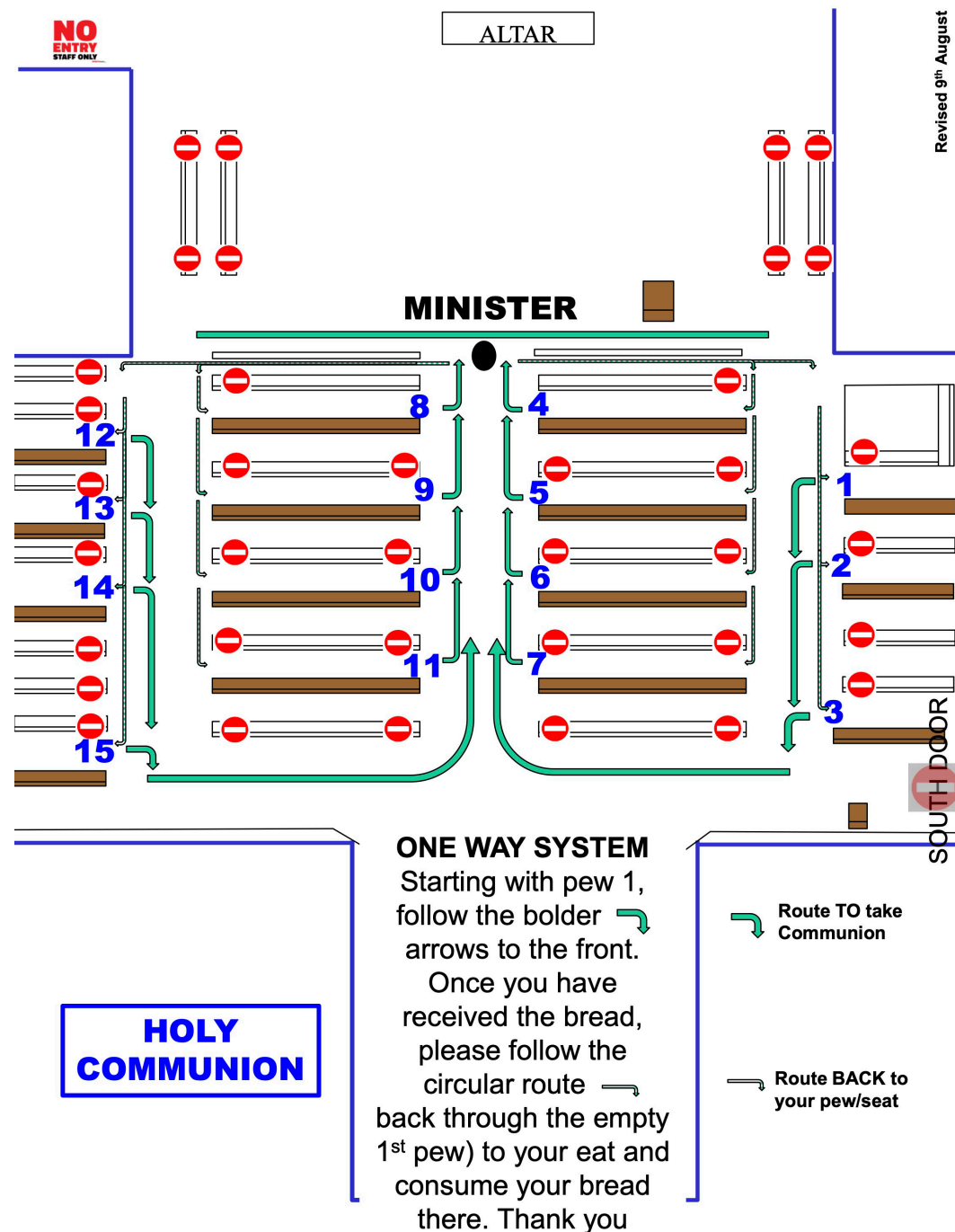
Blessed are the merciful, for

they will receive mercy.

**Blessed are the
pure in heart,
for they will
see God.**

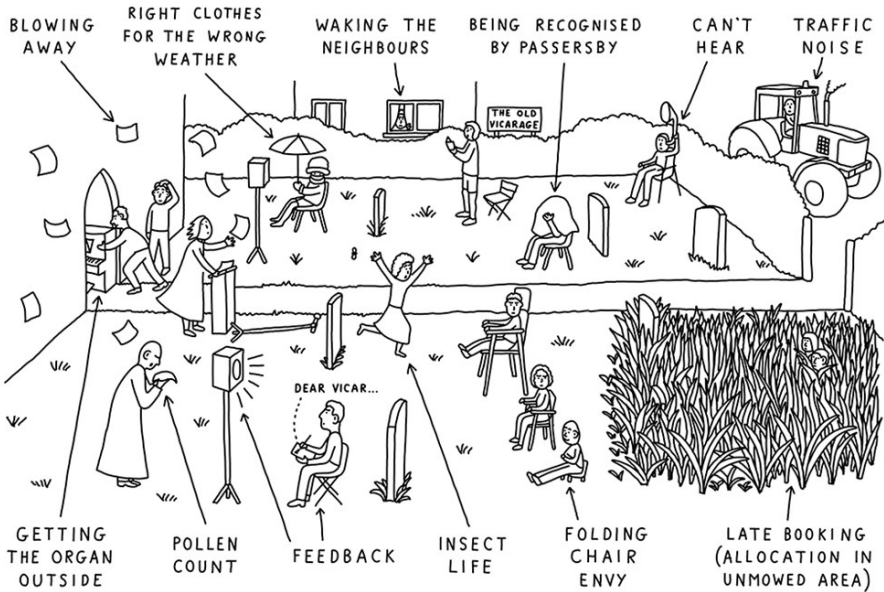
**Blessed are
the
peacemakers,
for they will be
called children of
God.**

**Blessed are those who are
persecuted for
righteousness' sake, for**



THE OUTDOOR SERVICE

VARIOUS PERILS



Cartoon by Dave Walker

SUNDAY WORSHIP

St Mary's Church: 9.30am

Onsite Sunday morning worship.

Please register in advance by calling our church office or going to denhamparish.church/events

Online: Sundays 10.30am

Stream any time afterwards:

tinyurl.com/youtube-denham



Church Coffee Online at 11.15am:

Sundays on Youtube/Facebook or Zoom.

Let's pray together..

- pray God would deepen our trust in him during this time.
- For medical experts, politicians and public leaders – for wisdom, compassion and integrity.
- those who are sick and those suffering from bereavement especially the families of Clifford Williams.



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

ONLINE DONATIONS



If you wish to make a donation to Denham Parish Church, please scan this code with the camera or QR app on your smartphone and follow instructions.

email: office@denhamparish.church

phone: 01895 832771