



Returning to Church

I am writing on 'Super-Saturday', as cafes, pubs, hairdressers and restaurants re-open. Already the M5 is jammed with holiday makers heading south. There is a mixture of excitement, and dread. Some services in church begin tomorrow, the first since 15 March-105 days ago.

The Book of Ezra describes how the Jews returned to Jerusalem after 49 years of exile in Babylon and began to sacrifice and rebuild the temple destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar. When the foundation was laid

“all the people gave a great shout of praise to the Lord..but many of the older priests, who had seen the former temple, wept aloud” (Ezra 3.12)

Services at PPT will resume with a 10am Communion on Wednesday 8 July, and a 10am Communion on Sunday 12 July. Many of you are looking forward to coming back and meeting together, but the risk of COVID remains real, and we are obliged to follow guidance from the government and the Diocese. So our joy at returning may be tempered by the realisation that things are not yet as they once were:

- You will not be able to sing, though we may listen to music
- You will be asked to sanitise your hands as you enter and leave
- You can only receive the bread at Communion
- You will be asked to observe 2 metre social distancing at all times.

- There will be no refreshments, and you are urged not to linger in church afterwards to catch up with friends
- There will be no groups for children
- You will be asked for your name and contact details, which will be held securely for 21 days to assist the 'track & trace' scheme.

These restriction may make some feel it is better to remain at home and enjoy the livestream services, which will continue, or join in a smaller but more relaxed garden or Zoom group. The advice for those who are clinically vulnerable is still to remain at home, but this is now your choice.

In practice these regulations mean that we have to limit the numbers who can attend worship in church, and the best way of doing so is to ask you to reserve a seat before you come. If you come without a reservation, the stewards on the door may not allow you entry. The authorities are clear that our Common Law right to worship freely can be over-ruled by the current requirements of public health. The situation in Leicester shows infection is still a real danger.

We are investigating various systems, but for this week we are asking you to phone Mr Roy White, our church warden, on 01626 832705, to book for either Wednesday or Sunday. We will increase the number of services as we assess demand and recruit the volunteers we need. Please be patient!

yours in Christ
Graham

ABORTION AMENDMENTS

Pro-abortion activists have tabled [amendments to a government bill](#) due for debate on Monday 6 July, that would remove many of the current protections and allow abortion at home without medical supervision up to 28 weeks. Please write to our MP and protest at this abuse of parliamentary process:
[Rt Rev Mel Stride MP](#)

DAILY BREAD BIBLE NOTES

Scripture Union bible-reading notes for June-August will be available to collect from the Church Office (£4.99), or can be posted on request. Contact Mark 834835.

CAR FOR RENT

Trudy Abbott is returning to the UK and looking for a 4 or 5 door car to rent for up to 10 weeks. If you are able to help, please contact me or the church office.



DIOCESAN COMMUNICATIONS

The Diocese is trying to improve its communications with a Survey about church communications like online services, parish magazines, websites and social media accounts. It is open until 19 Jul Please click on [this link](#) to make your voice heard.

Contacts

Vicar:

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Readers:

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PPT Churchwardens:

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PCC Hon Treasurer:

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Care Team Co-ordinator

Ros Pugsley 07974 103294
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Ministry Assistant: (back from furlough)

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Sick Visiting Co-ordinator:

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PPT Church Office Manager & Safeguarding Representative

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(normally Fri; 0900-1700)

Website

<https://www.pptbovey.org.uk>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pptbovey>

Church Services this week

Sunday

Churches Together in Bovey Valley

Sunday (5th July 10:30am |
Livestream Sunday service for 1 hour

How to join the service: [https://](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3xnfTeZBF1YGLeRyf_4flg)

[www.youtube.com/channel/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3xnfTeZBF1YGLeRyf_4flg)

[UC3xnfTeZBF1YGLeRyf_4flg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3xnfTeZBF1YGLeRyf_4flg) or

click [here](#) (The link will take you to the

channel page. The video appears at

9am on Sunday. You can start

watching at 10.30am.

Children: Parents can request children's resources to go with the children's talk by e-mailing

hello@boveychurchestogether.org.uk

Send a Shoutout: If you have notices, news, or prayer requests to share, please e-mail them to

hello@boveychurchestogether.org.uk

Livechat: During and after the Sunday service livechat comments will be open on the youtube page, and in a Zoom Chat-Room after.

This week's Sunday line up: The service this week will be led by Rev Graham Hamilton. Abi Evans will give the children's talk and Rev Mark Godbeer will be preaching. Other guests to the livestream include Steve, Tom, Eleanor, Sarah and Paul. We plan to continue services until September. One of our priorities is to support local churches, as they review and adapt to the latest *Government guidelines associated with church opening*.



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

Zoom is a video application which you can download for free on most computers and tablets. You can watch a service, and participate if your device has a microphone and camera. Most PPT services are hosted on meeting ID D102 163 519, or click <https://zoom.us/j/102163519>

You can also listen to the midweek and Sunday services using your phone: Call 0203 481 5240, and then enter the meeting ID 102 163 519#.

Midweek Prayers

Pray with us for 30 minutes each day:

Monday

9am Morning Prayer on Zoom

Tuesday

7pm Evening Prayer on Zoom: note a different Meeting ID: 203 925 6192

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2039256192>

Wednesday:

10am Holy Communion at PPT & Zoom- see notes

Thursday

7am Morning Prayer on Zoom

Friday

9am Morning Prayer on Zoom

Saturday

9am Morning Prayer on Zoom

Sunday 12 July:

10am Holy Communion at PPT

10.30am Livestream

If you cannot access online services, as well as TV and radio services, the Church of England has set up a free national phone line with short messages, prayers and hymns.

Prayer Diary: *with readings and psalms for Morning Prayer*

Mon 6 July: Ps 80, Luke 17.20-end (Thomas More)

For those emerging from shielding to enjoy social contact safely. For amendments to the Domestic Abuse Bill deregulating abortion at home to be rejected by Parliament.

Tue 7 July: Ps 87, Luke 18.1-14

Pray for young people to find constructive channels for their energy without school. For the work of the Youth Cafe, and uniformed groups like Scouts, Guides & Army Cadets

Wed 8 July: Ps 119.105-128, Luke 18.15-30

Pray for the midweek Communion service resuming today to be orderly and uplifting for those who

Thu 9 July: Ps 90, Luke 18.31-end

Pray that women facing unplanned pregnancies may find help and good advice through the work of Exeter Pregnancy Crisis Centre. For volunteers to support them

Fri 10 July: Ps 88, Luke 19.1-10

Pray for social services trying to cope with the surge in cases of domestic abuse and neglect caused by the lockdown.

Sat 11 July: Ps 96, Luke 19.11-27 (Benedict)

Pray for the one day meeting of General Synod through Zoom to help hold national church leaders and institutions to account, and renew our gospel witness to the nation.

Sun 12 July: (5th after Trinity), Ps 64, Acts 28.17-31

For the family of Josie Sims, to be baptised this afternoon, and for the 10am Sunday service, that it will encourage the attenders, and be conducted safely.

Pray for the sick:

David Alexander, Donald Sykes, Rob Martin, Mathew Percy, Wendy Harrison, Lorna Seidel, Lawrence Hall, Michelle Sadd, Lucy McIlhenny, Eric and Marion Lodge, Christine and Graham Downing, Nancy Adams, Lesley Timmins, Janet Wootton.

Collect: Prayer of the week - 5th after Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

GARDEN GROUP SERVICE

for the week of Sunday 5 July (5th Sunday after Trinity)

Please be careful to observe the [government's regulations](#) on a maximum of 6 people gathering outdoors, and maintaining 2 metre social distance. It is best to bring your own chairs, or if using the furniture of someone else to wash or wipe down surfaces before and after the gathering.

If you share refreshments, please do not pass cups and plates to one another, but collect them from a common table. We recommend that each person brings their own bible, and prints a copy of this service order. It may be helpful for one person to lead or facilitate the group, so that you don't get stuck in discussions that distract from the aim of worship and prayer. Why not make a habit of meeting on Sunday, or any day of the week?

Opening

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm: this week's psalm 32: read together if you have the same version or read one verse in turn.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now and shall be for ever. Amen**

Bible reading: Matthew 5.1-16 Welcome to the Kingdom of Heaven

Questions for discussion

The sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) would take 20 minutes to read- but it is more likely to be a summary of a whole day's teaching by Jesus to his disciples than a 20 minute sermon.

Read v 13-16 What does Jesus want of his disciples? What sort of 'Kingdom' does Jesus have in mind?

Read vv11-12 What sort of reaction does Jesus expect his disciples to experience from wider society?
What sort of reactions does the Church today provoke from wider society?

Read 5.1-10- the 'Beatitudes' (from the Latin word *beatus* blessed)

What does it mean to be '**blessed**'?

Who do we normally think of as blessed or happy?

How does this conflict with Jesus' understanding?

When will the poor, mourning, hungry etc find their satisfaction?

In what way are they blessed now? Who is blessing them?

What do we have to do to receive the blessings?

Do the Beatitudes humble you, puzzle you, fill you with hope or despair. or all of the above?

What effect did Jesus intend them to have at the very beginning of his sermon?

Lord God, we have sinned against you;

we have done evil in your sight.

We are sorry and repent.

Have mercy on us according to your love.

Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.

Renew a right spirit within us

and restore us to the joy of your salvation,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. cf Psalm 51

May almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us through Christ who died for us, and fill us with the joy of his salvation, Amen

Prayers:

for the tourism and hospitality businesses in the South West to recover: for holiday makers
for Christians to live with a vision and passion for God's Kingdom over all else
for plans to prepare for re-opening churches
for clergy and readers in their ministry, and for vocations to word ministry and training
for the General Synod to hold church leaders and institutions to account, and restore gospel clarity

Collect for 5th Sunday after Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church
is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

The Lord's Prayer**Hymn:**

Blest are the pure in heart,
for they shall see our God;
the secret of the Lord is theirs, t
heir soul is Christ's abode.

The Lord who left the heavens
our life and peace to bring,
to dwell in lowliness with men,
their pattern and their king.

Still to the lowly soul
he doth himself impart
and for his dwelling and his throne
chooseth the pure in heart.

Lord, we thy presence seek;
may ours this blessing be:
give us a pure and lowly heart,
a temple meet for thee.

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. Amen.**