

# Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2021

## 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

**Welcome to everyone today both in our church buildings and those who join us from their homes.**

This morning's services are live-streamed on the Facebook pages of each church.

Some safety reminders in church:

- Please keep face coverings in place over nose and mouth during the service
- The hymns are sung by choir alone
- Please remain in your places until invited to move by a steward
- Please don't wander to chat to friends – sorry
- Please take service sheets with you at the end
- Please disperse quickly at the end of the service and **please don't congregate outside to chat**

### **The Collect**

Merciful God,

you have prepared for those who love you  
such good things as pass our understanding:  
pour into our hearts such love toward you  
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,  
may obtain your promises,  
which exceed all that we can desire;  
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.

### **First Reading Amos 7.7-15**

This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb-line, with a plumb-line in his hand. And the Lord said to me, 'Amos, what do you see?' And I said, 'A plumb-line.' Then the Lord said, 'See, I am setting a plumb-line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the

sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.'

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, 'Amos has conspired against you in the very centre of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said, "Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land."'

And Amaziah said to Amos, 'O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.'

Then Amos answered Amaziah, 'I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."

### **Gospel Reading Mark 6.14-29**

King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, 'John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him.' But others said, 'It is Elijah.' And others said, 'It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.' But when Herod heard of it, he said, 'John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.'

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, 'It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.' And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias\* came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, 'Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.' And he solemnly swore to her, 'Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.' She went out and said to her mother, 'What should I ask for?' She replied, 'The head of John the baptizer.' Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, 'I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.' The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl

gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

### **Prayer after Communion**

God of our pilgrimage,  
you have led us to the living water:  
refresh and sustain us  
as we go forward on our journey,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **The Week Ahead & Information**

Today                    12.30pm Baptism of Luna-Rose *at St Thomas'*

Monday-Saturday

9am      Morning Prayer *on St Thomas' Facebook page*  
5pm      Evening Prayer *on St James' Facebook page*  
*(not Saturday)*

Tuesday                10am    Eucharist *at St James'*

Wednesday            9.15am St James' School leavers' service *at St James'*

Thursday                10am    Eucharist *at St Thomas'*

Friday                    9.30am Church cleaning *at St Thomas'*

### **Next Sunday – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

9.15am                  Eucharist *at St Thomas'*  
10.45am                Eucharist *at St James'*  
11.0                      Baptism of Leo *at St Thomas'*  
2pm                      Wedding of Chris & Danielle *at St James'*

### **A thank you**

Thank you for making my ordination weekend so special and for the incredibly generous gifts, cards, and messages of encouragement. It was lovely to celebrate my first Eucharist among family and friends. I felt extremely loved by all the support I received. The whole experience made me very emotional, especially the choir, who brought me to tears (in a good way!). I am grateful to all who took part in the service on Sunday and helped prepare in

organising the flowers, music, and hospitality after the service. I very much look forward to the next stage in our journey together; the Widor and Bach are firmly stored on the bottom shelf, Fr Mark!

Hopefully, as restrictions ease, we can get out and be a little more social. This is something I am really looking forward to!

With love and best wishes, *Fr Andrew*

## **Car Boot Sale**

Saturday 31 July at St James', 10am-1pm. You can book a car pitch or a table pitch with Fr David (07539 264279) and, of course turn up to buy. Our café will be open for hot and cold food and drinks. The weather will be glorious. St Thomas' are having a cake and produce stall – if you can help with donations of items, please let Maggi, Lin or Fr David know.

## **St James' Patronal Festival**

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July. The 10.45am Festival Eucharist will be followed by a hot carvery lunch. (Covid restrictions notwithstanding!). Tickets are limited but available **TODAY!** £10 per adult. Children free. Available at church.

## **Prayers**

Please let Fr David know of anyone who should be included on our weekly prayer list. ([frdavidstephenson@gmail.com](mailto:frdavidstephenson@gmail.com), 07539 264279)

Names of those on the parish prayer lists will also be pinned to the prayer boards in each church.

## **For your prayers**

For the inclusion of people of all kinds in God's Church and for churches to learn how to make all people welcome.

For the life of our nation, for Elizabeth our Queen, and for all that unites the people of this land.

For the outreach of our parishes during the Summer, that God will continue to shine a light on the path we should follow.

For all coming to the end of the academic year – for rest and relaxation, for those who are anxious, for children who will be hungry away from school.

For the sick: Ian, Edna, Charley, Mandy, Wynne, Lizzie, Janet, Allister, Betty, Derek, Asia, Graeme, Rita, Mother Enid, Margaret, Philip, Clarice, Connie

For all who have died in the past week and all whose anniversaries fall in the coming week. *Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.*