

Connected

Sunday 3rd October 2021
18th Sunday after Trinity

Verse For The Week

"The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father."

Matthew 13: 43)

Sermon Snippets

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

There are several parables about the Kingdom of Heaven that Jesus taught. Why not read the whole of Matthew 13 to see today's passage in context?

This is one parable that Jesus explained the meaning of to his disciples. Good and evil grow side by side. To pull up the weeds too early would damage the good crops because their weeds would have become intertwined. This is why nothing should be done until the harvest time. It is about having faith that God knows and understands. His timing is perfect, and don't forget that he knows what it is like to live amongst the evil that we see around us.

But let's not get discouraged by the evil that we see. There are plenty of good 'crops' growing. We are part of that good crop. The beauty in the good crop brings hope and encouragement for each other and for the world around us.



Larissa & Robert

Reverend Larissa Trust

On 25th September, 16 ordinands, including me, were ordained deacon by Bishop Ruth at Wells Cathedral. Before the ordination, we took part in a retreat, sharing periods of silence, reflection and free time to restore our souls and to focus on our calling.

The ordination service took place on the Saturday morning. We began with morning prayer in the Bishop's Palace Chapel. After photos we processed into the cathedral led by the head verger. The ordinands processed in while the choir sang the Gloria which was spectacular.

Each ordinand was presented to the Bishop and then we affirmed our promises. Much to my surprise, the laying on of hands felt full of the Holy Spirit and was a very special moment. Theologically speaking, this is the point of ordination. After the service we congregated on the cathedral green and joyfully congratulated one another.



*Read more about Larissa's retreat
and ordination on page 4*

Prayer Pointers

"To pray effectively we must want what God wants - that and that only is to pray in the will of God". [Tozer]

Sunday

Praise God that we don't have to have a vaccine pass before we enter a church service!

Pray for Afghan Christians who are under threat of death. Intercede for all Afghan women being forced to marry Taliban soldiers.

Monday

Saint Francis Day, the man who called animals his brothers and sisters. It's World Animal day today. So, besides praying for more biodiversity, and against the extinction of more species let us pray for more kindness to the creatures we do have. May the RSPCA and similar groups be given boldness and finance in their struggle for animal rights.

Tuesday

Today is World Teachers Day. May teachers in the many difficult schools of the UK be given patience, skill and understanding as they attempt to teach those who do not want to learn. May the thousands of children in the Third World longing for an education have their hopes fulfilled as Christians pour out their money into overseas missions.

Wednesday

Cerebral Palsy Day. Approximately 1,800 babies are born with this affliction in the UK every year. These children often suffer in various ways, including emotionally. Pray for the parents that their massive love and care may be reinforced by ongoing research and development of medical help.

Today we also commemorate William Tyndale, who translated Scripture into English so that we could read it in our own language. Pray for those many Christians who acknowledge they rarely read Scripture that they may be drawn to seek the wonders of the Lord Jesus.

Thursday

International Day of non-violence. May today be marked as one when nation speaks peace to nation and neighbours join hands in friendship. Do I really love my neighbour - not just the pleasant ones?

Friday

World Hospice Care Day. Pray for the staff whose loving care and concern gives comfort in our local hospice. May all financial needs be met for continuing provision.

Saturday

World Migratory Bird Day. Pray that migrating birds may have a safe passage and not be netted and trapped. Pray for human migrants that they also may find refuge and aid.

Notices

Evening Prayer Services



This Sunday 3rd October we will be holding the second of our Prayer Services - "Praying for the NHS". The service will be led by John and Julie Birkett, and it starts at 6pm at Christ Church. Please do join us - the NHS needs our prayers.

Bible Notes 2022

We owe Barry Sutton-Jones an enormous 'thank you' for the dedicated way he co-ordinated the Bible Reading Notes for Christ Church and Emmanuel, but now Barry is retiring after 12 years!! Sandra Wilkes is taking on the co-ordinator role and ordering the notes from 'Life' Christian Bookshop. Click [here](#) to order and pay via the Christ Church website, or contact Sandra direct on 815181 (email: dandswilkes@aol.com). Payment upon ordering please to David White. Please place your order by 17th October. Any queries please see Sandra. Thank you.

CAP 5-year Celebration Service

All are welcome to attend the 5-Year Anniversary of the Weston Area CAP Centre. The service is on Sunday 10th October at 3pm at St Georges Community Centre, Willow Close, St Georges, BS22 7XF.

For the latest CAP newsletter, please [click on this link](#)



Watch this Sunday's Service

at www.ccwsm.org.uk

Go to the 'Church Life' menu and click on the 'Sunday Services' page.

Coffee time after the Service...

What's On This Week

Sat 02 Oct

Coffee Morning at 10.30 at Emmanuel Church
(includes sales of cards, cakes and books)

Sun 03 Oct

Prayer for the NHS at 6pm at Christ Church

Mon 04 Oct

Ladies Together at 2.30pm at Christ Church

Tue 05 Oct

Parish Prayers at 9.30 at Emmanuel Church
The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel Church

Wed 06 Oct

Seedlings Toddler Group at 10.15 at Christ Church
Book Club at 7pm in the Spire Centre

Thu 07 Oct

Welcome Group at 2.30pm at Emmanuel Church
Craft & Chat at 2.30pm in the Spire Centre

Evening Services

As well as the service this Sunday where we will be praying for the NHS, future evening services are being planned as follows:

- 7th November - we give thanks for loved ones we have lost, either recently or some time ago.
- 28th November - a celebration of all that Christmas means for those who find Christmas a difficult time.
- 9th January - a time of prayer for the New Year.

Each of these services will be at Christ Church, starting at 6pm. Please note that they will not be 'live-streamed'. More services will be announced in the New Year.

Emmanuel Harvest Service

Emmanuel's Harvest Service is on Sunday 17th October at 10.30, with collections going to the Barnabas Fund. More details will follow soon.

Christ Church Harvest Service – at 10:30am on Sunday 3rd October



During the service we will be collecting donations for Weston Foodbank. Here is the current list of items that are urgently needed:

- Tinned Potatoes
- Fruit Juice
- Squash
- Custard
- Rice Pudding
- Long Life Milk (Semi Skimmed or Whole)
- Cooking Sauces (Not pasta sauces please)
- Instant/Microwavable Porridge
- Toilet Rolls
- Cleaning Products
- Toothbrushes
- Razors and Shaving Foam

An up-to-date list of needs can be found on the Foodbank website:

<https://westonsupermare.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>



Contact Details

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Larissa's Ordination Journey

The final part of our journey to ordination began on Wednesday, with a rehearsal at the Cathedral, followed by a spiritual tour of the cathedral led by the Dean, and then evensong where each of us was prayed for by name.



We then travelled to Ammerdown Retreat Centre, near Radstock, and the ordination retreat began. The theme for the retreat was “Christ, Community and Me.” We were led by Rob Walrond, a farmer, and the diocesan rural life advisor. He invited a soil scientist, a beekeeper and a sheep farmer to speak to us about their work and how this might inform our ministries.

From the beekeeper, we heard how each bee takes on a particular role to effectively serve the hive. The sheep farmer offered us a witness of a faithful shepherd who searched for his accident-prone lost sheepdog, which had half a tongue and half a tail, which he pursued and eventually found after many days. The soil scientist taught us about the preciousness of soil, and how it is often misused and taken for granted. Soil is forgiving and can be reformed and healed so that the land may flourish. Likewise, God is forgiving and can renew us and the church when we are parched.



The night before the ordination service, Bishop Ruth gave us her charge, which is an instruction for us to focus on the words of the ordinal: “Deacons are to be faithful in prayer, expectant and watchful for the signs of God’s presence, as he reveals his Kingdom among us.” You might like to share with me the thoughts and nudges you receive from God on this. Finally, she washed our feet reminding us that she is a deacon (or servant) first, and a bishop and leader second. She also gave us a very nice dinner!

Larissa