Connected

Sunday 24th July 2022 6th Sunday After Trinity

Sermon Snippets

John 7: 53 - 8: 11

In each of the four gospels we read accounts of Jesus speaking into circumstances where others remain silent. He always teaches from fresh perspectives, offering hope.

As we look at the Pastoral Principle of Fear, referring to the woman caught in adultery, I wonder how quick are we to pick up stones? To judge? To point out the splinter in someone else's eye without realising or acknowledging the log in our own eye? And all because of our own deeply rooted prejudice, ignorance, or fear.

We all know what it is to feel afraid and there are numerous people in this story who feel afraid - the scribes and Pharisees; all the Jews listening in; not least the woman caught in adultery. What are you afraid of? What situations, people, or cultural changes make you fearful and influence your views and beliefs? Fear of change, of difference, the unknown. What are the tough conversations we need to be having about things we have kept our head firmly in the sand about? That we are too afraid to even talk about?

John, in his first letter (1 John 4:16-18), reminds us "God is love...There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear...".

As we turn away from ourselves and look to God, trusting completely in his all conquering, all powerful love, allowing his perfect love to cast out fear, even over issues in which we disagree, allowing him to love through us, there is no need to fear any longer, just a completed circle of love.





Holiday Club is now just about to start and we are all so thankful for the work that Nicky Boardman does at Christ Church for our young families along with her team.

As our Family Ministry Coordinator, she puts in a huge number of hours each week working behind the scenes, setting things up in church, and being in contact with many of the Mums and Dads.

We are extremely grateful for her and excited by the way the family work is developing.

Her pay is financed from a separate fund that a number of folk contribute to. At current levels this fund is gradually reducing. If you would like to contribute to this fund, ideally by a small standing order (either starting new or increasing what you give), then please see our Treasurer, David White, look on the "Giving" section of our website (under "Church Life"), or, for one-off donations, follow the link below:

https://pay.sumup.io/b2c/Q4GM807P

Thank you.



What's On This Week

Saturday 23rd July

Open Garden at 2:30pm at Dave & Jane Milsom's

Sunday 24th July

Pastoral Principles at 5pm in The Spire Centre (last session)

Prayer Service for Holiday Club at 6pm at Christ Church

Tuesday 26th July

Parish Prayers at 9:30am at Emmanuel The Beacon at 12noon at Emmanuel

Wednesday 27th July

Holiday Club from 10am-12noon at Christ Church Service of the Word at 10:30am at Emmanuel

Thursday 28th July

Holiday Club from 10am-12noon at Christ Church Welcome Group at 2:30pm at Emmanuel

Friday 29th July

Holiday Club from 10am-12noon at Christ Church

Saturday 30th July

Holiday Club from 10am-12noon at Christ Church Summer Fete from 10:30am-2pm at Emmanuel

Sunday 31st July

Holiday Club Celebration at 10:30 at Christ Church

Notices

Tom Away

Please note that Tom will be on CPAS Camp from Tuesday 2nd August to Tuesday 9th August inclusive.

Nicky Away

Please note that Nicky is on holiday from Monday 8th August to Sunday 28th August inclusive as well as 3rd & 4th September.

Angeline Unavailable

Please note that Angeline will be unavailable throughout August as she takes a well-deserved break from her church duties!

Verse For The Week

"When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, 'Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.' "

John 8:7-8

Prayer Pointers

Monday - Today is the feast of St Christopher, patron saint of travellers. Pray for the safety of all who journey by air, sea, or land. Give thanks for the developments in our world that allow us to travel freely and safely.

Tuesday - We hear of lengthening waiting lists for medical treatments and operations. Pray for all those - a number of whom are in our congregations - facing the ordeal of long waits for vital treatment. Pray that God will be with them to strengthen them and ease their anxiety and suffering.

Wednesday - Give praise to God that He has given mankind so much that is beautiful and fascinating to experience in life: music and art to lift the soul; literature to intrigue and enthrall; science to stimulate the mind. All are gifts from God.

Thursday - The world has become a much more hostile place over the last six months. Pray that the Holy Spirit will be at work in the world, especially in the hearts of world leaders, that they may have the courage to pursue the path of peace and reconciliation.

Friday - Give thanks to the Lord for your family and friends. Pray for each one by name. Pray also for anyone you know who is alone and friendless at this time, that they will find a friend in Jesus.

Saturday - As you look back over the week, say a prayer of thanks for anyone who has helped you or given you a word of encouragement/appreciation or sent you happier on your way. Above all, give thanks that Jesus has been with you throughout the week, ever your unseen guide and protector.

Watch the Morning Service

at <u>www.ccwsm.org.uk</u>

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

Coffee after the Service...





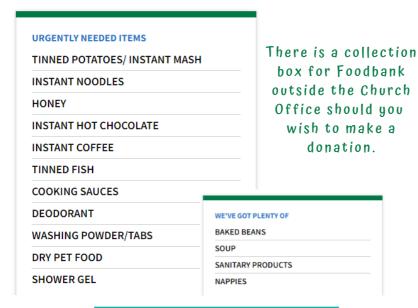


GIVE HELP

DONATE FOOD

Over 90% of the food distributed by foodbanks in The Trussell Trust network is donated by the public – that's why your food donations are absolutely vital to our ability to give everyone referred to us a balanced and nutritious three day supply of food.

Our shopping list below shows the food items that we need right now:



Christ Church Pre-School Places Available Contact Sarah Quick if you yourself are interested or know of someone who might be:



Contact Details

Rev. Tom Webber (Day Off - Tuesday) t: (01934) 709343 e: vicar@ccwsm.org.uk

Rev. Larissa Trust (Day Off - Tuesday) t: (07379) 754372 e: curate@ccwsm.org.uk

Church Office (09:30-12:30 Mon-Fri) t: (01934) 641016 e: office@ccwsm.org.uk w: www.ccwsm.org.uk

OUR ADVENTURE THROUGH SPAIN & FRANCE - APRIL/MAY 2022 BY DAVE & JANE (PLUS CAMILLA THE MOTOR HOME!)

We left home on 24 April to catch the Plymouth to Santander ferry - our crossing was like a mill pond.

Our first campsite was only an hour away from Santander near a town called Cabezon de la Sal. This was situated close to the Picos mountains and we could see snow-topped peaks in the distance. We then moved towards the coast where we first became aware of people with small backpacks walking the route of the Camino del Norte - this follows the north coast of Spain before heading to Santiago de Compostella. We got into conversation with a young German girl who, at that time, was walking on her own. She had another two weeks of walking to reach Santiago!

One really memorable place we stopped was Cudillero. There was a very steep, rocky pathway from our campsite down into the harbour and town. The houses were in terraces up the hillside and there were lots of alleys and steps. The roofs were red tiled and the houses painted white - all very picturesque. We met one of the few English

couples we came across during our holiday here and had an exceptional (but expensive!) paella with them.



Our furthest point westwards was Santiago de Compostella. This medieval city is the destination of the many Camino trails. There are many narrow streets and old buildings and a real buzz of activity in and around the Cathedral with those who have finished their Caminos meeting in the bars and restaurants in the Cathedral square after their pilgrimages. We fell into conversation with a 75 year old American who had walked the 500 plus miles from the French border and who had crossed the Pyrenees in snowy conditions. He obviously had a real sense of achievement but, at the same time, it had been a thought provoking experience for him. We attended Monday evening mass - the Cathedral was packed and, although we couldn't understand any of the spoken word, we were aware of where we were in the service and responded when the peace was shared.



We then travelled inland stopping at Lugo. This is one of the largest cities with enclosed walls originally built by the Romans. The Knights Templar Fortress at Ponferrada was an impressive building sited near the river crossing to protect pilgrims walking the Camino.

We then headed for a town in the Picos mountains called Potes. This was the most spectacular drive we undertook. The road was full of hills and hairpin bends. The weather was miserable but driving through a tunnel to emerge on the top of a dam followed by a long road bridge suspended above a lake was pretty memorable. We stopped for a couple of photos at the summit of the long climb - it was freezing!

We then headed north. The roads were still very twisty but spectacular. Very reminiscent of Cheddar Gorge. We stopped at Santellana del Mar (a very old and pretty town) followed by Frias, the smallest city in Spain (probably no more than 1500 residents). The hillside town surrounds a fortress built on a high rock. We had parked in an area at the foot of the hill and discovered that there was a small charge for an overnight stay. To pay this we needed to visit the Tourist Information Office which was at the top in the fortress grounds. We made the climb to pay and were rewarded with free entry to the fortress buildings because it was before llam. Honesty does pay off!

Next was a town on the coast called Orio. This was a short rail trip from the Basque capital San Sebastián which is a very vibrant city. People move from bar to bar perhaps having one or two small bites and a drink before moving on. The city is bit like Barcelona but on a smaller scale.

From Orio we started our trip northwards through France. We stopped off at Oradour-sur-Glane, the site of a civilian massacre carried out in 1944. The village has been left as was on the day and there are still cars left where they were slowly rusting away. Very thought provoking in view of what has happened in Ukraine.

Bergerac old town was lovely and full of character with several statues of Cyrano-de-Bergerac dotted around. Loches is a favourite town of ours - a large fortress and medieval streets. Chartres has its Cathedral with amazing stained glass and its labrynth. Honfleur has a pretty harbour surrounded by rambling multi-storey properties.

We covered just over 2000 miles but have gained some truly memorable experiences, including the many people walking the Caminos. Spanish food is great - just trying to work out when to eat that's the problem as they eat so late!!

We found ourselves giving thanks for God's amazing creation & His blessing over us as we travelled safely. What an amazing Heavenly Father!