

Sunday 22nd August 2021
12th Sunday after Trinity

In the notices this week....

1. Readings & prayers
2. Church diary
3. Thank you
4. Funeral service
5. Book launch!
6. Benefice Evensongs
7. St Mark's Autumn Clean – Saturday 11th September
8. Church rotas
9. Open Forum with Bishop Michael – Wed 25th August 7pm
10. Job vacancy at Christian Bookshop
11. Party in the Square - Sun 12th September
12. More random weird thoughts - Joy

Readings for 22nd August

Ephesians chapter 6 verses 10-20

John chapter 6 verses 56-69



PRAYERS:- From Churches Together in Hitchin - Wymondley

Baptist Church ask for prayers in support of their Messy Church Treasure Hunt and Picnic taking place next Saturday. We join with them in praying that this event will be a way of both connecting with families that they know and encourage new families to come along.

From St Mark's Prayer Cycle:- This week we pray for the clergy in the Hitchin and St Paul's Walden team ministry. We also pray for Citizens' Advice and the Black Squirrel Credit Union.
This week please pray for the residents of Symonds Road and Chestnut Court

Prayer Requests – please send any prayer requests for the whole church to pray for to Andrew, who will then pass them on to the groups. Do contact your own group to ask for prayer too.

CHURCH DIARY - links for online services will be sent by email on Saturday morning.

Friday 20th August – **Little Lions 9.30-11** in the church hall.

Sunday 22nd August – **8am Holy Communion** in church. **10am Holy Communion** in church, livestreamed on Zoom and on Youtube later. **Outdoor Sunday School**. **Coffee** after the service. *Please bring your own cups if possible!*

Parish Evensong 6.30pm – at St Mary's – preacher Martha Inch. All welcome.

Monday 23rd August- **Reading & reflection** with Andrew on Youtube.

Wednesday 25th August – Morning Prayer in church at 9.15am.

Online Morning Prayer on Zoom at 9.15am.

Funeral service 1pm – see below

Meeting with Bishop Michael 7pm at St Mary's – see below.

Sunday 29th August – 8am Holy Communion in church. 10am Holy Communion in church, livestreamed on Zoom and on Youtube later. **Outdoor Sunday School. Coffee** after the service.

From September onwards we plan to livestream the service directly onto Youtube, not through Zoom any more. This means that people at home will be able to watch the service but not participate, and those in church will no longer have a screen at the front of church, just a small camera. Our Wednesday Morning Prayer service will also take place in church, not online on Zoom any more.

In the event that new covid restrictions need to be introduced, we will of course consider bringing back participation via Zoom.

This week our friends without computers will receive a copy of the reflection given by Nick on Monday 16th August.

CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS

A huge THANK YOU – to Val and Kevin, and everyone who helped and supported the Craft Fair last Sunday in any way. It was a very enjoyable afternoon, and so far it has raised £286 for church funds, which is much appreciated.

The Sunday Funday event on 1st August raised £175 for church funds too – thanks to all who participated.

FUNERAL SERVICE – the funeral service for Christabel will take place in St Mark's on Wednesday 25th, 1pm. All are welcome to the service and afterwards at the Priory, Hitchin.

BOOK LAUNCH – Joy has published a selection of her weekly Church newsletter musings, called "**The Joy of Lockdown**". They are £5.99 a copy and profits will be split between St Mark's and Guide Dogs. You can order directly from Joy via admin@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk

HITCHIN BENEFICE SUMMER EVENSONGS – Each Sunday in August at 6.30pm

Everyone is welcome! Wine and nibbles served afterwards!

When	Where	Preacher
22 nd	St Mary's	Martha Inch
29 th	All Saints, St Paul's Walden	Ian Todd

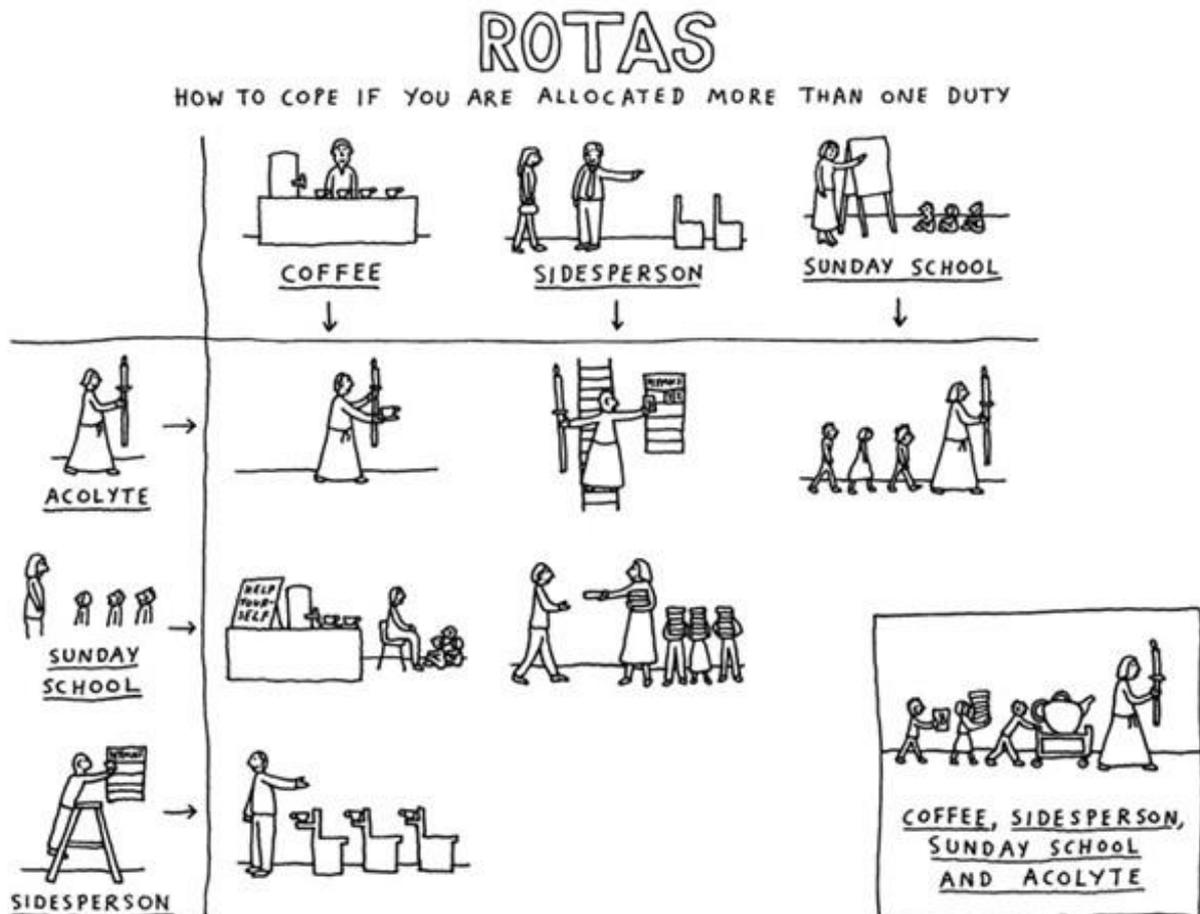


AUTUMN CLEAN – we’re planning a Church cleaning day on Saturday 11th September, 10am-3pm. If you can come along for an hour or two it would be much appreciated – many hands make light work! Coffee and cake will be provided!

CHURCH ROTAS – we’re planning to restart our rotas again in September, now that things are slowly returning to more like normal. We will be contacting those of you who used to be on the various rotas pre-Covid, but would very much welcome new volunteers. Areas where we will be in particular need are with **Sunday School, Pathfinders and Travellers; taxi-to-church; welcoming at services; assisting with communion and serving coffees after services.** If you would like to know more about what’s involved or would be willing to help please let Maggie know and she will put you in contact with the right person.



Please note that we are still encouraging everyone to bring their own cups for tea/coffee after the services – originally this was because of the risk of Covid transmission, but now it’s to help save on washing up! We’re quite short of helpers on the rota and are currently only having 2 people in the kitchen on a shift, so although we can provide mugs from church it will help us if there’s not as many to wash up!



SAVE THE DATE - OPEN FORUM WEDNESDAY 25 AUGUST 7PM

We hope you will be able to join us for an open forum to be held at St Mary's church to think together about the future organisation of the Parish of Hitchin. It will be led by Bishop Michael. All are welcome.

JOB VACANCY - The Christian Bookshop, 69 Leys Avenue, Letchworth Garden City is looking for a **Trainee SALES ASSISTANT** to start September 2021

6.25 Hours per week on Saturdays. National minimum wage applicable

There may be occasional extra hours to cover absences

For Job description and application form email cbstaylor69@gmail.com

Closing date: 1 SEPTEMBER 2021

For further details contact: Chris Foster on tel. 07909591875



THE PARTY IN THE SQUARE is coming soon, **Sunday 12th September** to be precise. Don't forget to come to the **open-air service at 11:30** - no masks required when you are singing! After the service, the party begins. If your church hasn't confirmed what you will be doing as a stall, please let me know as soon as possible. Then we need some more volunteers to help on the BBQ, serve squash, man the inflatables, help at the prayer tent and clear up at the end (3:30). If you can help at all, please contact me - details below. Also, don't forget to bake small cakes and bring them along, so that the team from St.Faith's can give them away. Finally, there is a harvest stall for people to bring their excess produce which will be distributed through Feed Up Warm Up.

And pray for the sun to shine!

Phil Jackson 07842144741 phil.jackson@zeochurch.com

More random weird thoughts...

Hi all, the strange mind that I possess seems to have gone into overdrive again sorry but I feel I must share these thoughts with you. What was the best thing before sliced bread? How much foresight did God have when designing the human race, indeed face, to position our ears in exactly the right place to accommodate glasses - wow. Also isn't it wonderful that our hands can reach every part of our bodies, normal health permitting, to scratch that itch. If an odd situation occurring is "something under-hand afoot?" difficult at my age to accomplish!!! . On the subject of feet I often find that I only open my mouth to change feet. I have got some lovely caterpillars on my Nasturtiums and I thought I heard one say the other day, as it was looking at a butterfly overhead "you'll never get me up in one of those things !!" Where do all the odd socks disappear to in the wash load? Why can you never remember the very safe place you put something special in so you wouldn't forget where it was? Isn't a shame that the knowledge everyone has gained in their lives and hold in their heads can't be passed on to save the next generation having to learn it all again when they have so much more to learn and contribute to their future. Why do I go into a state of panic when I realise I have left the house without my mobile phone when I existed happily for many years without one? I do hope that I am not the only one who has these

strange thoughts. Please confirm by text or postcard that I am not alone and indeed any other thoughts you have are very welcome. Joy xx

*If you would like to have a notice included please email
notices@stmarks-hitchin.org.uk
Please send notices by 7pm on the preceding Wednesday.*

