

St Mary, Whitegate and St Peter, Little Budworth – Sunday 13th September
The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity
Holy Communion

Collect

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
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.

Amen.

Romans 14:1-12

Do Not Judge Another

14 Welcome those who are weak in faith,^{*} but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions.

²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord^{*} is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister?^{*} Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister?^{*} For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God.^{*} ¹¹For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,

and every tongue shall give praise to^{*} God.'

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.^{*}

Matthew 18:21-35

Forgiveness

21 Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church^{*} sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' ²²Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven^{*} times.

23 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents^{*} was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii;^{*} and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." ²⁹Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister^{*} from your heart.'

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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NOTICES:

We have shaped a pattern of services which enable us to meet current guidelines regarding public health. Please use the hand sanitizer at the door and observe the gaps created between seating spaces. Family members may of course share a seating space.

We will not pass round a collection plate so please leave your gift on the plate at the back of church. A contactless giving plate is available.

At services of Holy Communion we will receive the bread. Please move up the centre aisle, receive standing and then return to your seat down the side aisles. No words will be used at the administration to comply with government regulations. We will have a shared sentence before the administration begins.

At the end of the service please take this sheet home with you and place your service booklet in the box marked at the back of church.

To comply with NHS Test & Trace we ask you to fill in the contact sheet and place this in a separate box at the back of church.

Forthcoming services:

Sunday 20th September

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Mary's

11.00am Holy Communion at St Peter's

Sunday 27th September

9.30am Holy Communion at St Mary's

11.00am Holy Communion at St Peter's

Sunday 4th October – Harvest Festival

9.30am Harvest Service at St Mary's

11.00am Harvest Service at St Peter's

6.30pm Holy Communion at St Peter's

Sunday 11th October

9.30am Holy Communion at St Mary's

11.00am Holy Communion at St Peter's

Sunday 18th October

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Mary's

11.00am Holy Communion at St Peter's

Sunday 25th October

9.30am Holy Communion at St Mary's

11.00am Morning Prayer at St Peter's

Advance Notice – Our Annual Parochial Meetings will take place during October.

St Mary's is on Sunday 18th October after the morning service. We shall need to elect 2 Churchwardens, at least 3 PCC members and we have vacancies on Deanery Synod.

St Peter's is on Sunday 25th October after the morning service. We shall need to elect 2 Churchwardens and 4 PCC members.

St Peter's PCC meets in church on Monday 7th September at 7.30pm

St Mary's PCC meets in church on Tuesday 8th September at 7.30pm

There is a Churchyard working party at St Peter's on Saturday 19th September from 10.00am. Please bring gloves and gardening tools.