



ST MARY THE VIRGIN, WESTWOOD

www.htboa.org

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The Rector's usual weekly day off is a Friday

13 SEPTEMBER 2026 The Grapevine



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

**Welcome to our Service today and welcome if you are
reading this at home**

11.15am - Holy Communion

HYMNS FOR TODAY'S SERVICE

310 - Lord for the years

318 - Lord thy word abideth

311 - Lord Jesus Christ

76 - Christ is made the sure Foundation

COLLECT

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:

grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;

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.

FIRST READING

Genesis 50. 15 - 21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 18. 21 - 35

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?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, 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. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But 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." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So 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

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

A BIG THANK YOU

Thank you to +John for presiding and preaching at today's service of Holy Communion.

MESSAGE FROM JENNY – Making Room for God:

Peter asks Jesus a very human question: how many times should I forgive someone? Seven times? That already sounds generous. But Jesus answers, "Not seven times, but seventy-seven times." Forgiveness, Jesus suggests, is not something we can ration or keep count of.

Joseph faces a similar question. His brothers have treated him terribly, and now they are afraid that he will take revenge. Instead, Joseph says, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God?"

Joseph does not pretend that what happened did not matter. He knows what he has suffered. But he chooses not to let that suffering determine what happens next.

That is at the heart of forgiveness.

Forgiveness does not mean saying that something wrong was right. It does not mean forgetting, or pretending that we were not hurt. Sometimes forgiveness takes a long time. And sometimes it means simply leaving the future open.

It means saying: I will not let what happened have the last word. I will leave room for God.

Perhaps this is part of what it means to be rooted in Christ: allowing God's mercy to shape us, so that we can grow in faith and become more fruitful in love. Perhaps it begins with us - with the small, difficult choices through which God's grace slowly changes the way we see ourselves, one another and the world around us.

Perhaps our prayer this week can be simply this:

"Lord, help me to let go of what I cannot change, and leave room for what you might yet do."

May God's grace begin its work in us and through us, one small step at a time.

Yours, Jenny

BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION -

If you would like to be baptised and confirmed please could you get in touch directly with Jenny, who will begin preparations soon for the confirmation service on January 17th 2027 All welcome.

HARVEST FESTIVAL - 20th September

All welcome to the Harvest Festival on September 20th! Please do bring harvest produce and tinned goods. These non-

perishable tinned goods will be donated to local food bank The Hub.

WEEKDAY BENEFICE SERVICES at Holy Trinity

MORNING PRAYER -

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, 8.30am

GLUTEN FREE WAFERS – these are available for those who need them. Please let the welcomers know when you arrive and inform the priest when you come to receive Communion.

NOTICES

NOTICES FOR WEEKLY BULLETINS –

please send all messages for the bulletin by Wednesday 12pm to Annie on: beneficeoffice@htboa.org

COPYING, PRINTING, POSTERS – please send to Annie on: beneficeoffice@htboa.org

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY FOR THE BENEFICE

MAINLY MUSIC – Tuesdays at 10.30am – fun & friendship for pre-school families (contact Marlene on 864412 if you'd like to come). marlene.haffenden@googlemail.com

SAXON CLUB - Tuesdays at 2.30pm - fellowship and various activities for seniors.

COMMUNITY CAFÉ – There is no Community Café this week.

FUTURE EVENTS AROUND THE BENEFICE

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF HOLY TRINITY'S HENRY WILLIS ORGAN ACROSS THE BENEFICE-

Thursday 24th September

-
12.00pm Lunch hour
Organ Concert - Marcus Sealy, former Sub Organist at Bath Abbey



Monday 28th September -

7.00pm Autumn Concert, Salisbury Cathedral Choir

Sunday 4th October –

2.00pm 'Come and Sing Evensong' - directed by Simon Lole. Please be in touch with Annie for more information.

MOTHERS' UNION MEETING -

Wednesday 16th September at 2.30pm at Holy Trinity.

TRINITY TOTS -

Children's and family craft and play mornings - Thursday 8th October and Tuesday 27th October, 10.30am - 12 noon. £3 per family. Parents must be present - ALL WELCOME!

PRAYER DIARY

Loving God, we give thanks for and pray for schools and academies on Education Sunday, including St Laurence, Fitzmaurice, The Mead and Westwood and Iford Schools. We pray for children and families, all volunteers and recognize all those working in education.

Gracious God, in our link with Kadugli in Sudan, we pray for those who live and minister there and while the harvest may seem distant may they be granted resilience and hope in Christ.

Creator God, during this Season of Creation, we give thanks for the extraordinary world you have created. We give thanks for the Christian charity A Rocha and pray that our churches would be bearers of hope.

FOR OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for all who are unwell, remembering especially: David Chalmers, Betty & Doug Hancock.

Pray for the recently departed and all who mourn them, especially:

Please *a/ways* let Revd Jenny know of any pastoral need, including prayer.

SAFEGUARDING

The Benefice of Bradford on Avon Holy Trinity, Westwood and Wingfield takes its responsibilities surrounding the safeguarding of children, young people, and adults who may be at risk, very seriously. We work in partnership with the Diocese of Salisbury to ensure that we work in accordance with best practices at all times.

If you have any Safeguarding concerns please speak to the clergy or our Benefice Safeguarding Officer:

Andrea Unwin – Tel: 07553161654

Email: safeguarding@htboa.org

Advice is also available from:

safeguarding@salisbury.anglican.org. To speak to a caseworker, or the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor 01722 438651, option 3

NEXT WEEK – 20 SEPTEMBER – SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

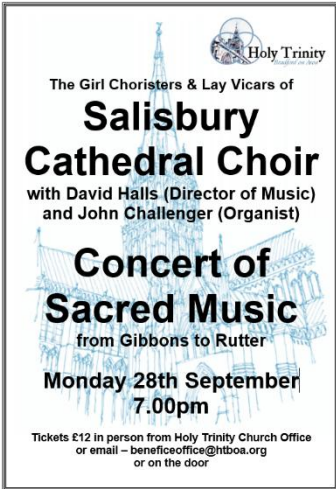
11.15am – Harvest Festival

Readings:

Deuteronomy 8. 7 - 18

Luke 12. 16 - 30

NOTICEBOARD



The poster features a blue-toned illustration of Salisbury Cathedral in the background. At the top right is the Holy Trinity logo. The text is centered and reads: 'The Girl Choristers & Lay Vicars of Salisbury Cathedral Choir with David Halls (Director of Music) and John Challenger (Organist)'. Below this is 'Concert of Sacred Music from Gibbons to Rutter'. The date and time are 'Monday 28th September 7.00pm'. At the bottom, ticket information is provided: 'Tickets £12 in person from Holy Trinity Church Office or email - beneficeoffice@htboa.org or on the door'.