

THE BENEFICE OF MINCHINHAMPTON WITH BOX AND AMBERLEY

Accept and share the generosity of God's love.

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity

13th August 2017

A warm welcome to our services, especially if you are here for the first time. Everyone baptised or who normally receives in their own church, including children, may receive the bread and wine at the altar. If you require a gluten free wafer, please indicate this at the altar rail. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please carry the service booklet with you when you go up to the altar.

Readings for Today

First Reading: 1 Kings 19. 9 - 18

Second Reading: Romans 10. 5 – 15 Gospel: Matthew 14. 22 - 33

WALKING ON WATER

With today's Gospel story, we often focus on Peter's faith – although his faith wobbled, at least he got out of the boat! That's an important message for us, and what that might mean as a church and for us individually. But this is also important for what it tells us about Jesus. His walking on water would have held echoes for the disciples in the boat who see him. His coming over the water to his disciples is not just a miracle over nature, but a statement of who he is. The Old Testament scriptures had references to God striding over the waves, and in these actions of Jesus there is a clear statement of his divinity. Remember the disciples, although following Jesus at this stage, were still trying to work out just who he was. Clearly representing God in some way, but a teacher? A prophet? Not just the miracle, but what it symbolises, is important. It is what makes Peter have faith to get out of the boat. It is the recognition God is with them: for the first time in this Gospel, it says the disciples worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.' This is a recognition story. It challenges us: who do we say Jesus is? To what extent do we recognise God in our lives? Peter's momentary doubt when he begins sinking is not his faith in being able to walk on water, but his ability to recognise and trust it was indeed God to whom he walked towards.

www.minchchurch.org.uk

Church Office: 01453 889004

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SERVICES AT OUR CHURCHES TODAY

HOLY TRINITY, MINCHINHAMPTON

There is a loop system for those with hearing aids.

8am Eucharist
President: Revd Helen Bailey
Preacher: Revd Sandy Emery

10am Sung Eucharist
President: Revd Helen Bailey
Preacher: Revd Sandy Emery

Hymns: 492, 505, 453, 621

5.30pm Said Evening Prayer
Office: Reader Linda Jarvis

ST BARNABAS, BOX

9am Eucharist
President & Preacher: Revd Sandy Emery

Hymns: 232 *omit vv 5 & 6*, 411, 262, 279 *tune 559 omit * v*,

HOLY TRINITY, AMBERLEY

8am Said Communion
President & Preacher: Revd John Spiers

10am Non Eucharist
Second Sunday Team

NOTICES –

PAM COTTLE – would like to thank all those who have helped her in many ways both large and small. All very much appreciated. She would also like to unite a very nice long umbrella with its owner. This was left in the umbrella stand in her porch.

HEAVEN KNOWS! (Even if we don't) - a book of rhymes and recollections, a light-hearted look at Minchinhampton and travels further afield. On sale at church, the parish office, Henry's and Stafford Cottage, £5 in aid of the 6Ps Appeal. Information from Hilary (884163), Mandy (882477).

MORNING COMMUNION WEEKDAY TIME - The plan is for this service to remain at 8.30am from now until March. At the beginning of next year we will review whether it should revert to 8am during British Summer Time and 8.30am during the winter. If you have never attended our daily communion service, or have been meaning to come along to it, why not try putting one morning service a week into your weekly habit of prayer? It is a wonderful way to begin the day.

PIANIST NEEDED AT ST BARNABAS, BOX - Terry Payne who has played the piano for the 9am service at St. Barnabas has moved to Witney. We will miss his talent which has been valued over many years. His departure has left a gap in our monthly rota to play the hymns for the 9am Eucharist service. If you are able to help please contact the Church Office.

THE DIOCESE OF GLOUCESTER VISION STRATEGY LIFE - challenges each one of us to commit to going out and sharing the transforming Gospel of Jesus Christ, so that people may know life in all its fullness. (John 10:10). Please collect a copy of the Stroud Deanery vision for the future of our parishes which offers some ideas towards making the Diocese vision a reality locally.

MSi MISSION SHAPED INTRO - a short six week course for all the churches of Stroud Deanery. We have been asked to send two people on this course. Could this be you? See information on the notice board and then speak to Sandy or Margaret Sheather Lay Chair of Stroud Deanery Synod.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULTS ACROSS THE BENEFICE – Are you interested in confirming your faith? If you are we are offering the opportunity to learn more about the Christian faith and explore what confirmation may mean to you. These classes are open to any young people, over the age of 10 and to all adults regardless of age! If you want to know more about this and whether confirmation might be for you, do have a word with the Revd Sandy Emery or Revd Deborah Curram, or Revd John Spiers. Contact details in Parish Magazines.

THE THEO CHAIR - the Victorian Society recently commended 'the Parish for its choice of Theo replacement chairs'- if you would like to sponsor a chair(s) in memory of a loved one, to mark a special occasion or simply as a chair(s) pick up a leaflet at the back of church. Talk to the church wardens: Howard or Mandy. The chairs have been ordered subject to the final faculty approval. The opportunity to sponsor a chair remains open.

NEWCOMERS PARTY- Sunday September 3 at 3pm at The Rectory, Butt Street. Anyone new to church or to Minchinhampton is very welcome to attend our drinks, nibbles and welcome party! Please let Christine in the Church Office know you are coming for catering purposes. Tel: 01453 – 889004

BENEFICE RETREAT - This is advance warning of the dates for this year's Benefice Retreat, which takes place at Nymphsfield from Friday Oct.13 until Saturday Oct.14. It will be led by the Revd John Hunnisett. Please get the dates in your diary, and further details will be forthcoming nearer the time.

THIS WEEK

8.30am Eucharist (Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat) in the Lady Chapel, Parish Church 5.30pm Evening Prayer daily (Mon - Sat, 4.30pm on Fridays)

16TH WED 8am Eucharist, St Barnabas, Box
 11am Eucharist (BCP), Parish Church
 2.30pm Wednesday Cuppa

18TH FRI No Choir Practices
 7.30pm Bell Ringers Practice – Parish Church

NEXT SUNDAY 20TH AUGUST – THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

HOLY TRINITY, MINCHINHAMPTON

8am Eucharist
 President & Preacher: Revd Alison Guy

10am Sung Eucharist
 President: Revd John Thompson
 Preacher: Revd Helen Bailey

5.30pm Sung Evensong
 Office & Preacher: Revd John Thompson

ST BARNABAS, BOX

9am Eucharist
 President & Preacher: Revd Helen Bailey

HOLY TRINITY, AMBERLEY

8am Said Communion 1662
 President & Preacher: Revd John Spiers

10am Parish Eucharist
 President & Preacher: Revd John Hunnisett