

THE BENEFICE OF MINCHINHAMPTON WITH BOX AND AMBERLEY

Accept and share the generosity of God's love.

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

14th May 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: Acts 7. 55 - end Second Reading: 1 Peter 2. 2 - 10

Gospel: John 14. 1 – 14

SHOW US THE FATHER

I don't know if Philip expected some kind of conjuring trick from Jesus. Puzzling over Jesus' words, that from now on the disciples knew the Father and had seen him, Philip must have been thinking, Did I miss that bit? When did we get to see the Father? So he asks Jesus to show them the Father again, so they might know what God looks like. And isn't it the question we asked when we were little: What does God look like? In great religious Art, aren't there particular ways of representing the image of God on canvas? Don't we find ideas about the image of God fascinating? Here Jesus is not talking of course, about a physical appearance of God, but about the relationship of God the Father and himself, God the Son. Jesus is clear about his divine nature here: I and the Father are one. Elsewhere in the New Testament, Jesus is described as the image - in Greek the ΕΙΚΩΝ (icon) - of God, a word more about reflecting the divine nature of God. If you want to know what God is like, we are told, look at Jesus. Look at how he loved and how he lived. Look at his care and look at his compassion. That is what God is like. This is why the incarnation - the entering of God as a human being into our world - is so essential. No remote images of a distant God from a more distant heaven: rather God amongst us, showing us how to live. If we want to know what God is like, we need simply look at Jesus. Show us the Father? He already has: in his Son.

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 Sandy Emery
Preacher: Reader Linda Jarvis

10am Sung Eucharist
President: Revd Sandy Emery
Preacher: Reader Linda Jarvis

Hymns: 145, 150, 151, 153

5.30pm Said Evening Prayer
Office: Revd Sandy Emery

ST BARNABAS, BOX

9am Eucharist
President: Canon Mike Tucker
Preacher: Reader Linda Jarvis

Hymns: 149, 542, 442 *tune* 278, 585

HOLY TRINITY, AMBERLEY

8am Said Communion
President & Preacher: Revd John Spiers

10am Non Eucharist
Revd John Spiers and Second Sunday Team

NOTICES –

JANET SPARKHALL - Peter and Hilary Sparkhall thank you all for your prayers and concern for Peter's sister, Janet, over the past 18 months. Very sadly, Janet died peacefully in her sleep on 4 May. May she rest in peace.

WEEK DAY EUCHARIST – on Tues, Thurs, Fri and Sat at Minchinhampton will be commencing at 8.30am as part of a two month trial.

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.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK – Sunday May 14 to Saturday May 20 2017. Thank you all those who have volunteered to collect this year but there are still some roads that need collectors. If you are able to help, please put your name on the list on the notice board at the back of the church. We would be extremely grateful for your help for this very worthy cause. Many thanks Richard & Liz

LECTURE IN CHELTENHAM - Monday May 22 at 7.30pm. Is anyone interested in hearing Professor Janet Soskice on *The Names and Naming of God – Have we got it all wrong?* Ian McPherson needs a driver for this, as he can't drive at night. Expenses paid. If interested, please ring him at 887590. (See magazine and notice board).

GARDEN PARTY - Sandy and Glynnis are again this year having a Garden party with afternoon tea at their home The Old carriage House, Edge. GL6 6PQ on Sunday 4th June 2.30pm onwards. Pray for sunny weather.

DATE FOR THE DIARY! - Afternoon Tea in the Porch room. 17th June 2.30-4.30pm. (Treat Dads to a cream tea - Fathers Day June 18) Or just treat yourself!! Sandwiches, scones, cakes, lashings of tea and a glass of fizz !! Ticket price £10 (including a gift for Dads). In aid of the 6Ps appeal.

COACH TRIPS - Just a handful of seats left for Waitrose at their Leckford Estate, 11 May. NT Tredegar House and the Newport Transporter Bridge, June 8. NT Waddesdon Manor and grounds, Aylesbury July 13. Full details: Ian (Jarvis) on 01453 833131 or www.abbeyhall.info

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN MINCHINHAMPTON, BOX AND AMBERLEY - Lectio Divina Group. To be held in Amberley at The New Room, Littleworth Hall, GL6 5AL, from 9.10 - 10am. We start at 9:10 please! Tuesdays: 9, 16, 23 and 30 May, 6 and 13 June. All materials provided. Contact Simon on 882504, simonlbarker@waitrose.com or Ann on 884877 anmmorris@dovebarn.co.uk for more details.

“ROMEO AND JULIET” – a superb production is coming to The Everyman and we have a day coach trip arranged for Thursday 6 July. Morning in Cheltenham, lunch at Matcham's restaurant in the theatre, then the matinee. Full details on the notice board. Deadline for booking and payment Monday June 5.

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 TUES	9am	Porch Room Cafe – Porch Room
17TH WED	8am	Eucharist, St Barnabas, Box
	11am	Eucharist (BCP), Parish Church
	2.30pm	Wednesday Cuppa
	7.30pm	Mothers' Union Meeting – Porch Room
18TH THURS	2pm	Funeral Service - Dr Christopher Booth – Parish Church
19TH FRI	5pm	Junior Choir Practice – Porch Room
	6pm	Adult Choir Practice – Parish Church
	7.30pm	Bell Ringers Practice – Parish Church

NEXT SUNDAY 21ST MAY – THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

HOLY TRINITY, MINCHINHAMPTON

8am	Eucharist President & Preacher: Revd Sandy Emery
10am	Sung Eucharist President & Preacher: Revd Anthony Roberts
5.30pm	Sung Evensong Office & Preacher: Revd Sandy Emery

ST BARNABAS, BOX

9am	Eucharist President: Canon Mike Tucker Preacher: Revd Sandy Emery
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HOLY TRINITY, AMBERLEY

8am	Said Communion 1662 President & Preacher: Revd John Spiers
10am	Parish Eucharist with Baptism President & Preacher: Revd John Spiers