



**The church magazine
for St Mary the Virgin,
Sixpenny Handley
with Gussage St Andrew
and St Rumbold's,
Pentridge**

Who's who?

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*St Mary's with
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The Seeker

handleychurch.org.uk



#4 2020

Church Services for August and September

Due to COVID-19 restrictions we are only able to offer church services in a very limited way. At the present time we are offering two Holy Communion service per month at 10am along with online worship. This is being reviewed regularly and as restrictions are lifted we will endeavour to adapt the service provision.

August 2020

Sunday 2nd: Trinity 8 [Lamas Sunday]

10am Said Holy Communion St Mary's Handley.

Sunday 9th: Trinity 9

11am Said Holy Communion from Salisbury Cathedral. [Please use links below]

<https://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/sermons-reflections>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/SalisburyCathedral1>

Sunday 16th: Trinity 10

11am Said Holy Communion from Salisbury Cathedral. [Please use links below]

<https://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/sermons-reflections>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/SalisburyCathedral1>

Sunday 23rd: Trinity 11

10am Said Holy Communion BCP St Rumbold's Pentridge.

Sunday 30th: Trinity 12

10am Online service from
the Vicarage

September 2020

Sunday 6th: Trinity 13

10am Said Holy Communion
St Mary's Handley.

Sunday 13th: Trinity 14

10am Online service from the
Vicarage [Family Service]

Sunday 20th: Trinity 15

10am Said Holy Communion BCP St Rumbold's Pentridge.

Sunday 27th: Trinity 16

10am Handley Outdoors Harvest Festival Venue [to be confirmed]



LIVE DAILY 10am BROADCASTS

Please also join us for our 10am
live daily broadcasts on Facebook
or watch later on YouTube with
this link:

[www.facebook.com/St-Marys-
Church-Sixpenny-Handley-
558498850977107](https://www.facebook.com/St-Marys-Church-Sixpenny-Handley-558498850977107)



**News items
and articles welcome!**

**Please drop them in to
the Vicarage, or email;
ask@handleychurch.org.uk**

Thanks!



Now you can!



Flatten those crisp packets and
bring them to St Mary's church

Remember!

If you would like to give your
child a good start in life, talk to
the vicar about a christening.

If you are getting married, you
can get married in your local
church if you live in the parish
or have some other link.

And if a loved one dies, please
talk to us about how the church
may be able to help.

Contact the vicar for more
information. We are here for you.

In full colour

A full colour PDF
of The Seeker is
available from
our website.



DIARY OF A COUNTRY PARSON

AUGUST

A Time to Rest

Matthew 11.28-30

²⁸ "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

This was the Gospel reading set for this morning Thursday 16th July and as I write this article for the Downsman I'm aware of how weary and tired people are at present, myself included. These words offer us both current and future hope.

The COVID-19 crisis has been with us now for six months, 45,000+ people have died and many more have been affected by the crisis physical, socially and economically. Even though there is now an air of normality around as shops, churches and business reopen in our hearts we all know we are far from the end of this crisis. Winter is on the horizon and the fear of a second wave is a reality we would probably rather not deal with. All of this has taken its toll and many of us are in need of rest.

As we look to August the traditional holiday season when Dorset would be abuzz with holiday makers we are aware that things aren't quite the same. However these comforting words of Jesus remind us of the need to recharge and to rest and to bring our burdens to him. He wants to lift the load off our backs and to refresh us inwardly. More importantly he invites us to continue the journey with him where he will help shoulder our load.

Over the next few weeks we have an opportunity in this new normal to rest a while. We may not be able to get away as we have done before, but we are lucky to live in this beautiful part of the world. Dorset offers us many opportunities to rest and recharge safely while respecting COVID regulations. I believe it's an opportunity we should take and celebrate the life we have and the relationships we treasure. This will help to revive us and to strengthened us for what may lie ahead as winter approaches.

We are also greatly blessed that we have an oasis of tranquillity and spiritual

refreshment in our beautiful parish churches. We have now been able to reopen our churches for private prayer and I would encourage all of us to use them. They are there for all the parish and it makes no difference if you are a church goer or even a believer. They can offer us a place of contemplation and for those who wish a space to pray. The physical act of lighting a candle either as a thanksgiving or in remembrance of a loved one can in itself be a very therapeutic act. I believe that God is with us in all these things.



Worship in our churches has returned in a limited fashion and at present we are holding two Holy Communions a month. One at St Mary's Handley and one at St Rumbold's Pentridge. Sadly for the time being we can't use St Andrew's Gussage because of COVID restrictions. The other services are all online but we also live stream the church services via our Facebook page or they can be seen later on YouTube.

In August as I too hope to have some leave, we will be inviting people to join with our Cathedral Worship on line at www.youtube.com/user/SalisburyCathedral1.

I hope you will enjoy the beautiful worship provided by the cathedral.

Blessings Canon Richard Hancock