



South Wye Team Ministry Newsletter

5th October 2025 – Trinity 16

Hello everyone!

What a wonderful send-off we had for Rev. Anne. It was fabulous to see so many turn out to wish her well as she starts her new life and ministry in Warrington. She has been a very caring, considerate and kind rector to the South Wye parishes for almost 11 years, and will be greatly missed.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Anne for her ministry here at South Wye, and wish her all the best for the future.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to the catering team, especially Marlene and Onnie, for putting on such a lovely spread, they did wonders, yet again! I think they fed the 5,000!

Talking of food, I will unfortunately not be able to join you for the 180th Anniversary celebration at St. Martin's this Sunday, as I will be at the Harvest service and lunch at my own church. I would have very much liked to have been here for this momentous occasion.

In the last 180 years St. Martin's will have seen many changes. Vicars, curates, interns and missionaries have all come and gone, as well as an ever changing congregation. All who have worked at or worshipped at St. Martin's and St. Peter's have brought something new and invaluable; their gifts, their time, and their service. As we enter interregnum, pray that we can all pull together and work as a team to keep St. Martin's and St. Peter's running smoothly, and open and welcoming to all who need us.

Sharron

Events and Services

The 180th Anniversary Celebration of St. Martin's church is on Sunday 5th of October at 11am.

This is followed by lunch in the hall. The lunch is £10 per person and must be booked either by the sign-up sheet in church or via the office on or before 2pm, Friday 3rd October.

St. Peter's, Bullinghope.

The new service pattern for St. Peter's is:

1st Sunday 11.15am Holy Communion

3rd Sunday 11.15am Morning Prayer

On 5th Sundays there will be a joint service with St Martin's at 9.30am.

All are welcome to join us at Bullinghope for any of our services.

October 19th is our Harvest Festival, all are welcome to join us at 11.15am.

Any produce will be donated to St Martin's Foodshare.

Coffee Morning

Sue Cockroft will be holding a coffee morning on Saturday 18th October, from 10.30am-non at 199 Ross Road. Coffee, tea, cakes and raffle.

Proceeds for St. Martin's church.

Bonus Ball Scheme

The next payment for the bonus ball scheme is due at the beginning of October, for the period October 2025to March 2026. If you do not pay by standing order, could you please pay your £26 for each ball you have to the office by cash or cheques. Cheques should be made payable to St. Martin with St. Francis Roof Account. Alternatively, you can pay directly to the account, sort code 30-80-55, account number 42121368.

There are numbers available if you wish to increase your chances of winning and to raise more money for the church. Please contact the office or myself.

Many thanks for your support, Sue Cockroft.

We will be making some changes to the newsletter format in the near future. I will keep you updated.

South Wye Services

Through the Week:

Sunday	11am	180 th Anniversary Celebration at St. Martin's
	11.15am	Holy Communion at St. Peter's

Sunday Services online

Diocese of Hereford Diocese of Hereford Facebook: Sunday Service 10am.

Church of England National Weekly Service Facebook at 9am.

TV and Radio on Sunday;

Radio 4	8.10am	Sunday Worship – Brother Sun ad Sister Moon
BBC 1	1.15pm	Songs of Praise – Young Chorister of the Year Junior Semi-Final

For our Prayers

Those who are ill or in need of your prayers, including:

Brenda Baylis	Irene F	Margaret Milne	Charlie	Sue	Maureen Gerard
Peter	Mike	Karen	Nathan	Colin	Rachel
Katie	Simon	Eddie	June M	Marie	Mandy
Shelley	Susan G	Anita			

I am updating the prayer list. If you would like to remain on the prayer list, or would like a loved added to the list, please contact me via the office. Thank you, Sharron

Those who have died and those who mourn their loss:

Mia HZ	Deborah C	Sylvia W	Thomas S
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Anglican Communion:

The Anglican Church of Tanzania: The Most Revd Dr Maimbo Mndolwa

Hereford:

This week we pray for farmers bringing in the last of the harvest, for strength after long months of work, and with gratitude as communities celebrate harvest festivals.

Porvoo:

Church of England: Diocese of Liverpool, (interim) Bishop Ruth Worsley Church in Wales: Diocese of Monmouth, The Most Reverend Cherry Vann, Archbishop of Wales Elect, Bishop of Monmouth
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark: Diocese of Haderslev, Bishop Marianne Christiansen

South Wye:

The Wider View:

This week we pray for emerging democracies, as voters take part in key elections in the Czech Republic (3–4 Oct), Cameroon (12 Oct), Ivory Coast (25 Oct), Argentina (26 Oct), the Netherlands (29 Oct), and Tanzania (29 Oct). May these processes be fair, peaceful, and hopeful for the future. We hold before God all peoples yearning for just governance and protection of their rights.

Collect for Trinity 16

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers
of your people who call upon you;
and grant that they may both perceive and know
what things they ought to do,
and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them;
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.

Readings for Trinity 16

Lamentations 1:1-6

The Deserted City

1 How lonely sits the city
that once was full of people!
How like a widow she has become,
she that was great among the nations!
She that was a princess among the provinces
has become a vassal.

2 She weeps bitterly in the night,
with tears on her cheeks;
among all her lovers
she has no one to comfort her;
all her friends have dealt treacherously with her,
they have become her enemies.

³ Judah has gone into exile with suffering
and hard servitude;
she lives now among the nations,
and finds no resting-place;
her pursuers have all overtaken her
in the midst of her distress.

⁴ The roads to Zion mourn,
for no one comes to the festivals;
all her gates are desolate,
her priests groan;
her young girls grieve,
and her lot is bitter.

⁵ Her foes have become the masters,
her enemies prosper,
because the LORD has made her suffer
for the multitude of her transgressions;
her children have gone away,
captives before the foe.

⁶ From daughter Zion has departed
all her majesty.
Her princes have become like stags
that find no pasture;
they fled without strength
before the pursuer.

Psalm 137

Lament over the Destruction of Jerusalem

¹ By the rivers of Babylon—
there we sat down and there we wept
when we remembered Zion.

² On the willows there
we hung up our harps.

³ For there our captors
asked us for songs,
and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying,
‘Sing us one of the songs of Zion!’

⁴ How could we sing the LORD’s song
in a foreign land?

⁵ If I forget you, O Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither!

⁶ Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth,

if I do not remember you,
if I do not set Jerusalem
above my highest joy.
⁷ Remember, O LORD, against the Edomites
the day of Jerusalem's fall,
how they said, 'Tear it down! Tear it down!
Down to its foundations!'
⁸ O daughter Babylon, you devastator!
Happy shall they be who pay you back
what you have done to us!
⁹ Happy shall they be who take your little ones
and dash them against the rock!

2 Timothy 1: 1-14

Salutation

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,
² To Timothy, my beloved child:
Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Thanksgiving and Encouragement

³ I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; ⁷ for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸ Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹ For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹² and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. ¹³ Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Luke 17: 5-10

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' ⁶ The Lord replied, 'If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.'

⁷ ‘Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, “Come here at once and take your place at the table”? ⁸ Would you not rather say to him, “Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink”? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, “We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!”

Bible Study based on 2 Timothy 1: 1-14

Bible notes

2 Timothy reads like a last will and testament. Paul (see p.x on the authorship of this letter) expects to die soon for his faith, and entrusts his legacy to his ‘beloved child’ Timothy. The language is affectionate and intimate, with its mention of tears of sadness alongside joy (v.4). Its unifying thread is the call to fight for the truth of the gospel against false teachers who deceive and disturb believers in Christ (see 2:14-19). Timothy is also unsettled by the prospect of Paul’s death. Martyrdom brings shame rather than honour, both to martyrs and their sympathisers. So where will Timothy find the strength he needs to fulfil his calling?

Paul reminds Timothy of the human and divine strands of a treasured story of faith. Like Paul’s, the faith of his mother and grandmother has strong Jewish roots, which provide stability under stress (v.5). Paul’s suffering can also bring strength rather than shame, because it reveals the grace and calling of God (vv.9-12), which Paul has extended to Timothy by commissioning him to his ministry (v.6). Paul’s brief reminder of Timothy’s human resources leads him quite naturally to invoke the divine resources that sustain his faith and ministry, summed up by one of Paul’s favourite words, ‘grace’ (vv.2, 9).

Notice how God’s grace is revealed in Timothy’s story: as a reason for gratitude (v.3); as the call to share in Paul’s ministry (vv.6, 9); as a source of divine strength that turns shame into honour (vv.7, 8); as the expression of God’s eternal purpose rather than a reward for Timothy’s abilities or ambitions (v.9); as the divine trust that will guard him in the face of opposition (v.12); as the Holy Spirit, which like faith is ‘living in us’ (vv.5, 14).

God’s grace is embodied in ‘the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus’ (v.10). The italicised words, borrowed from the worship of pagan gods and the Roman emperor, highlight the unique power of Christ Jesus over death by refusing to give it the last word, not least in the face of martyrdom (vv.10,12). This is good news worth proclaiming and teaching, as the treasured story of ‘the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus’ (v.13).

Reflection

Spend a few moments thinking about what stands out for you from the Bible reading. This idea may help.

There are many ways to protect something – you could put it in a strong box or a safe, wrap it in bubble wrap or cotton wool, or add a password to keep it secure. But God's Word shouldn't be password protected – we treasure it by passing it on. The good news, our treasured story that is encompassed within the pages of the Bible and has been handed down to us, needs to be shared with others, directly through sharing the Word of God, but also in the witness of how we live our lives, as Timothy is encouraged to do.

Questions for reflection

You may wish to use these questions and the picture to help you think about or discuss issues arising from this week's Bible passage.



Questions

- What has been passed down to you, that you treasure?
- How could you share your faith with friends and family so that it is something they treasure too?
- What might be holding you back from telling others about Jesus?

Sudoku

	7			1	8			
6	3				2			
	9	1					5	
					1			
1				3	4	9		
				2				4
				4	3	8		5
	5	7					6	
9			2		6			3

				5				
	2		1		3	6		
8				6		9		
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3			6		7		5	
							3	
			7		4			
2		4			9			
	9	7		2				

9	8	4	2	5	6	1	7	3
3	5	7	1	8	9	4	6	2
2	1	6	7	4	3	8	9	5
7	6	9	8	2	5	3	1	4
1	2	5	6	3	4	9	8	7
8	4	3	9	7	1	5	2	6
4	9	1	3	6	7	2	5	8
6	3	8	5	9	2	7	4	1
5	7	2	4	1	8	6	3	9

5	9	7	3	2	6	8	1	4
2	8	4	5	1	9	7	6	3
1	6	3	7	8	4	5	9	2
7	5	2	8	9	1	4	3	6
3	1	8	6	4	7	2	5	9
6	4	9	2	3	5	1	8	7
8	3	1	4	6	2	9	7	5
9	2	5	1	7	3	6	4	8
4	7	6	9	5	8	3	2	1

Sudoku (Trickier)

4		3	2					
			5	9		6	1	
			4					
3		9				7		
	8	7		1	9			
					5		6	
5	9	4	8					2
2		8					7	

		6	9	2				
1				5	8			
	9			6			3	
			1					
3		9					6	
5		1	7					8
				4				5
	4	8			2	6	9	
						8		

9	5	7	9	4	3	1	8	2	6	8	2
2	3	1	7	6	9	8	4	5	9	6	7
8	6	4	5	2	9	1	3	7	3	8	7
5	4	2	9	1	3	7	8	6	8	7	6
6	3	9	8	4	7	5	2	1	2	5	1
1	8	2	7	5	6	9	5	4	3	4	3
3	2	8	1	7	4	6	9	5	5	9	9
4	1	3	2	8	6	3	2	8	7	2	8

9	5	2	6	7	3	8	1	4	5	8	7
7	4	8	5	1	2	6	9	3	6	9	3
6	1	3	8	4	9	2	7	5	7	3	5
5	6	1	7	9	4	3	2	8	8	2	8
3	7	9	2	8	5	4	6	1	6	1	6
2	8	4	1	3	6	7	5	9	9	5	9
8	9	5	4	6	7	1	3	2	2	3	2
1	2	7	3	5	8	9	4	6	6	4	6
4	3	6	9	2	1	5	8	7	5	8	7

Wordsearch based on Psalm 137

A	K	C	D	Y	F	X	W	I	L	L	O	W	S	P
U	X	N	F	R	C	E	X	X	M	S	A	T	M	U
J	A	P	G	T	I	A	E	C	S	T	P	E	W	Y
L	G	N	R	L	P	G	P	S	G	K	E	U	N	B
F	U	H	E	A	S	H	H	T	N	F	E	G	W	C
H	R	V	M	R	T	R	A	T	O	O	A	N	V	R
Q	F	P	E	G	N	I	S	R	S	R	N	O	E	A
O	K	V	M	X	P	W	E	X	P	E	S	T	Q	E
C	I	P	B	V	M	I	R	R	R	S	H	P	L	R
R	E	D	E	H	G	A	H	Y	K	G	M	D	I	E
K	J	N	R	N	E	T	P	F	U	H	E	P	P	H
W	J	A	E	T	U	P	X	A	M	K	T	N	Z	T
R	H	H	D	O	A	V	D	D	S	J	K	R	Z	I
T	A	Y	M	H	P	L	I	A	A	O	V	T	I	W
S	T	S	E	H	G	I	H	W	E	Y	S	W	J	M

RIVERS
JOY
HAND
MOUTH

MIRTH
HAPPY
HARPS
SONGS

SAT
LAND
WITHER
TEAR

SING
WILLOWS
ASKED
DAUGHTER

WEPT
RIGHT
TONGUE
HIGHEST

FOREIGN
HUNG
CAPTORS
REMEMBERED