



# South Wye Team Ministry Newsletter

## 28<sup>th</sup> July 2024 - 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

Hello Everyone, I hope that you are all keeping safe and well.

Now that the football is over for a few minutes, I am looking forward to the Olympics.

Actually, I think that there is football at the Olympics, isn't there? There are things that I don't understand – such as why there is a couple of days of some sports before the Opening Ceremony. As well as the sports, I am also fascinated by the sheer levels of detail and organisation involved in a massive event like the Olympics. I find it slightly daunting to have to decide whether the bric-a-brac or the book stall should go inside the marquee at the St Martin's Fete, the thought of having to arrange the dressage, skateboarding and canoe slalom is mind boggling.

I hope that it doesn't sound flippant to say that I find that part of the miraculous aspect of the story of the feeding of the 5000 is just managing such a huge crowd of people at all. 5000 people is twice the population of Kington. "Make them sit down", Jesus says. And without a public address system, without iphones or text or even a megaphone, the disciples get everyone sat down. "There was a great deal of grass in the place" for them to sit on – but there clearly was also a great deal of co-operation and organisation as well. Getting everyone fed is a priority and is the source of the miracle. But enabling everyone to hear, to understand – to understand that they were actually going to be fed, amongst other things – is an amazing thing to me.

The actual miracle – the transforming of a small boy's lunch into enough food for 5000 people – has important resonances for us. The child had only got enough food for himself and it was food that was available to the poorest family. God chose to multiply barley loaves, staple food for that time and place. God can make a great deal out of what we have to offer. We may feel that we have not got much to offer in our service of God. But what we offer in love – however small it may feel – can make a real difference. That offering may be practical – barley loaves for a picnic, fairy cakes for a fete – or it may be – equally practical – prayer. Our offerings of prayer, every day, may sometimes feel meagre or inadequate, but in Jesus' hands they are sufficient.

However reticent we may feel about what we have to offer to Jesus, however inadequate it may feel to us, he can use it to change lives. What might happen if we offer our whole selves?

*With every blessing, Anne*

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## Family and Community News

The funeral service for Derek Adams will be held at St. Peter's, Bullinghope on Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> August at 11:15am. We continue to hold Mavis and Janet in our prayers.

### **Wednesday Walks and Picnics**

Every Wednesday in the School Holidays  
Walk from the Scout Hut at 12 noon  
Picnic at Bishop's Meadow 12:45  
Picnic funded by DWP

### ***Toastie and Warm at St Martin's***

On Tuesday afternoons the Narthex at St Martin's is a busy and welcoming space.

From 1pm there is a Bible Study group, all welcome.

From 2pm there is a coffee afternoon, full of conversations and information, with chocolate biscuits and, usually, home-made cakes.

Everyone is welcome to come along to any – or all – parts of the afternoon.

### **Catching up with friends – or making new ones!**

**Young at Heart -** First Thursday of each month – Lunch at the Wye Inn (contact the office so that we can book the table)

Third Thursday of each month at 2pm – Meeting in St. Martin's Church – talks, games, refreshments and friendship – everyone welcome!

### **Services at Belmont Community Centre**

If you live in or near Belmont and find the journey to St Martin's difficult, or if Sunday mornings are not easy for you, you might like to join us for Friday Communion at Belmont Community Centre.

We celebrate a said service of Holy Communion at 12:30pm on the Second and Fourth Fridays of each month, following FoodShare. Everyone is very welcome to this service. The hall has level access and good ventilation – and if the weather is good we celebrate outside.

**The next services at Belmont are: 12.30pm Holy Communion – 26<sup>th</sup> July, 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> August**

### **St Martin's Summer Fete**

Huge thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of St Martin's Fete. We are hugely grateful to those who donated prizes, organised games, sold draw tickets, barbecued, made tea, staffed stalls or helped in any other way.

We are likely to clear about £1000 on the day for Church funds.

Thank you all

## For our Prayers

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

Bill	James	Joan	Paul	Sheila	Ann W	Brenda B
Sue	Brooke	Christina	Betty	Mandy	Toby	Michael

### ***Those who have died and those who mourn their loss:***

Derek..      Marion E

### **Anglican Communion:**

The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & the Middle East

### **Hereford:**

Pray for all that helps resource the local church in mission and ministry, as we plan for new ways of being a serving and responsive church across our communities.

### **Porvoo:**

Lithuania; Ireland: Derry and Raphoe

### **South Wye:**

Please pray for those working in manufacturing in our parishes

### **The Wider View:**

Urbanisation has progressed rapidly in Tanzania: by 2050 the population of Dar-es-Salaam predicted to exceed 10 million, and more than half the country's population will be urban. Urban areas are unsustainable in their present form, with poor housing and social provision. Pray for effective planning with community participation so that living conditions, health and viability may be improved.

Pray for the work of the Society of Mary and Martha at Sheldon, Exeter, providing shelter, refuge and support for clergy and others in ministry at times of need, stress or crisis.

William Wilberforce and others are remembered this week: pray for all who campaign against slavery today, for awareness of the various forms of modern slavery, and for all who are trapped or trafficked into situations of this kind.

Tuesday is World Friendship Day. Celebrate friendship in all its forms, give thanks for the friends in our lives, and pray we may always be ready to extend the gift of friendship to others.

Lammas Day (Thursday) was the day when the first-fruits of harvest were offered: may we honour God as Creator, and use with thought and the good things he gives us.

Pray for all who work within our emergency services, including those in part-time or voluntary roles.

Pray for local councillors, and also for those who help to administer local charity funds.

## Services on-site, online and on TV and Radio For the week beginning 28<sup>th</sup> July

### South Wye Services Through the Week:

8pm Night Prayer from Common Worship – on St. Martin's Facebook page

### Sunday

9:30am Holy Communion at St. Martin's

11.15am Morning Prayer at St. Peter's

### Thursday

10am Said Communion in St. Martin's Lady Chapel

The 9.30am service will be streamed on St. Martin's Facebook page and will be available on the St. Martin's and the St. Peter's Facebook pages and the St. Martin's YouTube channel later in the day.

### Diocese of Hereford

Diocese of Hereford Facebook: Sunday Service 10am.

### Church of England

National Weekly Service Facebook at 9am.

### TV and Radio on Sunday;

BBC H&W 8am Sunday Worship.

Radio 4 8.10am Sunday Worship-Paris Olympics 2024

BBC 1 1.15pm Songs of Praise- Olympic Faith

### Prayer for the day:

The Church of England website has audio and text of the Prayer for the Day.

### Prayer for the Nation

The Archbishops continue to invite all to call on God in Prayer. We invite you to set aside time every evening to pray, particularly at 6pm each day. More than ever, this is a time when we need to love each other. Prayer is an expression of love. Find more details at [churchengland.org/resources/prayer-nation](https://churchengland.org/resources/prayer-nation)

### Collect for 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

Gracious Father,  
revive your Church in our day,  
and make her holy, strong and faithful,  
for your glory's sake  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Readings for 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity

**2 Kings 4: 42-44** <sup>42</sup> A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, 'Give it to the people and let them eat.' <sup>43</sup> But his servant said, 'How can I set this before a hundred people?' So he repeated, 'Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the Lord, "They shall eat and have some left."' <sup>44</sup> He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the Lord.

### **Psalm 145:10-18**

<sup>10</sup> All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup> They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power,

<sup>12</sup> to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup> Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.

<sup>14</sup> The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

<sup>15</sup> The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.

<sup>16</sup> You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.

<sup>17</sup> The Lord is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings.

<sup>18</sup> The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

**Ephesians 3: 14-end** <sup>14</sup> For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup> from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. <sup>16</sup> I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, <sup>17</sup> and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. <sup>18</sup> I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. <sup>20</sup> Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

### **John 6:1-21**

<sup>6</sup> After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup> A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. <sup>3</sup> Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. <sup>4</sup> Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. <sup>5</sup> When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' <sup>6</sup> He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. <sup>7</sup> Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' <sup>8</sup> One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup> 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' <sup>10</sup> Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. <sup>11</sup> Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup> When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' <sup>13</sup> So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. <sup>14</sup> When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.' <sup>15</sup> When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

## Bible Study based on John 6:1-21

**Bible notes** The feeding of the five thousand is the only miracle shared between all four Gospels (apart from the resurrection). However, John's context is different from the Synoptics. First, he stresses that it is Passover season with all the significance that has for bread; and second, Jesus makes all the running (vv.5-7). Then, there's the lovely and unique episode with Andrew – eager to please (see John 1.41), bringing a packed lunch to Jesus. You can imagine the other 11 disciples behind him, nudging each other and muttering 'muppet'! But Jesus takes it and turns it into a banquet for five thousand with a basket left over for each disciple, Andrew included. Maybe the lesson for those who called him a muppet is that Jesus can make use of whatever paltry, inadequate offer we make. He takes it without comment – none of the 'is that it?' attitude of many in church, especially leaders!

The crowd think this proves that Jesus is 'the prophet'. This is an echo of Deuteronomy 18.15, where Moses promises to send a prophet 'like me'. Maybe this promise had been fulfilled many times – not least in Elisha – but John wants us to ask if it is particularly fulfilled in Jesus. He gives the crowd's view without comment. But we are left to wonder whether this is one who will lead his people out of oppression as Moses did, and to ask ourselves: Is the feeding in the wilderness a sign of that? But Jesus leaves and so do the 12 – in opposite directions (v.15). Jesus goes to the hills as he realises that this crowd want to make him the king who would lead them in a rebellion (John's account has few of the rebellious echoes of the Synoptics, but they are there). The 12 head for the shore, get in the boat and leave without Jesus. Why? Did Jesus tell them to do this? Probably. After all, they are unlikely to have forgotten that he wasn't with them!

But in the night, Jesus comes on the water. This is pretty much the same story the Synoptics tell, and John has Jesus give the same answer: Ego eimi – I am. It is an echo not of Moses but of the God who called Moses from the bush. And for us reading John's account – though not the disciples because they hadn't read chapter 1! – we know who he is (see 1.1-5). And notice that Jesus doesn't seem to get into the boat; rather it seems that his presence speeds the boat to shore. There is no explicit word about calming the storm, but it is implied in the final verse. Is this the end of the story? Well, no. As we shall see, the crowd followed because they felt Jesus had left them mid-conversation.

**Reflection** Spend a few moments thinking about what stands out for you from the Bible reading. This idea may help. On a hill in Galilee, a boy offered his lunch. In 'lockdown', did someone offer you food? Did you deliver food? Huge numbers of ordinary people pulled together so that everyone was looked after. Many did jobs out of their normal experience. Footballers delivered food parcels. An airline pilot drove a van. Office workers helped on the shop floor. Children earned sponsorship money. What about you? What in your life can you offer to God that he can take and use? In worship, do you feel too

awkward or embarrassed to offer to be involved? Spare a thought for Andrew who suggested those few morsels would feed a crowd! We don't need the answers to 'how', rather we need to have faith that what we bring, God will multiply.

### Questions for reflection

- When have you shared something you felt to be small but made a big difference to someone (or not shared because you felt it too small)?
- What else do you have that God might be calling you to share?
- How best might that be done?



## Sudoku (Easier!)

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

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

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

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

# Trickier!

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

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

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

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



Wordsearch based on 2 Kings 4:42-44

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

FEEDS  
HUNDRED  
BRINGING  
FIRST

TWENTY  
BARLEY  
GRAIN  
PEOPLE

SERVANT  
SHALL  
BEFORE  
LEFT

ONE  
MAN  
FOOD  
FRUITS

LOAVES  
EARS  
SACK  
EAT

THUS  
SET  
ATE  
WORD