King's Way Benefice News

Living and sharing the Good News of Christ by serving East Bristol

Sunday 20th September

Collect for Today — The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

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 our Lord.
Amen

Worship Services on Sunday 20th September

St Michael's	9.00am	Holy Communion	Rev. Nicola Callen
King's Way Benefice	10.30am	**No Junior Church**	
St Aidan's	10.30am	Service of the Word	Neil Baker
St John's	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev. Nicola Callen

Worship Services on Sunday 27th September

St Michael's	9.00am	Service of the Word	Jim Elliott
King's Way Benefice		**Junior Church**	
St Aidan's	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev. Trevor Denley
St John's	10.30am	Holy Communion	Rev. Matt Stone

Lectionary readings for 20th Sept	Philippians 1:21-30	Matthew 20:1-16
Lectionary readings for 27th Sept	Philippians 2:1-13	Matthew 21:23-32

Regular Meetings King's Way Benefice

Mondays	**Home Group** 2.30pm - 4.00pm at Wesley Cottage (for more details, email: anthony.hick@methodist.org.uk or phone 07726 342744)
Tuesdays	**Morning Prayer** 9.15am at St John's
Wednesdays	**Morning Prayer** 9 am at St Aidan's
Thursdays	**Holy Communion** 10am at St John's Church followed by Coffee & Chat **Coffee & Chat** 10am -12pm at St Aidan's **Home Group** 7.30pm (now meeting face to face every fortnight, speak to Rob Towler for more information)
Saturdays	**Bible Study** 10am -11.30am at St John's

Thought for the Week by Rev Susan Allman

Dear Friends,
As someone born and raised in Portsmouth, I have been watching recent events there with dismay. The spectacle of a violent anti-immigration protest, led by men dressed in black and breathing threats, even towards the volunteers of the RNLI, labelling them as traitors, was shocking, especially in a city with such a long tradition of service to one's fellow human beings, even to the point of laying down one's life.

We do not all share the same views on the thorny issue of immigration, of course, but I find it hard to understand why, if someone feels strongly enough to protest publicly about something, they would want to conceal their identity behind masks and balaclavas. What, I wondered, were they trying to hide?

In stark contrast to this came a statement from a RNLI volunteer, having been issued with advice from his own organisation to take certain steps, so as not to be easily identified:

"I'm sorry," he wrote, "but I have considered this advice carefully, and I am ignoring it. I drove home this morning in my RNLI stickered car, wearing my branded RNLI gear…If you want to come and shout at me, abuse me or my colleagues, or tell me I not proudly patriotic or a good citizen, you know exactly where I am. I won't be hiding something about which I am immensely proud."

Jesus came to shine a light into all the dark corners of our lives. "There is nothing covered up that will not be uncovered," he said (Luke 12:2).

Our vocation as Christians is to shine as lights in the world. "Do not to be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified," we are told at our baptism. His power at work among us enables us to overcome evil with good and to stand with Him against the powers of darkness, on the side of truth and love.

With love in Him,
Susan

*Please remember **Emily Furish** in your prayers*

What's it like to be a Christian in Iran?

There are some beautiful old churches and cathedrals in Iran, but you can't walk into one as a new Christian and worship in your own language. Christians have to meet in secret house churches to worship and read the Farsi Bible. Security is a problem - either from hostile neighbours or infiltration by the authorities. The government opposes Christianity, bans Bibles, arrests those who speak openly about their faith and threatens the lives of those who leave Islam to follow Christ. The authorities even carry out a 'stop and search' policy on mobile phones belonging to ordinary people on the streets, checking for any mention of Christianity or criticism of the government through Internet searches or social media.

During periods of unrest or war, the government often blocks access to global networks as happened for the first 88 days of the present war with Israel and America. Recently, a new ruling in Iran has classified several Christian satellite broadcasters as 'hostile' organisations. It means watching a Persian-language TV channel could now lead to prosecution. This change threatens one of the few ways that isolated believers in Iran can have community. *'When there is no church to visit, no Christian community you know, no Bible and no Christian materials available, these TV programmes become the only place where people can hear God's Word'* shares a local Christian.

How would you cope?

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Christian broadcasters as they continue proclaiming the gospel with courage and wisdom despite mounting pressure
- house churches to remain safe from hostile neighbours and infiltration by the authorities
- God's protection over those facing surveillance, false accusations and persecution
- those struggling with the dire economic situation and the anxieties of war
- those who see no hope for the future - that they might find hope in Jesus Christ.

Priest in Charge of Benefice	Rev. Matt Stone	07470471359
	mattstone@kingswaybenefice.org	
Focal Minister for St Michael's	Rev Nicola Callen	07837 287455
	revnicola@kingswaybenefice.org	
Lead Minister for St Aidan's	Rev. Pippa White	
	rev.pippawhite@gmail.com	
Wardens for St Aidan's	Neil Baker	0117 9329228
	Sue Crowder	0117 9750947
Wardens for St John's	Dave Higham	07898 621683
	Nigel Seville	07940 584498
Warden for St Michael's	Trudy Britton	07939 917256

King's Way Benefice Office:
Amy Donaldson, Benefice Administrator
0117 9586412 or 07437 190465
administrator@kingswaybenefice.org
Working hours: Mon 9am-1pm, Tue 1pm-5pm & Thurs 9am-1pm.
Office opening hours Monday am and Thursday am.

The newsletter this week has been sent out by Sheila McKay but Amy is back next week