



Pews News

United benefice of Shenstone & Stonnall



**A warm welcome to everyone.
We hope you enjoy worshipping with us.**

Sunday 24th July – The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

	St John the Baptist	St Peter's Church
9.30am	Early Birds led by Carol & Ian Law	
10.45am	Communion service led by Ray Chamberlain & Rev John A	Morning Worship led by Rev Liz
12.15pm		Baptism of Acer & Harrison led by Rev Liz

Collect for Sunday 24th July

Creator God,
you made us all in your image:
may we discern you in all that we see,
and serve you in all that we do;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Sunday 31st July – The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

	St John the Baptist	St Peter's Church
9.30am	Early Birds led by Lesley Matile	
10.45am	Joint Communion Service led by Rev Liz	

Prayer for Ukraine

Lord of all people and all nations,
We lift before you the people of Ukraine and the people of Russia,
Each girl, boy, woman and man living in fear of what tomorrow may
bring,
We long for a time you spoke of through your prophet Isaiah,
When weapons of war would be beaten into ploughshares,
When nation will no longer lift up sword against nation,
We cry out to you for peace,
Protect those who only desire and deserve to live in security and safety,
Comfort those who fear for their lives and the lives of their loved ones,
Change the hearts of those set on violence and aggression,
Fill earthly leaders with great wisdom to find paths to peace,
Please Lord come and have your way in your world,
May your will be done here, on earth as it is in heaven,
May your peace reign. Now and always,
We lift this prayer to you, our God who is able to do
more than we can ever ask or imagine,
In the name of Christ our saviour,

Amen.



Please pray for all those known to us who in need of our prayers and for those mentioned below.

'Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.' 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

- We pray for our Church, our Bishops and Clergy particularly those newly ordained.
- We pray for our government for wisdom as they work through the issues faced at present.
- We thank you for the Queen and the Royal family, we give thanks for the Queens service to our nation.
- We hold in prayer those members of our church family who are caring for loved ones at home, in hospital or in residential care.
- We pray for those who are recently bereaved.
- We pray for those known to us who are ill, and we particularly hold in prayer Alan and Nest Bateman, Brian and Linda Jenkins and

family, Bill and Elaine Whitney, Dorothy Middleton, Jean and Alan Tidman, Ann and Roy Powell, Jane Lawton, Di Proctor.

- We pray for our Church wardens who are taking on extra tasks whilst there is so much illness about.
- We pray for the staff and pupils at our Village schools as they break up for the summer holidays.
- We pray for the children and young adults who, this summer prepare for new schools, colleges and universities in september.
- We pray for calm and peace as we read and listen to stories in the news and help us to discern the truth.
- We thank you Lord for the earth and all you have provided for us. We are especially grateful to live in our beautiful villages.



If you would like a prayer included in next week's newsletter, please contact Veronica Raybould on 01543 480 756

Notices:

- PCC meetings for both churches have recently been postponed, the reschedule meetings will take place on Wednesday 3rd August 3pm at St Peters, Stonnall and 7.30pm at St John the Baptist Shenstone.
- St John the Baptist Visiting Bell Ringers
 - Mike Wigney Bovey Tracey, Devon. Their 75 annual cycling tour, Tuesday 2nd August ringing between 2.30 and 3.30.
 - Liz Griffith-Jones - A quarter peal tour for a group of experienced ringers from Essex and Hertfordshire, Friday 14th October starting at 10.30am. They will ring for approximately an hour.
- There will also be a Bell peel in memory of Audrey Birch on 9th September, this will be a full peal 10.00 till 1.00 pm

This week's readings are Colossians 2:6-15(16-19) & Luke 11:1-13

Reflection on Luke 11:1-13

“....everyone who asks receives” (v.10)

Today's passage reflects Luke's take on Jesus' teaching about prayer. What emerges clearly is that Jesus expects his disciples to pray with boldness, trusting God to take care of their daily needs. The disciples

clearly sense that there is something about the way Jesus prays to the Father that they need to inhabit for themselves. The 'model' prayer he gives them is fairly unremarkable, full of phrases familiar to any pious Jew. The teaching that follows stresses the need for persistence. The friend at midnight who at first refuses to provide food for an unexpected visitor stands here for our constant experiences of setback in prayer; our projections onto God of our own impatience and lack of compassion. We are not born trusting God; trust has to be discovered and learnt, and we are to persist in spite of any damage to our image of God that arises from past experience or wounded memories.

God is not like the friend at midnight; yet we may sometimes feel abandoned and that our requests are not heard. Praying with persistence requires discipline and courage. Our spiritual muscles need developing and exercising before we can rely on them to carry us through barren times. Once again, Jesus prepares the disciples for his passion. To interpret his suffering, and the suffering they themselves will endure, requires the consoling gift of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Reflection by Angela Tilby. Reflections for Sundays Year C, Guite, Herbert et al. Church House Publishing 2018



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