

Father Neil writes:

A couple of summers ago the family and I had a brief holiday during which we visited Longleat Safari Park and tackled the huge hedge maze located there. It is the biggest in Britain made up of over 16,000 English yew trees and has a raised viewing platform at the very heart of the maze that I was certainly determined to climb on, before my wife and kids! We all thought it would be easy, but of course the people who designed the maze knew we would probably think that and so they no doubt constructed it to constantly lure the unwary down into its many dead ends. Even when you thought you were taking the right path, the most direct or the obvious route to get to the centre. Having found myself in what looked like the same dead end for the umpteenth time I finally gave in and took out my mobile phone. I had ~~'cheated'~~ used it to photograph the map of the maze located at the entrance - just in case I needed it. Once I had managed to work out where I was, I was finally able to find the correct path to the centre.

A former Bishop of Durham suggests many of Jesus' stories and parables are also just like mazes, intended to challenge his listeners to work out for themselves where they are and how to get to the heart of the thing that truly matters; the kingdom of God. Jesus knew that people easily get lost and lured into dead ends as they went through life, but his teachings and parables provided a map. If heard and understood properly, these parables would help them to see where they were and the right direction they needed to take to obtain the fullness of life and individual flourishing promised by God. Despite this, many people did not listen to Jesus during his earthly ministry. In the same way, many people today choose not to accept Jesus' teaching; even those who profess to being Christians frequently choose to adopt it in their lives only superficially, and, when it suits them and the lifestyle they wish to pursue.

Ask yourself the question: where are you in the maze right now? Have you taken, or are you in danger of taking, the wrong route? Do you constantly find yourself in a dead end or do you even feel completely lost? Jesus offered a map to help those who wanted to take the right path, the one and only true direction. Finding this map is not without difficulty though; it will take more than just casual investment. It will take time and sometimes hard work.

A cursory and occasional glance at the bible and rare visit to church are probably not enough. We need to invest care and thought into the task of hearing what Jesus had to say. Only then might we start to understand how it can apply to our lives and be our guide that ensures we remain on the right path to the centre, where we can truly flourish. Do consider joining some of the upcoming bible/study/fellowship groups as we seek to explore our faith deeper and God's individual call on our lives.

PLEASE PRAY

All who need God's love and protection including ourselves, but most especially for those in need or suffering.

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The families and friends of those who have died recently and those whose anniversary falls at this time.

The Parish of Paignton prayer Group will meet on Monday 18th October in church at 2.30pm if you would like to join them

For those whose years mind occur this month

3 rd	Eileen Leonard, Marjorie Davis, Charles Williams	17 th	Gerald Harding
4 th	Norman Wyeth	20 th	Irene Throw, Jan Rousay, Bud Gaye
7 th	Eric Swift	21 st	Pam Arthurs
8 th	Hal Stanley	23 rd	Jean Fordham, Marjorie Ward
9 th	David Germon	24 th	Fred Brown
10 th	Ray Sellars	25 th	Peter Burrows
11 th	Andrew Litt	26 th	Pat Wood, Roger Keen
13 th	Donald Piper	27 th	Evelyn Gillard, Gwendoline Oaff, Sarah Page, Jack Hilliard
14 th	David Hunter Pr	29 th	Vi Millman, Peggy Norwell, Ronald Knights
15 th	Philip Berrow Pr	30 th	Velma Friend, Roy Tiffin, Betty Fuller
16 th	Harry Hawkins		

PRAYER AND REFLECTION DURING THE WEEK
Based on the Sunday Readings

Week beginning October 3rd

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

God, sometimes we do not understand why bad things happen to good people. Sometimes all we can do is lift up our eyes and hearts to heaven, and scream out loud, why? Sometimes we do not want to persist in our integrity; we allow our suffering to lead us into despair. Yet wisdom comes from listening to your Word. Enable us to see the life you have given us through the laughter, joy, trial, and tribulation of your son Jesus Christ, who lived, suffered, died, and was raised for us. In his name we pray. **Amen.**

For Reflection

How do we persist in our integrity when the hard times come? If we receive the good things that God provides for us, what can we do with the bad things that happen in our lives? What is God's relationship to the difficulties that we encounter?

Morning

Help us, God, as we rise this day, to seek out your will as we enjoy the good and suffer through the bad. Prove us, O God, and try us so that we can learn the steps we need to take to follow your ways. **Amen.**

Evening

When I felt like a dejected child, rejected and lost, your comfort surrounded me, and I felt as if I was home. Thank you for your embracing heart, for making me feel special and loved, for helping me up, and for saying that you are my brother, my Saviour, my friend. Thank you, Jesus. **Amen.**

TO THINK ABOUT THIS WEEK

Go out into the world and live as children, dependent on God and on each other, obedient to the will of God, holding tight to God's hand, citizens of the kingdom.

Week Beginning October 10th

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Listening God, hear your church today as we bring our joys and our concerns, our thanksgivings and our demands. Fill us with the assurance that you truly hear our words and thoughts, our songs and our tears. In the name of the one who always shows us the way, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For Reflection

How do you talk to God when you feel that God is not listening? How can you be a better disciple, considering the radical words of Jesus in Mark that you have to sell all you own, give the money to the poor, and then follow him?

Morning

As I open my eyes, I want to feel your Word, living and active and guiding my way. I want to live knowing that what is impossible for me is possible for you. I want to live with the certitude that those who are first will be last, and the last will be first. Give me the courage and the hope to live with your words in my mind for the rest of the day. In Jesus Christ, my teacher, I pray. **Amen.**

Evening

As I lay down to rest, I look at the times in my day when my heart has felt like fainting, and I have felt like arguing, but I do so with the understanding that even in my deepest sorrow you were with me. Thank you, God, for understanding and for helping this human being who, if imperfectly, strives to seek out your face, to follow your will, and to understand your Word. Give me the rest I need to live day by day and step by step. In the name of my example and my strength, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

TO THINK ABOUT THIS WEEK

Let us hold fast to confessing that Jesus is the Son of God, brought to this earth to understand our weaknesses and to show us how to live as his disciples. Be bold and courageous, trusting in God's grace, love, and mercy.

WEEK BEGINNING OCTOBER 17TH

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

O God, you show us the way of servanthood.

You have given us much so that we can bless others and not seek gratification for ourselves. Help us to seek your path and keep us in humility so that we can be the light of Christ in the world. In the name of the one who came to serve, we pray. **Amen.**

For Reflection

What can you do to seek God's wisdom? How can you be a better servant?

Morning

Gracious God, keep me humble throughout the day. Help me to seek your wisdom as I stand in service to others. In your name I pray. **Amen.**

Evening

Loving God, thank you for keeping me today. Thank you for the awesome works you have blessed my eyes to see. Continue to bless my community and me throughout the night. In the name of Jesus I pray. **Amen.**

TO THINK ABOUT THIS WEEK

The Son of Man came to serve, not to be served. Let us follow Christ's example, and give our all to God and one another.

Week Beginning October 24th

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Merciful God, you always hear us when we cry out. You stay close when we are in distress. It is you in whom we seek refuge, and you deliver us from evil. Let praise flow from our mouths to your ears, for we can taste and see that you are indeed good. All glory, praise, and honour are due to you God, our redeemer and our strength. **Amen.**

For Reflection

What can you do to bring someone to Christ? How can you help someone find his or her healing?

Morning

Dear God, help me to follow after your ways as I go throughout my day. **Amen.**

Evening

Gracious God, thank you for keeping me covered throughout the day. Grant me peace and rest in your safety. In Jesus' name I pray. **Amen.**

TO THINK ABOUT THIS WEEK

People of God, go in peace and walk humbly in the world.

Week Beginning October 30th

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Holy and gracious God, you come to us with words of wisdom and of promise. Teach us to know the gifts of our great high priest, and lead us to love what is nourishing for all life, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

For Reflection

We serve a living God. This week, look each day for the presence of God alive in the midst of God's people and the creation God has made. Where is God at work, bringing people together for good?

Morning

Holy God, on this new day, I give you thanks for all that lies before me and those I love. Guide us and keep us on the path that you intend. Help us to see the journey you set before us when the way grows dim. **Amen.**

Evening

Gracious giver of all good things, for all that has transpired in your world today, I pray for peace and quiet to come where it is most needed. I thank you for the work I have had to do and pray for those who have no work. I ask your presence now for rest and renewal, in safety and calm, that tomorrow I may again see your face in those I meet, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

TO THINK ABOUT THIS WEEK

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all you might. Bind to yourselves, as close as to your own bodies, God's command to love your neighbour as yourself.

READINGS AND CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER 2021

Mondays – Fridays **Morning Prayer – 8.30am** **Evening Prayer - 5.00pm**

Friday 1st	<i>Remigius, bishop 533, Anthony Ashley Cooper (Earl of Shaftesbury) Social reformer, 1885</i>	
<i>Deuteronomy 31.7-13, Psalm 79.1-9, Luke 10. 13-16</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St John's
Saturday 2nd		
<i>Joshua 22.1-6, Psalm 69. 33-37, Luke 10. 17-24</i>		
9.00 am	Holy Communion	St John's
Sunday 3rd	18th after Trinity	
<i>Job 1.1;2.1-10, Psalm 26, Hebrews 1.1-4,2.5-12, Mark 10.2-16</i>		
8.30 am	Holy Communion BCP	St John's
10.00 am	Holy Communion	St John's
11.15 am	Satellite (non-Eucharistic)	St Boniface
6.00 pm	Taize	St John's
Monday 4th	Francis of Assisi, friar, deacon, 1226	
<i>Jonah 1.1-2.2, 10, Psalm 69.1-6, Luke 10. 25-37</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St John's

Tuesday 5th		
<i>Jonah 3, Psalm 130, Luke 10. 38-end</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
Wednesday 6th	William Tyndale, translator, martyr, 1536	
<i>Jonah 4, Psalm 86. 1-9, Luke 11. 1-4</i>		
11.00 am	Holy Communion	St John's
2.30 pm	"Coffee Morning"	Zoom
Thursday 7th		
<i>Malachi 3. 13_4.2a, Psalm 1, Luke 11.5-13</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St John's
Friday 8th		
<i>Joel 1. 13-15, 2. 1-2, Psalm 9. 1-7, Luke 11. 15-26</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St John's
Saturday 9th	<i>Denys, bishop, and companions, martyrs, c250, Robert Grosseteste, Bishop, philosopher, scientist, 1253</i>	
<i>Joel 3. 12-end, Psalm 97. 1, 8-end, Luke 11. 27-28</i>		
9.00 am	Holy Communion	St John's
10:00am	Peace Garden work and worship	St Boniface
Sunday 10th	19th Sunday after Trinity	
<i>Job 23. 1-9, 16-end, Psalm 22. 1-15, Hebrews 4. 12-end, Mark 10. 17-31</i>		
8.30 am	Holy Communion BCP	St John's
10.0 am	Holy Communion	St John's
11.15 am	Messy Church	St Boniface
6.00 pm	Taize	St John's
Monday 11th	<i>Ethelburga, abbess, 675, James the deacon, companion of Paulinus, 7th century</i>	
<i>Romans 1. 1-7, Psalm 98, Luke 11. 29-32</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St John's
Tuesday 12th	<i>Wilfrid, bishop, missionary, 709, Elizabeth Fry, prison reformer, 1845, Edith Cavell, nurse, 1915</i>	
<i>Romans 1. 16-25, Psalm 19. 1-4, Luke 11. 37-41</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
12:30pm	Vintage Messy Church (with lunch)	St Boniface
7.30 pm	Study Group	Zoom

Wednesday 13th	Edward the Confessor, king, 1066	
<i>Romans 2. 1-11, Psalm 62. 1-8, Luke 11. 42-46</i>		
11.00 am	Holy Communion	St John's
2.30 pm	"Coffee Morning"	Zoom
Thursday 14th		
<i>Romans 3. 21-30, Psalm 130, Luke 11. 47-end</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St John's
Friday 15th	Teresa of Avila, teacher of the faith, 1582	
<i>Romans 4. 1-8, Psalm 32, Luke 12. 1-7</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St John's
Saturday 16th	<i>Nicholas Ridley and Hugh Latimer, bishops, martyrs, 1555</i>	
<i>Romans 4. 13, 16-18, Psalm 105. 6-10, 41-44, Luke 12. 8-12</i>		
9.00 am	Holy Communion	St John's
Sunday 17th	20th Sunday after Trinity	
<i>Job 38. 1-7 (34-end), Psalm 104. 1-10, 26, 35c, Hebrews 5. 1-10, Mark 10-35-45</i>		
8.30 am	Holy Communion BCP	St John's
10.00 am	Holy Communion	St John's
11.15 am	Satellite (non-Eucharistic)	St Boniface
6.00 pm	Taize	St John's
Monday 18th	Luke the Evangelist	
<i>Isaiah 35. 3-6, Psalm 147. 1-7, 2 Timothy 4. 5-17, Luke 10. 1-9</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St John's
Tuesday 19th	Henry Martyn, translator, missionary, 1812	
<i>Romans 5.12.15. 17-end, Psalm 40. 7-12, Luke 12. 35-38</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
Wednesday 19th		
<i>Romans 6. 12-18, Psalm 124, Luke 12. 39-48</i>		
11.00 am	Holy Communion	St John's
2.30 pm	"Coffee Morning"	Zoom
Thursday 21st		
<i>Romans 6. 19-end, Psalm 1, Luke 12. 49-53</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St John's
Friday 22nd		
<i>Romans 7. 18-end, Psalm 119. 33-40, Luke 12. 54-end</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St John's

Saturday 23rd		
<i>Romans 8. 1-11, Psalm 24. 1-6, Luke 13. 1-9</i>		
9.00 am	Holy Communion	St John's
Sunday 24th	Last Sunday after Trinity	
<i>Job 42. 1-6, 10-end, Psalm 34. 1-8, 19-end, Hebrews 7. 23-end, Mark 10. 46-end</i>		
8.30 am	Holy Communion BCP	St John's
10.00 am	Holy Communion	St John's
11.15 am	Café Communion	St Boniface
Monday 25th	<i>Crispin and Crispinian, martyrs, c287</i>	
<i>Romans 8. 12-17, Psalm 68. 1-6, 19, Luke 13. 10-17</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St John's
Tuesday 26th	<i>Alfred, king, scholar, 899, Cedd, abbot, bishop, 664</i>	
<i>Romans 8. 18-25, Psalm 126, Luke 13. 18-21</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St Boniface
7.30 pm	Study Group	Zoom
Wednes 27th		
<i>Romans 8. 26-30, Psalm 13, Luke 13. 22-30</i>		
11.00 am	Holy Communion	St John's
2.30 pm	"Coffee Morning"	Zoom
Thursday 28th	Simon and Jude, Apostles	
<i>Isaiah 28. 14-16, Psalm 119. 89-96, Ephesians 2. 19-end, John 15. 17-end</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St John's
Friday 29th	<i>James Hannington, bishop, martyr, 1885</i>	
<i>Romans 9. 1-5, Psalm 147. 13-end, Luke 14. 1-6</i>		
9.30 am	Holy Communion	St John's
Saturday 30th		
<i>Romans 11. 1-2, 11-12, 25-29, Psalm 94. 14-19, Luke 14. 1, 7-11</i>		
9.00 am	Holy Communion	St John's
Sunday 31st	4th Sunday before Advent	
<i>Deuteronomy 6. 1-9, Psalm 119. 1-8, Hebrews 9. 11-14, Mark 12. 28-34</i>		
8.30 am	Holy Communion BCP	St John's
10.00 am	Holy Communion	St John's
11.15 am	Songs of Praise	St Boniface

Quiz 44 – Fish

1. Part of the foot
2. Roller or ice
3. Found in a bird cage
4. Spear used by infantrymen
5. Everything has one
6. Cost on delivery
7. In a struggling manner
8. Male voice
9. Dappled sky
10. A beam of sunshine

Quiz 45 – Transport

1. Most sports have one
2. Daisy had a ride on one
3. How to take your car across water
4. Prepare for a job
5. For a baby
6. Many seated public transport
7. Carried by two people
8. Butt in and push with head
9. Emergency air vehicle
10. What an aeroplane does on a runway

Answers Quiz 43

1. Mother
2. Pop
3. Twin
4. Mum
5. Sister
6. Niece
7. Aunt
8. Son
9. Children
10. Wife

Answers Quiz 42

11. Sun
12. Mars
13. Kite
14. Stars
15. Birds
16. Rainbow
17. Moon
18. Drone
19. Clouds
20. Rockets

USEFUL INFORMATION!

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 5th October: St Cuthbert Mayne's School

7pm: Bishop Robert "Next Steps" strategy to deanery

Sunday 10th October: St John's

10am: Harvest Service

Saturday 16th October: St John's

10.15am: PCC Meeting

Monday 18th October: St John's

2.30pm - The Parish of Paignton prayer Group

Sunday 31st October: St John's

6pm: All Souls Service with anointing and prayer

JOIN IN ON ZOOM

Phone numbers to join in Zoom are

0203 481 5240; 0203 901 7895; 0203 481 5237

Then:

Sunday Worship & Taizé Service:

Meeting ID 821 216 886. Password. 234107

Paignton Coffee Morning Wednesdays 2.30pm

Meeting ID 389 454 797. Password. 470526

If you are on a phone package which charges after the first hour then don't forget to ring off after 55 minutes and then join again!