

PARISH NOTES

Welcome to
St John the Divine
The Parish Church of
Menston with Woodhead



SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

13 JUNE 2021

Sunday 9.30am - Zest in church, in person

Sunday 11am - Service of the Word followed by optional Eucharist

In person, in church (any overflow will be directed to the Parish Room)

Wednesday 9.30am - Midweek Communion in church, in person

Private Prayer— after Wednesday and Sunday's services until 4pm.

READING ONE (NEW TESTAMENT): ACTS 6: 1—15

Seven Chosen to Serve

Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word." What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

The Arrest of Stephen

Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then they secretly instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. They set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us." And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

READING TWO (NEW TESTAMENT): MARK 4: 26—34

The Parable of the Growing Seed

He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon

ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

The Use of Parables

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

PARISH MAGAZINE

The June edition of the Parish Magazine is now available to [read online](#). The deadline for the July/August double edition is TODAY, Sunday 13 June.

ST JOHN'S WEBSITE

You can also find various resources on to aid in worship from home, including prayer resources, videos, crafts, weekly sermon texts, weekly sermon videos and more on [our website](#).

MENSTON HELPLINE

The Menston helpline is available to support people in the village - 01943 874335

DIAL-A-SERMON—01943 666875

St John's has a phone line which offers a short Service of the Word. The call is charged at your local rate.

FACEBOOK PRAYER GROUP

At St John's we have long been thinking of ways in which we can connect, encourage and pray for/with each other during the week as well as on Sunday. One of the ways we can do this is using a new online prayer group which has been set up using Facebook. This is a moderated 'closed group', which simply means that only people connected with St John's will be able to access it, but it will be a great opportunity for our church family to share prayer requests and answers to prayer and to share encouragement from your daily bible study and personal prayer. **The group is on Facebook and is called 'St John's, Menston Prayer Group'**. Join up and pray! Any questions about the group, please contact Steve, the Vicar.

WE PRAY FOR



The Sick:

Ken Parker, Pauline Blake, Sylvia Bradley, Marjorie Thompson, Eric Wilkinson, Margaret Bailey

Memorial Book:

Wyn Grant, Lucy Storr, Eric Thompson, Gordon North, Charlton Bewick, Joyce Fozard, William Rogers, Helena Bolton

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- * Local government, community leaders
- * All who provide local services
- * Those who work with young or elderly people
- * Schools, colleges and universities
- * Emergency and rescue organization

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Holy Lord,
Thank You for grace.
Please help me move beyond
the hurdles that trip me up
and give me the strength
and wisdom to look up
and see the hope I run toward in Christ.
In Jesus' Name
Amen.