

PARISH NOTES

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



THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY 27 SEPTEMBER 2020

- Zest - 9.30am in church

- **Service of the Word - 11.00am in church**

(followed by optional Eucharist)

The APCM will be held during today's 11am service.

Any overflow will be directed to the Parish Room where it will still be possible to hear and participate in the APCM.

Please note, there will be no refreshments between services. Please also be aware that face coverings should be worn at all times. We do however understand and respect that exceptions apply. Please maintain physical distancing measures when in the church building. Normal hygiene measures (sanitiser on entry and exit, etc.) will be in place, and a register will be kept of those who attend for the purposes of government contact tracing.

READING 1 (OLD TESTAMENT): EXODUS 17: 1—7

Water from the Rock

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there

for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7 He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

READING 2 (NEW TESTAMENT): MATTHEW 21 : 23—32

The Authority of Jesus Questioned

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

The Parable of the Two Sons

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

CHURCHYARD

Due to essential tree work in the churchyard, there will be a new tree (a hornbeam) planted in the churchyard. This will cost £112.08. If anyone wishes to sponsor this as a memorial or for another reason, please can they get in contact.

DIAL-A-SERVICE

St John's has a phone line which offers a short Service of the Word. The call is charged at your local rate (ie. the standard local rate of your phone tariff) and is available 24/7.
01943 666875

SUNDAY RESOURCES

Today's Zest service video can be viewed on our website. [Click here to watch!](#)

FUNDRAISING BOOKLETS

Published during the lockdown, two new booklets by David Machin are for sale at £5 each, every penny to the church roof fund. For more

information, see page 21 of this months Parish Magazine which can be viewed on our website:
www.stjohnmenston.org.uk/magazine

ST JOHN'S ROOF APPEAL

Donations are continuing to come in and now total **£26,815** which, with Gift Aid, amounts to **£32,148**. Many thanks to those who have responded so generously. We have not yet 'hit our target' so please consider making a donation if you have not already done so. Due to the current situation with Covid-19, we have postponed the distribution of appeal letters to the wider community and, of course, there have been no recent fundraising events.

ROOF APPEAL—POP A POUND

Please take a labelled jam jar from the back of church and pop a pound (or two!) each week until we end the collection next year. Many thanks.

WE PRAY FOR



The Sick:

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

Memorial Book:

Ann Burdett, Harry Sharp, Winifred Harvey, Norman Holroyd, Jeanne Finch

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- * All who are sick in body, mind or spirit
- * Those in the midst of famine or disaster
- * Victims of abuse and violence, intolerance and prejudice
- * Those who are bereaved
- * All who work in the medical and healing professions

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God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.