



Cowes Group Ministry
All Saints' Gurnard with St Faith's,
Holy Trinity Cowes, St John the Baptist
Northwood and St Mary the Virgin Cowes.



Sunday 20th September 2026
Fifteenth Sunday After Trinity.

Welcome to our benefice! If you are visiting one of our churches for the first time, please introduce yourself to us!

Collect for Today

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 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.**

Old Testament Reading from Jonah 3:10 – 4:11 (NRSV)

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, 'O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' And the Lord said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.' But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' Then the Lord said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came

into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?’

Old Testament Reading from Psalm 145: 1-8 (NRSV)

I will exalt you, O God my King, and bless your name for ever and ever. Every day will I bless you and praise your name for ever and ever. Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; his greatness is beyond all searching out. One generation shall praise your works to another and declare your mighty acts. They shall speak of the majesty of your glory, and I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. They shall speak of the might of your marvellous acts, and I will also tell of your greatness. They shall pour forth the story of your abundant kindness and joyfully sing of your righteousness. The Lord is gracious and merciful, long-suffering and of great goodness.

New Testament Reading from Philippians 1:21-30 (NRSV)

Welcome for to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Gospel reading from Matthew 20:1-16 (NRSV)

Jesus said to his disciples, ‘For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, “You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.” So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others

standing around; and he said to them, “Why are you standing here idle all day?” They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” He said to them, “You also go into the vineyard.”

‘When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, “Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.” When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, “These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.” But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?” So the last will be first, and the first will be last.’

Post Communion Collect

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CHURCH SERVICES HAPPENING THIS WEEK		
Sun 27 th Sept	St Mary’s, Cowes	09:00 Harvest Festival Service
	Holy Trinity, Cowes	09:30 Harvest Festival Service
	All Saints’, Gurnard	10:30 Harvest Festival Service
	St John’s, Northwood	11:45 Harvest Festival Service
	All Saints’, Gurnard	16:00 Celtic Healing Service All welcome.

On Sunday 20th we have the new Archdeacon for the Isle of Wight; Rev Barry Dugmore as a guest preacher at St Marys, All Saints and then at St John’s: he will return to Holy Trinity on Sunday 4th October.

COWES GROUP MINISTRY’S PRAYER LIST (group 3)

We pray for those struggling in one way or another: Kevin & Sarah, John, Paul B, Peter E, Peter S, Peter L, Pat R, Rachel T, Rosie L, Ruth C, Rachel & children, Sophie, Sophie, Terry G, Thelma, Vivienne, Amy & Wendy H.

We pray for the bereaved families and friends of: Reverend Diana Netherway and for the friends and family of Rosemary Butler, rest in peace and rise in glory.

EVENTS HAPPENING THIS WEEK	
Mon 21 st Sept	09:15-11:15 Cloud Tots stay-and-play at All Saints', 10:00-12:00 St Mary's Garden Group. 14:00-16:00 Scrabble Club, All Saints' Garden Room. 14:00-16:00 Table Tennis at St Mary's Church Hall. 19:30-20:30 Rev'd Diana's Prayer Shawl Ministry
Tues 22 nd	10:30 - 12:00 Bible Study will resume.
Wed 23 rd	10:30 Holy Communion at St Mary's Church, Cowes.
Thurs 24 th	10:00-11:30 All Saints' Coffee and Chat 14:00-16:00 St Mary's art and crafts group. 18:30 for 19:00 All Saints' Film Club in the Garden Rm.
Fri 25 th	10:00-12:00 Church cleaning groups
Sat 26 th	17:00 Northwood Church Harvest Supper
Sun 27 th	13:00 Northwood Fellowship Feast

BIBLE STUDY at All Saints' Church resumes in the Garden Room, everyone welcome to join us or just sit and listen. Refreshments available, free.

ALL SAINTS' COFFEE & CHAT, Thursday at 10:00 – 11:30. Free coffee, tea and cake, all welcome – bring a friend.

ALL SAINTS' FILM CLUB . "The Most Reluctant Convert" (2021) Spanning C.S. Lewis' bitter childhood, WWI and life-changing friendships at Oxford, The film depicts the events that shaped Lewis' early life and journey from hard-boiled atheism to prolific Christianity. The films are free, ideas for Christian themed films please email Marie-Ann via the Parish Office.

DIANA NETHERWAY PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY, Mondays 7.30pm -8.30pm in the Garden Room at All Saints - In loving memory, and to continue the ministry of Diana Netherway we will be creating prayer shawls and blankets. We are asking for donations of unwanted yarn and volunteers to knit or crochet for our worthy cause. A yarn donation box can be found at the back of All Saints and St John the Baptist, Northwood.

HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICES, donations are most welcome of any foods and toiletries that are NON_PERISHABLE, thank you so much.

NORTHWOOD FELLOWSHIP FEAST. On 27th September at 13.30pm at the Cowes Community Club, Place Road. Please sign the book in church.

If you would like to contact any of our Clergy or Church Wardens please email ParishOfficeiow@gmail.com or call 07472 358917.

If you would like any information about any of our groups, clubs or events, contact CowesGroupMinistry@outlook.com or 07472 358917.