

So on the first day of the seventh month, Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. Ezra the scribe stood on a high wooden platform built for the occasion. Beside him on his right stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah and Maaseiah; and on his left were Pedaiah, Mishael, Malkijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah and Meshullam. Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground. The Levites – Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan and Pelaiah – instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there. They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people could understand what was being read. Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is sacred to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law. Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength." The Levites calmed all the people, saying, "Be still, for this is a sacred day. Do not grieve." Then all the people went away to eat and drink, to send portions of food and to celebrate with great joy, because they now understood the words that had been made known to them.

### **New Testament Reading** **Colossians 3.12-17**

As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### **Gospel Reading** **Matthew 24. 30-35**

Jesus said: "The sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory. And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other. "Now learn this lesson from the fig-tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it is near, right at the door. I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away."

### **News**

**The church cleaning team** is being re-established. Anyone who is interested is invited stay straight after the 10am service today (for approx. half an hour or so). We can make a start on cleaning if there is time and people are in the mood, but the focus will be on planning how to best tackle the task: working out what needs to be done and talking about rota frequency etc. Let's make best efforts to build on the wisdom of those who have looked after our beautiful church over the years. Staying on today does not commit you to joining the rota if you decide it isn't for you. Julia Redfern (883994).

#### **Changes to Private Prayer and Stewarding.**

As you know we are open for Private Prayer twice a week. The days are changing with effect from week beginning 2nd November. We will now be open on Wednesday and Saturday between 9.30am - 12pm. Thank you to the 8 volunteers who are helping steward this. If anyone feels they could be used as a back up on one of these days please do let me know, each session is 1 hour 15 minutes. Thanks, Judy.

**St Martin's Wednesday Holy Communion.** This weekly service held at 11am will commence again starting November 4th.

#### **Remembering with Thanksgiving Service.**

This will be held, socially distanced and masked, on Sunday 1st November at 2.45pm. However we are unable, this year, to have the book for remembering loved ones. If you would like the name of loved ones included in the service, please email the church office so that a list of names can be collated - [smartinsdorkingchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:smartinsdorkingchurchoffice@gmail.com)

**Traidcraft** stall at Pixham today, and St Martin's on 1 November. It will be a restricted range, so if you have a particular request it would be helpful to know in advance, by email or phone. I'm still happy to deliver during the week, too. Elizabeth Dobson ([emddh7@hotmail.com](mailto:emddh7@hotmail.com), 881479).

**Face coverings in a place of worship.** Face coverings are required in church (unless you are exempt). Thank you for your understanding.

**Dorking Foodbank** is operating at the usual times ([CLICK HERE](#) for these) from the Christian Centre. Donation points in supermarkets remain in place, and the centre one is positioned in the foyer. This week we need: **Tinned Meat, Tins of Fish, Jars of Pasta Sauce, Hair Conditioner and Shower Gel.**

**St Barnabas' Ranmore:** This Sunday at 11am - A service of BCP Matins led by the Revd Mike Stewart. The service will be recorded and (technology permitting!) uploaded onto Youtube later. (Search for "Mike Stewart St Barnabas Youtube".)

**News and Notices for the next issue** of the Weekly News Sheet need to be submitted by the close of business on Wednesday. Please email [smartinsdorkingchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:smartinsdorkingchurchoffice@gmail.com) or call 884229. Messages are picked up regularly.

**Please remember in your prayers:**

Betty and Brian Smith, Pamela Kerslake, Allan Tighe, Rosie Pegram, Paul Berning, Renate MacLennan, Allan Tapley, Steve Taggart, Robina Williams.



Those in our congregation who have long term concerns are prayed for regularly.

**Churches Together in Dorking Prayers.** Members of CTD all pray for one church, community, congregation or initiative each week. This week we are praying for St James Abinger with Coldharbour.

**Being corporate at a distance.** Whether you have a basic radio or the latest smartphone, there is something for you:

**Our Sunday Service on our "Spire of Dorking"**

**YouTube Channel** will be available from 10am. Click on this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuzOsRDiIRJE8Y3Zjr3fj0g>

**Bishop Jo's Sunday Sermon** is available on the Diocese of Guildford's [website](#).

**Your 9am Daily Prayer** Click on this link: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer> Scroll down and click on the green Morning Prayer box.

**BBC Radio 3 Choral Evensong.** This week coming from Canterbury Cathedral. Wednesday 3.30pm or Sunday at 3pm.

**Sunday Worship** on BBC Radio 4 at 8.10am.

**TV: Sunday Worship** on BBC One at 11.45am.

**Songs of Praise** on BBC One at 1.15pm.

**Church of England Daily Hope.**

**Free** phone line with hymns, reflections and prayers: 0800 804 8044.

# st. martin's DORKING

WITH ST. MARY'S PIXHAM

## Sunday 25th October Last after Trinity

I asked somebody the other day, "Where has the year gone?" You see, this coming Sunday is the Last Sunday of Trinity; in other words, it'll be Advent before we know it! However, this Sunday is also Bible Sunday. Now, there is little point me beginning to write on that topic as I may still be here typing this time next week. So on this occasion, by way of a little light relief, I offer you a short poem that I found contained in one of the many books on my study shelves. To the unknown author: my apologies for using this without your permission... I don't know who you are!

Yes I thought I knew my Bible,  
Reading piecemeal, hit or miss  
Now a part of John or Matthew  
Then a bit of Genesis.

Certain chapters of Isaiah  
Certain psalms, the twenty-third.  
First of Proverbs, twelfth of Romans  
Yes, I thought I knew the Word.

But I found that thorough reading  
Was a different thing to do  
And the way was unfamiliar  
When I read my Bible through.

You who like to play at Bible  
Dip and dabble here and there  
Just before you kneel all weary  
Yawning through a hurried prayer

You who treat this crown of writings  
As you treat no other book  
Just a paragraph disjointed  
Just a crude inpatient look.

Try a worthier procedure  
Try a broad and steady view;  
You will kneel in awesome wonder  
When you read the Bible through.

Enjoy Bible Sunday!

### Collect

Merciful God, teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty, that trusting in your word and obeying your will we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Old Testament Reading Nehemiah 8. 1-12

All the people assembled as one man in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the scribe to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel.

*Keep safe everyone*

