

FROM YOUR FRIEND AND RECTOR

“Give thanks to the Lord for he is good.” *Psalm 107*

I write this the day before the Harvest at St. David’s. It may be true to say that like Easter, Pentecost, Trinity and so much more of Church life in 2020, this Harvest will be like no other. The advice against the singing of hymns takes away one of the major components of any Harvest Festival.

Congregations love to sing the old standards of “Harvest Home,” or “We Plough The Fields.” The other major component is the decoration of the church building. The decorations of Harvest involve teams of people who work with flowers and produce to enhance our worship buildings. It is always fabulous to take time and look at the various displays, appreciating the sheer amount of work and dedication that the Flower Team puts into the decorations for Harvest.

This year, the church will be decorated, but social restrictions mean that no more than six people can gather together and the advice is to spend a minimum of time in the church to decorate. I have no doubt, however, that as always, the Flower Team will have St. David’s beautifully decorated for Harvest, despite the restrictions.

The omission of these important elements of Harvest, forces us to reflect how our Harvest Worship can still be a celebration of God’s creation and a reminder of the final Harvest at the end of days.

Even if we can’t sing, we can still praise and give thanks to God. Even if we can’t fully decorate, we can still appreciate the wonderful bounty of God’s creation. Even if we can’t sit together or socialise afterwards, we are able to join with one voice as the people of God celebrating that we are one in Christ.

Looking forward to October, there are a few important dates to note.

Sunday Club cannot meet at present. Even though our schools are open, **Sunday Club** classes is an “other activity” and we could not ensure social distancing in the Portacabin. In October, we will host “Zoom Club” as an alternative. At the time of writing, the plan is to host a monthly or bi monthly zoom meeting for children. Parental permissions must be obtained and the meeting is only open to those with invite. To sign up for “Zoom Club”, visit the children’s corner on the website naasunion.com. There is an online form to complete and on receipt we will send the zoom invitation. Further details will be available on the website.

Also in October, **The Follies Trust** are giving an online fundraising lecture, to be recorded at St. David’s with **Owen Madigan** of Vernacular Conservation. He will speak on the wonderful work involved in the conservation of the Maudlin’s Pyramids. The lecture will be released online on the 15th October at 7.00pm. You will be able to access it from both naasunion.com and follies-trust.org. All donations will be towards the Maudlin’s Pyramid Project.



Ms. Ruth Taylor is retiring from St. David’s National School at the beginning of half term. **Ruth** has taught at the school for well over 20 years and will be sorely missed. We wish **Ruth** every blessing for the future. Many of you will have fond memories of your time at St. David’s so we have set up a “Happy Memory” page on the Parish Website. The idea is that former pupils/parents post some of their “Happy Memories” which will then be presented to **Ruth** on her final day. You will find the form on the “Children’s corner,” of the Parish Website along with some of our school assemblies. If you don’t have internet access, please put something on paper and I’ll make sure **Ruth** receives it.

Finally, As Christian Aid’s usual walking and hiking events cannot take place this year, our Parish is supporting the ‘Big Walk’ initiative, where small groups all over the country are walking to raise money for Christian Aid.

If you wish to take part please register with Christian Aid using this form: <https://www.christianaid.ie/form/autumn-hike-registration>.

Registration allows Christian Aid to implement contact tracing if necessary, and to send you your hiking pack in advance of your walk.

Our Walk takes place in:

**Donadea Forest Park
@10am on Saturday 10th
October 2020**

For further details please see Christian Aid's website

<https://www.christianaid.ie/fundraising/autumn-hike>
or contact **Stephanie**
at stephanie57@live.ie.

*Your Friend and Rector
Philip*

**Give thanks
to the LORD,
for he is good;
his love endures
forever.**

PSALM 107 1

Dear All

Despite difficulties and setbacks, the **Follies Trust** has been working away this summer and autumn to conserve the amazing pair of Pyramid Mausolea in Naas, Co Kildare. Work is complete (apart from the doors) and we are delighted that **Eoin Madigan**, SPAB Fellow and Co-Director of Vernacular Conservation, has agreed to give a lecture explaining the work undertaken on these structures by his company. **Eoin** is passionate about what he does and communicates his enthusiasm making him an excellent speaker.

This will be live streamed from **7pm on Thursday 15 October 2020** details will be on our website www.follies-trust.org

Today we learned that the **Heritage Council** has given the **Follies Trust** a grant to have a blacksmith repair the iron doors on both pyramids. We are delighted! Work will be completed in late November.

The Follies Trust is indebted to the Vernacular Conservation team and to funders:

- Built Heritage Investment Scheme
- County Kildare Archaeological Society
- Creative Ireland
- The Follies Trust
- The Heritage Council
- The Irish Georgian Society
- Kildare County Council
- The McAleese family
- The Primrose Trust
- The Select Vestry of St David's church/ Naas Union and their Rector, **Philip Heak**.

Please see the introductory video below

<https://youtu.be/RXWFnosQe-E>

The Follies Trust would like to thank the many individuals who generously gave donations to this project. Your support and encouragement kept us going in good times and bad.

If you would like to make a donation you can do so through our website or direct to the AIB in Dublin or Lurgan, Co. Armagh

AIB 40/41 Westmoreland St. Dublin OR
THE FOLLIES TRUST

Ac. no: 43025-004

Sort code: 93-33-84

IBAN: IE53 AIBK 9333 8443 0250 04
BIC: AIBKIE2D

AIB 4 Market St Lurgan, Co. Armagh
THE FOLLIES TRUST CURRENT ACCOUNT

AC NO: 07951-014

SORT CODE: 93-84-08

IBAN: GB82 FTBK 9384 0807 9510 14
BIC: FTBKGB2B

Every good wish
Primrose Wilson

Getting to know your BIBLE – SUNDAY READINGS FOR OCTOBER 2020

SUNDAY 4th OCTOBER 2020 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Exodus 20: 1 – 4; 7 - 9
Philippians 3: 4b - 14
Matthew 21: 33 - 46

1 God spoke, and these were his words:

2 "I am the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt, where you were slaves.

3 "Worship no god but me.

4 "Do not make for yourselves images of anything in heaven or on earth or in the water under the earth.

7 "Do not use my name for evil purposes, for I, the Lord your God, will punish anyone who misuses my name.

8 "Observe the Sabbath and keep it holy.

9 You have six days in which to do your work.

Exodus 20: 1 – 4; 7 – 9

4b If any of you think you can trust in external ceremonies, I have even more reason to feel that way.

5 I was circumcised when I was a week old. I am an Israelite by birth, of the tribe of Benjamin, a pure-blooded Hebrew. As far as keeping the Jewish Law is concerned, I was a Pharisee, 6 and I was so zealous that I persecuted the church. As far as a person can be righteous by obeying the commands of the Law, I was without fault.

7 But all those things that I might count as profit I now reckon as loss for Christ's sake.

8 Not only those things; I reckon everything as complete loss for the sake of what is so much more valuable, the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have thrown everything away; I consider it all as mere garbage, so that I may gain Christ 9 and be completely

united with him. I no longer have a righteousness of my own, the kind that is gained by obeying the Law. I now have the righteousness that is given through faith in Christ, the righteousness that comes from God and is based on faith.

10 All I want is to know Christ and to experience the power of his resurrection, to share in his sufferings and become like him in his death, 11 in the hope that I myself will be raised from death to life.



12 I do not claim that I have already succeeded or have already become perfect. I keep striving to win the prize for which Christ Jesus has already won me to himself.

13 Of course, my friends, I really do not think that I have already won it; the one thing I do, however, is to forget what is behind me and do my best to reach what is ahead.

14 So I run straight toward the goal in order to win the prize, which is God's call through Christ Jesus to the life above.

Philippians 3: 4b – 14

33 "Listen to another parable," Jesus said. "There was once a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a hole for the wine press, and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to tenants and left home on a trip.

34 When the time came to gather the grapes, he sent his slaves to the tenants to receive his share of the harvest. 35 The tenants grabbed his slaves, beat one, killed another, and stoned another.

36 Again the man sent other slaves, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way.

37 Last of all he sent his son to them. "Surely they will respect my son," he said.

38 But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the owner's son. Come on, let's kill him, and we will get his property!" 39 So they grabbed him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.

40 "Now, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" Jesus asked.

41 "He will certainly kill those evil men," they answered, "and rent the vineyard out to other tenants, who will give him his share of the harvest at the right time."

42 Jesus said to them, "Haven't you ever read what the Scriptures say? 'The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all. This was done by the Lord; what a wonderful sight it is!'

43 "And so I tell you," added Jesus, "the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce the proper fruits."

45 The chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables and knew that he was talking about them, 46 so they tried to arrest him. But they were afraid of the crowds, who considered Jesus to be a prophet.

Matthew 21: 33 – 46

SUNDAY 11th OCTOBER 2020 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Exodus 32: 1 - 14
Philippians 4: 1 – 9
Matthew 22: 1 – 14

1 When the people saw that Moses had not come down from the mountain but was staying there a long time, they gathered around Aaron and said to him, "We do not know what has happened to this man Moses, who led us out of Egypt; so make us a god to lead us."

2 Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold earrings which your wives, your

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sons, and your daughters are wearing, and bring them to me."

3 So all the people took off their gold earrings and brought them to Aaron. 4 He took the earrings, melted them, poured the gold into a mould, and made a gold bull-calf. The people said, "Israel, this is our god, who led us out of Egypt!"

5 Then Aaron built an altar in front of the gold bull-calf and announced, "Tomorrow there will be a festival to honour the Lord."



6 Early the next morning they brought some animals to burn as sacrifices and others to eat as fellowship offerings. The people sat down to a feast, which turned into an orgy of drinking and sex.

7 The Lord said to Moses, "Hurry and go back down, because your people, whom you led out of Egypt, have sinned and rejected me.

8 They have already left the way that I commanded them to follow; they have made a bull-calf out of melted gold and have worshiped it and offered sacrifices to it. They are saying that this is their god, who led them out of Egypt.

9 I know how stubborn these people are. 10 Now, don't try to stop me. I am angry with them, and I am going to destroy them. Then I will make you and your descendants into a great nation."

11 But Moses pleaded with the Lord his God and said, "Lord, why should you be so angry with your people, whom you rescued from Egypt with great might and power?

12 Why should the Egyptians be able to say that you led your people out of Egypt, planning to kill them in the

mountains and destroy them completely? Stop being angry; change your mind and do not bring this disaster on your people.

13 Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Remember the solemn promise you made to them to give them as many

descendants as there are stars in the sky and to give their descendants all that land you promised would be their possession forever."

14 So the Lord changed his mind and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

Exodus 32: 1 - 14

1 So then, my friends, how dear you are to me and how I miss you! How happy you make me, and how proud I am of you! - this, dear friends, is how you should stand firm in your life in the Lord.

2 Euodia and Syntyche, please, I beg you, try to agree as sisters in the Lord. 3 And you too, my faithful partner, I want you to help these women; for they have worked hard with me to spread the gospel, together with Clement and all my other fellow workers, whose names are in God's book of the living.

4 May you always be joyful in your union with the Lord. I say it again: rejoice!

5 Show a gentle attitude toward everyone. The Lord is coming soon.

6 Don't worry about anything, but in all your prayers ask God for what you need, always asking him with a thankful heart.

7 And God's peace, which is far beyond human understanding, will keep your hearts and minds safe in union with Christ Jesus.

8 In conclusion, my friends, fill your minds with those things that are good and that deserve praise: things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and honourable.

9 Put into practice what you learned and received from me, both from my words and from my actions. And the God who gives us peace will be with you.

Philippians 4: 1 – 9

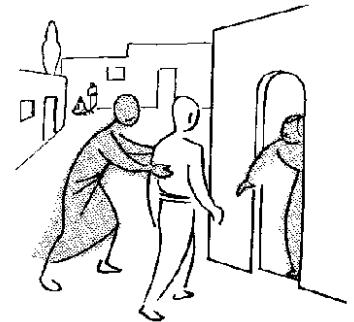
1 Jesus again used parables in talking to the people.

2 "The Kingdom of heaven is like this. Once there was a king who prepared a wedding feast for his son.

3 He sent his servants to tell the invited guests to come to the feast, but they did not want to come.

4 So he sent other servants with this message for the guests: "My feast is ready now; my steers and prize calves have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast!"

5 But the invited guests paid no attention and went about their business: one went to his farm, another to his store, 6 while others grabbed the servants, beat them, and killed them.



7 The king was very angry; so he sent his soldiers, who killed those murderers and burned down their city. 8 Then he called his servants and said to them, "My wedding feast is ready, but the people I invited did not deserve it. 9 Now go to the main streets and invite to the feast as many people as you find."

10 So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, good and bad alike; and the wedding hall was filled with people.

11 "The king went in to look at the

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guests and saw a man who was not wearing wedding clothes.

12 "Friend, how did you get in here without wedding clothes?" the king asked him. But the man said nothing.

13 Then the king told the servants, "Tie him up hand and foot, and throw him outside in the dark. There he will cry and gnash his teeth." "

14 And Jesus concluded, "Many are invited, but few are chosen."

Matthew 22: 1 – 14

SUNDAY 18th OCTOBER 2020 NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Exodus 33: 12 - 23

1 Thessalonians 1: 1 - 10

Matthew 22: 15 – 22

12 Moses said to the Lord, "It is true that you have told me to lead these people to that land, but you did not tell me whom you would send with me. You have said that you know me well and are pleased with me.

13 Now if you are, tell me your plans, so that I may serve you and continue to please you. Remember also that you have chosen this nation to be your own."

14 The Lord said, "I will go with you, and I will give you victory." 15 Moses replied, "If you do not go with us, don't make us leave this place. 16 How will anyone know that you are pleased with your people and with me if you do not go with us? Your presence with us will distinguish us from any other people on earth."

17 The Lord said to Moses, "I will do just as you have asked, because I know you very well and I am pleased with you."

18 Then Moses requested, "Please, let me see the dazzling light of your presence."

19 The Lord answered, "I will make all my splendour pass before you and in your presence I will pronounce my sacred name. I am the Lord, and I show compassion and pity on those I choose.

20 I will not let you see my face, because no one can see me and stay alive, 21 but here is a place beside me where you can stand on a rock.

22 When the dazzling light of my presence passes by, I will put you in an opening in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by.

23 Then I will take my hand away, and you will see my back but not my face."

Exodus 33: 12 - 23

1 From Paul, Silas, and Timothy - To the people of the church in Thessalonica, who belong to God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: May grace and peace be yours.

2 We always thank God for you all and always mention you in our prayers. 3 For we remember before our God and Father how you put your faith into practice, how your love made you work so hard, and how your hope in our Lord Jesus Christ is firm.

4 Our friends, we know that God loves you and has chosen you to be his own. 5 For we brought the Good News to you, not with words only, but also with power and the Holy Spirit, and with complete conviction of its truth. You know how we lived when we were with you; it was for your own good.

6 You imitated us and the Lord; and even though you suffered much, you received the message with the joy that comes from the Holy Spirit.

7 So you became an example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia.

8 For not only did the message about the Lord go out from you throughout Macedonia and Achaia, but the news about your faith in God has gone everywhere. There is nothing, then, that we need to say.

9 All those people speak about how you received us when we visited you, and how you turned away from idols to God, to serve the true and living God 10 and to wait for his Son to come from heaven - his Son Jesus, whom he raised from death and who rescues us from God's anger that is coming.

1 Thessalonians 1: 1 - 10

15 The Pharisees went off and made a plan to trap Jesus with questions.

16 Then they sent to him some of their disciples and some members of Herod's party. "Teacher," they said, "we know that you tell the truth. You teach the truth about God's will for people, without worrying about what others think, because you pay no attention to anyone's status.

17 Tell us, then, what do you think? Is it against our Law to pay taxes to the Roman Emperor, or not?"

18 Jesus, however, was aware of their evil plan, and so he said, "You hypocrites! Why are you trying to trap me? 19 Show me the coin for paying the tax!" They brought him the coin, 20 and he asked them, "Whose face and name are these?"

21 "The Emperor's," they answered. So Jesus said to them, "Well, then, pay to the Emperor what belongs to the Emperor, and pay to God what belongs to God."



22 When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Matthew 22: 15 – 22



Getting to know your BIBLE – SUNDAY READINGS FOR OCTOBER 2020

SUNDAY 25th OCTOBER 2020
FIFTH SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

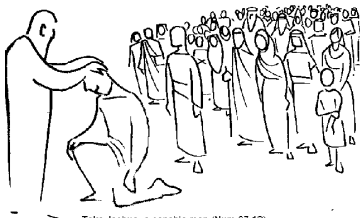
Deuteronomy 34: 1 - 12
1 Thessalonians 2: 1 - 8
Matthew 22: 34 – 46

1 Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Mount Pisgah east of Jericho, and there the Lord showed him the whole land: the territory of Gilead as far north as the town of Dan;² the entire territory of Naphtali; the territories of Ephraim and Manasseh; the territory of Judah as far west as the Mediterranean Sea;³ the southern part of Judah; and the plain that reaches from Zoar to Jericho, the city of palm trees.

4 Then the Lord said to Moses, "This is the land that I promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob I would give to their descendants. I have let you see it, but I will not let you go there."

5 So Moses, the Lord's servant, died there in the land of Moab, as the Lord had said he would. **6** The Lord buried him in a valley in Moab, opposite the town of Bethpeor, but to this day no one knows the exact place of his burial.

7 Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died; he was as strong as ever, and his eyesight was still good.⁸ The people of Israel mourned for him for thirty days in the plains of Moab.



Take Joshua, a capable man (Num 27.18)

9 Joshua son of Nun was filled with wisdom, because Moses had appointed him to be his successor. The people of Israel obeyed Joshua and kept the commands that the Lord had given them through Moses.¹⁰ There has never been a prophet in Israel like Moses; the

Lord spoke with him face-to-face. **11** No other prophet has ever done miracles and wonders like those that the Lord sent Moses to perform against the king of Egypt, his officials, and the entire country.

12 No other prophet has been able to do the great and terrifying things that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

Deuteronomy 34: 1 – 12

1 Our friends, you yourselves know that our visit to you was not a failure.² You know how we had already been mistreated and insulted in Philippi before we came to you in Thessalonica. And even though there was much opposition, our God gave us courage to tell you the Good News that comes from him.

3 Our appeal to you is not based on error or impure motives, nor do we try to trick anyone.⁴ Instead, we always speak as God wants us to, because he has judged us worthy to be entrusted with the Good News. We do not try to please people, but to please God, who tests our motives.

5 You know very well that we did not come to you with flattering talk, nor did we use words to cover up greed – God is our witness!

6 We did not try to get praise from anyone, either from you or from others,⁷ even though as apostles of Christ we could have made demands on you. But we were gentle when we were with you, like a mother taking care of her children.

8 Because of our love for you we were ready to share with you not only the Good News from God but even our own lives. You were so dear to us!

1 Thessalonians 2: 1 - 8



34 When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they came together, **35** and one of them, a teacher of the Law, tried to trap him with a question.

36 "Teacher," he asked, "which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

37 Jesus answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'

38 This is the greatest and the most important commandment.

39 The second most important commandment is like it: "Love your neighbour as you love yourself.'

40 The whole Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets depend on these two commandments."

41 When some Pharisees gathered together, Jesus asked them, **42** "What do you think about the Messiah? Whose descendant is he?" "He is David's descendant," they answered.

43 "Why, then," Jesus asked, "did the Spirit inspire David to call him 'Lord'? David said,

44 "The Lord said to my Lord: Sit here at my right side until I put your enemies under your feet.'

45 If, then, David called him 'Lord,' how can the Messiah be David's descendant?"

46 No one was able to give Jesus any answer, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

Matthew 22: 34 – 46

