



Sunday 20th September

Welcome to worship in the Shelswell Benefice.

The Collect and Readings for the 15th Sunday after Trinity

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.

Jonah 3 v10 – 4 v11 : Jonah's Anger at the LORD's Compassion

¹⁰ When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

¹ But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the LORD, "Isn't this what I said, LORD, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. ³ Now, LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live."

⁴ But the LORD replied, "Is it right for you to be angry?"

⁵ Jonah had gone out and sat down at a place east of the city. There he made himself a shelter, sat in its shade and waited to see what would happen to the city. ⁶ Then the LORD God provided a leafy plant and made it grow up over Jonah to give shade for his head to ease his discomfort, and Jonah was very happy about the plant. ⁷ But at dawn the next day God provided a worm, which chewed the plant so that it withered.

⁸ When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew faint.

He wanted to die, and said, “It would be better for me to die than to live.”

⁹ But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the plant?”

“It is,” he said. “And I’m so angry I wish I were dead.”

¹⁰ But the LORD said, “You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. ¹¹ And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”

Matthew 20 v1-16 : The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard

¹ “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ² He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

³ “About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. ⁴ He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ ⁵ So they went.

“He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. ⁶ About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’

⁷ “‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered.

“He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’

⁸ “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’

⁹ “The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. ¹⁰ So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius.

¹¹ When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. ¹² ‘These who were hired last worked only one hour,’ they said, ‘and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.’

¹³ “But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. ¹⁵ Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

¹⁶ “So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

Prayer Requests

Please remember in your prayers all those who are suffering from any kind of physical or mental health issues, and please also remember those who have recently been bereaved.

**RIP Christine Bilbo, Roni Howarth, Bob Curtis, Dougie Symes,
Nicky O'Reilly, Michael Barstow, and Margaret Burdett.**

Bishop Zechariah's Prayer Request

Bishop Zechariah is our contact in South Sudan where we are supporting the Ox Plough Project in the Wulu Diocese. He especially asks us to pray for peace to prevail in South Sudan, for the health of the oxen in our project and for the Wulu Diocese Girls' Primary School – the girls and the teachers who often do not receive pay from the government.

Daily short Reflective Service

You are invited to join Alice or Yvonne from Monday - Thursday at 12 noon for a short live-streamed service (under 15 minutes). It is live on our Facebook page (Shelswell News) or is uploaded by 1pm each day to YouTube (go to YouTube and search for Shelswell Parishes).

Zoom Social!

This week we are again having just one Zoom social occasion for those who would like to meet up in this way. It will be on Wednesday at 1.30pm.

If you would like to know how to join in then just speak to Alice on 01280 848192 and she will guide you through the joining process.

Website: www.shelswellparishes.info

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/groups/ShelswellNews/

Next Sunday 27th September

10am

Shelswell Benefice Harvest Festival Service at Finmere

All are welcome, but we do need you to book for services so we can keep everyone safe. Contact Becky on 01280 848192 or email admin@shelswellparishes.info The service will again be live-streamed on Facebook (Shelswell News page) for those who are not able to attend in person. It will also be uploaded later to YouTube (Shelswell Parishes).

Please note that, following the latest Government advice, the wearing of face coverings during services is now mandatory, except for service leaders and those who fall into one of the exempt groups.

Harvest Offerings

- **For Bicester Foodbank.** You are invited to go along to your local parish church on the afternoon of 27th September with a contribution towards a food parcel. A typical parcel includes: Breakfast cereals; Soup; Pasta; Rice; Pasta sauce; Tinned beans/vegetables; Tinned meat; Tinned fruit; Tea or coffee; Sugar; Biscuits; Snacks.

Food items most needed are: Tinned fruit (400gms); Tea bags (80's); Dried pasta (500gms); UHT milk (1 litre); Breakfast Cereals, Rice pudding Tinned/carton tomatoes,. They have plenty of Beans & Sugar.

“The foodbank was there when we really needed it, it was an absolute lifeline.”

- **For the Ox Plough Project, South Sudan**

If you would like to make a donation to the Project, please place it in an envelope clearly marked **Ox Plough Project, South Sudan**. Cheques payable to ‘Shelswell Group of Churches’ Or by bank transfer to:
Account Name: ‘Shelswell Group of Churches’ Sort Code 30 91 39
Account Number 00261525 (or hand cash donations to one of the Ministry Team)

Churches Open for Private Prayer

All our churches are open (at least on Sundays), except Mixbury where building work is imminent. Days and times of opening are:

Cottisford	Sundays	10am – 6pm
Finmere	Daily	10am – 5pm
Fringford	Daily	9am – 6pm
Godington	Saturdays and Sundays	9am – 5pm
Hardwick	Daily	10am – 6pm
Hethe	Sundays	10am – 6pm
Newton Purcell	Sundays	10am – 6pm
Stoke Lyne	Saturdays and Sunday	10am – 6pm
Stratton Audley	Daily (but suspended until 14 th Sept)	8am – 5pm

Dates for your Diary

Hethe APCM – Monday 14th September (7.30pm) in Church

Fringford APCM – Tuesday 22nd September (7.30pm) in Church

Mixbury APCM – Thursday 23rd September (7.30pm) in Church

Cottisford & Hardwick APCM – Sunday 27th Sept (2pm) in Hardwick Church

Stratton Audley & Godington APCM – Tuesday 29th September (5pm)
in Stratton Audley Church

Newton Purcell APCM – Monday 5th October (7.30pm) in The Old School

Ministry Team contact details:

Revd Alice Goodall	01280 848192	rector@shelswellparishes.info
Revd Yvonne Mullins	01869 278090	curate@shelswellparishes.info
Revd Liz Welters	01869 249481	lizwelters@yahoo.co.uk
Mrs Penny Wood	01869 277310	penelope.wood@btopenworld.com
Jen Iddon	07368 240878	jeniddoncfw@gmail.com
Mrs Becky Adams	01280 848192	admin@shelswellparishes.info (At the Office on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am – 1pm)