

Sunday 9th August
Tenth Sunday after Trinity

Today's Collect

Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please you; 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.

Post Communion Prayer

God of our pilgrimage, you have willed that the gate of mercy should stand open for those who trust in you: look upon us with your favour that we who follow the path of your will may never wander from the way of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Next Week Services: Sunday 16th August

10.00am	Harvington	Church @ 10
11.00am	Church Lench	Holy Communion BCP
11.00am	Abbots Morton	Holy Communion
6.00pm	Norton & Lenchwick	Evensong

Events

- Submissions for September Arch Messenger – due by 10th Aug.
- Next Coffee Morning in St Egwin's - Sat 15th Aug.
- Sustainable Fower arranging by Renata – Wed 26th Aug, 7:30pm. £5 entry including drinks and nibbles. Contact bishamptonstjames@outlook.com.

This Week's First Reading: *1Kings 19.9-18.*

⁹ At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'

¹⁰ He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

¹¹ He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; ¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?'

¹⁴ He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

¹⁵ Then the Lord said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.

¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷ Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.'

This Weeks Psalm: *Psalms 85.8-13.*

This Week's Second Reading: *Romans 10.5-15.*

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that 'the person who does these things will live by them.' ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?"' (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ 'or "Who will descend into the abyss?"' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

Continued: *Romans 10.5-15.*

⁸ But what does it say? 'The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart'(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.

¹¹ The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.'

¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him?

¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'

This Week's Gospel Reading: *Matthew 14.22-33.*

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake.

²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear.

²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

²⁸ Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.'

²⁹ He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!'

³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?'

³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

Next Weeks Readings: *Isaiah 56. 1, 6-8, Psalm 67, Romans 11. 1-2, 29-32, Matthew 15. 10-28.*

Prayer of Intercession

Come, almighty King, and help us sing, for you are a God of love. Come, make known your wonders known to our souls, for you are a God of grace. Bear witness within every heart that we belong to you, for you are a God who creates fellowship.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**

As the farmers and growers around us harvest summer crops, let us gratefully remember all who provide food for us. We are grateful for their commitment and dedication, and for all those who have worked to keep us fed in this exceptional year. We thank you for the abundance and diversity of life we see daily around us, and we are reminded of our own responsibilities to care for this amazing world you have created.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**

We also pray for all the families and carers who have cared for the most vulnerable members of our communities. We pray they are both guided and comforted by you, as they continue to make difficult decisions. Help them to make their choices wisely and thoughtfully, seeking what is best. We pray that leaders in our community, our country and around the world may work together for the good of all.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Out of your great mercy, be gracious and refresh those within our community who are sick or awaiting surgery, especially those who we know. May your mercy accompany those for whom the wounds of grief and sorrow are raw and painful.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.