

THE PARISH OF ABBOTS LANGLEY

St Lawrence the Martyr, Abbots Langley
with the Church of the Ascension, Bedmond

22nd October 2023

THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY



TODAY

- 8.00am** Eucharist at
St Lawrence Church
- President & Preacher:** Revd. Peter Waddell
- Reader:** David Staines
- 9.30am** Eucharist at St Lawrence Church
- President & Preacher:** Revd. Peter Waddell
- Reader:** Norman Meldrum
- Intercessions:** Brenda Southorn
- 11.30am** Eucharist at the
Church of the Ascension
- President & Preacher:** Revd. Peter Waddell
- Reader:** Pam Rastall
- Readings:**
(Exodus 33: 12 - end) (P. 82)
(Isaiah 45: 1 - 7) (P. 684)
1 Thessalonians 1: 1 - 10 (P 200).
Matthew 22: 15 - 22 (P. 23)
- Hymns:**
401: Come, let us join our cheerful songs
333: You, living Christ, our eyes behold
(St Lawrence)
581 Take my Life, and let it be (Bedmond)
278: Alleluia, Sing to Jesus
324: Sweet sacrament divine
543: O praise ye the Lord
- 5.00pm** BCP Evening Prayer

WELCOME

Welcome to our worship today, especially to visitors and newcomers! Do please make yourself known, and stay for refreshments in the church hall afterwards.

If you usually receive communion, you are welcome to do so here regardless of your church background. If for any reason you'd rather not, do come for a blessing instead, bringing the service booklet with you as a sign that's what you'd prefer.



Please tell a welcomer before the service if you would like a gluten-free wafer at communion. There is no obligation to receive the wine if this causes anxiety.

Our main Sunday morning service is filmed for live video streaming as well as other special services and can be viewed at www.churchmedia.tv/abbotslangley or via our website www.abbotslangley.org.uk.

Recordings may also be retained and made available through other sites (e.g. Facebook and YouTube). The objective of this is to provide accessibility to those who are unable to attend.

For those unable to attend church due to medical reasons, we will be delighted to bring communion to you at home: please do ask! A T-loop is provided for hearing-aid users.



Refreshments will be served in the Church Hall after the 9.30am service.



www.abbotslangley.org.uk

THE PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS

COLLECT:

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; 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 our Father, whose Son, the light unailing, has come from heaven to deliver the world from the darkness of ignorance:

let these holy mysteries open the eyes of our understanding that we may know the way of life, and walk in it without stumbling; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

BIBLE NOTES:

We're meant to approve of people paying their taxes, aren't we? Why should it be a point of controversy between Jesus and the Pharisees? Well, things look different under pagan occupation, when the State is not interested in providing health care and security so much as it is in bleeding people dry. Taxes to Caesar were bitterly resented by many faithful Jews, and surely the Messiah would not expect compliance with them? Jesus' response is enigmatic – it's not quite clear what he means. But one plausible reading is that he is drawing the sting out of the debate by making it seem almost trivial. 'Let Caesar keep his filthy money: as for you, give God what belongs to him – yourselves, who bear his image.' If the primary and allegiance is truly to God, questions of political identity become – if not totally irrelevant – then certainly of secondary importance.

Simon & Jude, Apostles

28 October

Simon and Jude were named among the twelve apostles in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. Simon is called 'the Zealot', probably because he belonged to a nationalist resistance movement opposing the Roman occupation forces. There is no indication in the gospels whether Simon moved from the Zealot party to be a follower of Christ or, on the other hand, if after the resurrection he became a supporter of that group, seeing it as a response to God's call to proclaim the kingdom. Luke describes Jude as the son of James, while the Letter of Jude has him as the brother of James, neither of which negates the other. It seems he is the same person as Thaddæus, which may have been a last name. Owing to the similarity of his name to that of Judas Iscariot, Jude was rarely invoked in prayer and it seems likely that because of this, interceding through him was seen as a final resort when all else failed. He became known, therefore, as the patron saint of lost causes. The two apostles are joined together on this day because a church, which had recently acquired their relics, was dedicated to their memory in Rome in the seventh century

ANTHEM:

O Lord, my God, to thee (attrib. *Arcedelt*)

O Lord, my God, to thee do I lift up my soul.
O Lord, in thee, in thee have I trusted.
Let me not be ashamed,
Let not my foes triumph over me.
O lead me in a plain path;

cast me not off, neither forsake me.

Teach me thy way, Lord, Lead me, lead me in a plain path.

O hide not thy face, Hide not thy face far from me.

Lord God, Lord God, Hide not thy face far from me.

Amen.

FOR OUR PRAYERS

- For Israel and Gaza, and the wider Middle East
- For all victims of terrorism and war
- For wise political leadership at home and abroad
- For the parish of St. Michael and All Angels, Watford

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR IN NEED

Chris Ballard; David Southorn;
Martin Greeves; Doreen Wilson;
Ray Wicks; Jo; Holly;

FOR THE DEPARTED

Diana Wernham; Grace Lilian Hickling;

NEXT SUNDAY

29th October 2023

The Last Sunday after Trinity

8.00am Eucharist at St. Lawrence

9.30am Eucharist at St. Lawrence

11.30am Eucharist at The Church
of the Ascension

5.00pm Taizé Service

READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

Deuteronomy 34: 1 - 12 (P. 199)
Leviticus 19: 1 - 2, 15 - 18 (P. 110)
1 Thessalonians 2: 1 - 8 (P. 200)
Matthew 22: 34 - end (P. 24)

AVAILABILITY

Peter is on annual leave
Monday 23rd —Friday 27th October

Helen is off on Friday.

THE COMING WEEK

Monday - Saturday, 9.15am

Morning Prayer
In the Corpus Christi Chapel

Monday 23rd October

10.00am Coffee Morning
Breakspear Room

7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice
St Lawrence Church

Tuesday 24th October

3.00pm Burial of Ashes Pamela Shepherd
Garden of Remembrance

Wednesday 25th October

The Church office is closed

11.15am Contemplative Prayer
In the Corpus Christi Chapel

8.00pm Choir Rehearsal
St Lawrence Church

Thursday 26th October

10.00am Burial of Ashes
Heather Butcher and Martin Telfer
St Lawrence Churchyard

12.30pm Bible Group -
Women in the Old Testament
Breakspear Room

Friday 27th October

The Church office is closed

10.00am Bedmond Bells Craft and Chat
The Church of the Ascension

There is no collection during today's service. If you would like to give this morning, please use the contactless giving point at the back of Church, or just leave your gift on the offering plates at the back. Thank you.

Many of our worshippers **support the work of the Parish financially** through regular planned giving. If you don't yet, please do—ideally using the Parish Giving Scheme. It is really easy to do: just visit www.parishgiving.org.uk and search for 'Abbots Langley and Bedmond'. Alternatively, please call 0333 002 1260. For any queries about giving to the parish, please email: giving@abbotslangley.org.uk. Parish Giving Packs can be collected from St Lawrence Church or from the Church Office.

The Malawi Project Gourmet Dinner with Entertainment - Saturday 18th November 2023 doors open at 7.00pm. £18.50 per person. Table of 6 or join another table. 100% of money raised will go to Malawi Projects. Tickets available from Wendy Meldrum: wendymeldrum@gmail.com or David Adams: david.adams31@ntlworld.com

Christian Aid Fundraising Meal at Abbots Tandoori. Monday 6th November at 7.00pm. £20.00 per person. Tickets available from Peter Jowsey: 01923 268552 or book online at: <https://tinyurl.com/klmeal>

There will be no Craft and Chat group in the Breakspear Room on **Friday 27th October**. Craft and Chat will return the following week (Friday 3rd November).

Women of the Old Testament. This new group continues to meet, Thursdays, 12:30-2pm (bring your lunch!) in the Breakspear Room. Contact Helen for more info and pre-reading!

Job Vacancy at Watford Foodbank - Foodbank Manager - this is a new, full-time, salaried role based at the administrative Hub, Imperial Way, Watford, working 9.00am—5.00pm Monday to Friday. £30,000 per annum. Closing date for applications is Tuesday 31st October 2023, start date January 2024. For a full job description and further enquiries, please email: trustees@watford.foodbank.org.uk

We are looking for two extra helpers to help at Sunday coffee after the 9.30am service. This would be roughly every 6 weeks. If you are able to help please contact the Church Office: adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk or 01923 261795. Thank you.

There will be no 11.30am service at Bedmond on 12th November due to the Remembrance Service in St Lawrence Church. There will however, be a Remembrance Service at Bedmond at 3.00pm on 12th November.

No refreshments will be served after the 9.30am Second Sunday service on 5th November due to the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial at 10.50am.

CONTACT NUMBERS

Vicar:

Revd Dr Peter Waddell 07552 359046
Email: vicar@abbotslangley.org.uk

Curate:

Revd. Helen Neville 07718 172642
Email: curate@abbotslangley.org.uk

Safeguarding Officer:

Roxanne Yau
safeguarding@abbotslangley.org.uk

Reader:

Mrs Sally Sanderson - 01923 265963

Director of Music

Marianne Ryall
Email: directorofmusic@abbotslangley.org.uk

Church Office Opening Times:

10.00am until 12.30pm Mon-Fri - 01923 261795
Email: adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk

If anyone needs the ministry of a priest at any time, day or night, please contact Peter directly.