



Parish Newsletter: week beginning 13th September 2021

Reflection for Creationtide week 3

Mark's Gospel is widely considered to be the first Gospel to have been written and significantly shaped the way subsequent writers wrote about the life and times of Jesus. Mark's Gospel is also the shortest, so details are very concise.

The Gospel is dominated by the death and resurrection of Jesus, forming nearly half the total book. And one of its features, although not unique to it, are parables set in nature. Mark 4 contains a number of such parables that culminate in a story from the life of Jesus with him calming the waves. The earlier nature parables draw on our common understanding about nature while the last section on Mark 4 encourages us to see Christ not as part of creation, but as one with the Creator God.

Mark's Gospel is very easy to read in one go. So why not set aside an hour at some point over the coming couple of weeks to read the entire Gospel and thinking about the meaning of these 'nature' parables in particular. And here's a taster to get you going:

*"The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.....
.....With what can we compare the kingdom of God? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."*

Collect for 16th Sunday After Trinity

*Lord of creation, whose glory is around and within us:
open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you with reverence
and know your peace at our lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Sunday 26th September 10.30am: Parish Harvest Thanksgiving Service at St Nicholas. There will be no other services that morning. ALL WELCOME.

Please bring gifts of tinned and/or dried foods for the Foodbank.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING FRESH FOOD/FRUIT OR VEGETABLES.

******Service for the Welcome and Licensing of Rev Claire Scargill****
to the Harwich Team
Thursday 14th October at 7.30pm at All Saints' Church**

A special service of welcome and licensing of Claire to the Harwich Team by the Bishop of Colchester and Archdeacon of Colchester. If you would like to attend this special service, please let Liz Mcleod, our Parish Administrator know.

For our prayers this week:

*we continue to pray for the citizens of Afghanistan at this perilous time;
we pray for our care of the world and its creatures;
we pray for all those newly ordained as Deacons in God's Church;
for the sick and all those recently bereaved*

****Worship for Sunday 19th September ****

9am Holy Communion at St Michaels'
10.30am Holy Communion at All Saints'

Midweek Holy Communion 9.30am All Saints' 22nd September

**The next meeting of the PCC will be on
Monday 20th September 7.30pm, St Nicholas Church.
PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN VENUE**

Morning Prayer Mon, Tues, Thurs 8.45am 'Zoom' Meeting ID: 719 8923 2318 Passcode: 68UOCB

Morning Prayer Wednesday 8.45am 'Zoom' Meeting ID: 779 2926 3490 Passcode: E5cEEen

Evening Prayer Wednesdays 7pm 'Zoom' ID: 795 4834 0106 Passcode: Harwich21

Wednesdays 10- 10.30am A set time to pray together in our own homes.

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Churchwardens:

St. Michael's	Liz Ford	07947 420598	Dawn Wallace	01255 554921
All Saints'	Liz McLeod	07939 534115	Marilyn Mayo	07776 284594
St Nicholas'	Janet Goodall	07960 576978	Fiona Seager	07976 872167

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Parish Administrator:	Liz McLeod	07762253132	harwich.peninsular@gmail.com
All Saints Treasurer:	Doug Cooper	07948820923	claireanddoug38@gmail.com
St. Nicholas' Treasurer and LLM:	John Shaw	0770814389	john.mshaw@hotmail.co.uk
PCC Vice-Chair and LLM:	John Wallace	07825044940	jwallace759@googlemail.com
Rector:	Rev Margaret Shaw		sh.ma@btinternet.com