

### INTERCESSIONS—Please pray for...

The parish of St Mary's with Christchurch, Abergavenny, is twinned with the parish of Evanda with Secunda, Diocese of the Highveld. Please pray for the ministers and people of Evanda with Secunda.

All those suffering from coronavirus and all those caring for them.

#### **Sunday, 12 July 2020**

*Pray for the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea*

Goetre Ministry Area

Bishop's advisor for deliverance ministry John Connell

Sea Sunday – Mission to Seafarers – Chaplain Mark

Lawson-Jones

Clos Bury Chapel, Clos Durand

#### **Monday, 13 July 2020**

*Kajiado (Kenya)*

*Kajo-Keji (South Sudan)*

*Kamango (Congo)*

Lower Islwyn Ministry Area

Aneurin Health Board Chaplaincy Team

Coed Glas Lane, Commercial Street

#### **Tuesday, 14 July 2020**

*Northern Malawi (Central Africa)*

*Barbados (West Indies)*

*Kampala (Uganda)*

Magor Ministry Area

Magor CiW Primary School

The Mothers' Union

Cresta Road, De Ballon Close, De Braose Close

#### **Wednesday, 15 July 2020**

*Northern Mexico (Mexico)*

*Bari (Nigeria)*

Monmouth Ministry Area

Osbaston CiW Primary School

Children Youth Family Ministry Advisers Rachel

Nelmes

Ty Mawr Convent

De Cantelupe Close, De Grosmont Close

#### **Thursday, 16 July 2020**

*Northern Michigan (The Episcopal Church)*

*Barisal (Bangladesh)*

*Barrackpore (North India)*

Newport East Ministry Area

Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Lay Eucharistic Assistants

De Wallingford Close, Delafield Road

#### **Friday, 17 July 2020**

*Northern Philippines (Philippines)*

*Bath & Wells (England)*

Newport North Ministry Area

Malpas CiW Primary School

Koinonia Helping Hands Project

Work with the blind

Deri Road, Deri View

#### **Saturday, 18 July 2020**

*Northern Territory, The (Australia)*

*Bathurst (Australia)*

*Kano (Nigeria)*

Newport West Ministry Area

Diocesan ICME officer Jeremy Harris

Derwen Way, Dingle Road

#### **Sick:**

Emily Chicken; Ian Clissold; Sian Davies;

Tania; Rosemary Aurelius; Max

Roebuck; Gwyneth Jones

#### **Recently departed:**

#### **Readings for the week:**

##### **Sunday, July 12**

Isaiah 55. 10-13

Psalms 65. 9-13

Romans 8. 1-11

Matthew 13. 1-9, 18-23

##### **Monday, July 13**

Isaiah 1. 10-17

Psalms 50. 7-15

Matthew 10.34 – 11.1

##### **Tuesday, July 14**

Isaiah 7. 1-9

Psalms 48

Matthew 11. 20-24

##### **Wednesday, July 15**

Isaiah 10. 5-7, 13-16

Psalms 94. 3-15

Matthew 11. 25-27

##### **Thursday, July 16**

Isaiah 26. 7-9, 12, 16-19

Psalms 102. 12-22

Matthew 11. 28-30

##### **Friday, July 17**

Isaiah 38. 1-6, 21

Psalms 6

Matthew 12. 1-8

##### **Saturday, July 18**

Micah 2. 1-5

Psalms 10. 1-9, 18, 19

Matthew 12. 14-21

## St Mary's Priory & Christchurch and Holy Trinity, Abergavenny, St Peter's, Llanwenarth Citra July 12 - Trinity 5 (Proper 10)

In today's Gospel reading we hear Jesus tell the Parable of the Sower. Although the sower is central to the story it could equally be called the 'Parable of the Seed' as it demonstrates how God's words and actions are received in the world.

It could also be called the 'Parable of the Soils' because the real focus is on how the path, the rocks and the soil are either unable or able to receive the good seed.

This was true of Jesus' ministry in the Scriptures, and it is true for the Church today. It can be challenging for us when some people seem to hear God's word, grow and thrive, when others do not.

May we always be fertile soil ready to receive the 'seed' of God's sowing, and may we always be alert, looking out for other fertile pasture so that when the great day comes we can return a bumper harvest to our Lord.

Open our eyes and ears to the  
presence of Your Holy Spirit.

May the seeds of Your Word  
scattered among us fall on fertile  
soil.

May they take root in our hearts and  
lives,

and produce an abundant harvest  
of good words and deeds.

Amen.



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### THE COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.  
For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy,  
and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall burst into song,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.  
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,  
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

### SECOND READING

A reading from St Paul's letter to the Romans.  
There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalms 65. 9-14

Thou visitest the earth and / waterest it:  
thou / makest · it / very / plenteous.

The river of God is / full of / water:  
thou hast prepared their corn, \* for so thou providest / for the / earth.

Thou waterest the land, \* pressing / down its / furrows:  
making it soft with drops of rain, and / blessing · the / increase / of it.

Thou crownest the year / with thy / goodness:  
and thy paths / over- / flow with / plenty.

The fields of the wilderness are / rich in / pasture:  
and the hills are / girded · a- / bout with / joy;

The mountains clothe themselves with / flocks of / sheep:  
the valleys all stand thick with corn, they / shout for / joy and / sing.

### THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Speak Lord, for your servant is listening:  
You have the words of eternal life.  
**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

The Lord be with you  
**And with your spirit.**  
Hear the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew:  
**Glory to Christ our Saviour**

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up.

'Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away.

'Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundred fold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!

'Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path.

'As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.

'As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world, and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing.

'But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord:  
**Praise to Christ our Lord.**

### **NOTICES**

➤ **Sunday service:** The 10.30am Parish Eucharist will be live-streamed on the Abergavenny Anglican Churches Together Facebook page.

➤ **Wednesday service:** A service of Evensong will be streamed on Wednesdays at 5pm while Fr Tom is on leave. All the live-steamed services are available as videos on the Facebook site. You don't need to have a Facebook account in order to see this—just log on to <https://www.facebook.com/AberACT>

➤ **Church opening:** St Mary's will be open for private prayer from 10am to 2pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Six people (plus the stewards) will be allowed in the church at any one time, to comply with social distancing and so that the task of cleaning each day will not be too onerous. The Garden of Rest will also be open during these times as well. Please do respect the steward's instructions.

➤ **Leave:** Fr Tom will be on annual leave from tomorrow until July 25. If you need to speak to a priest please contact Fr Jeff (details on the front page).