

**St Botolph's
Church Family News
Ninth Sunday after Trinity
1st August 2021**



Collect - Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; 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.

Sunday Church Services for 1st August

Please join us in **Church at St Botolph's for:**

9.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Family Service

as we continue to welcome the congregation back into Church to worship.

Sunday 10.00am services from St Botolph's Church will normally be Live-Streamed but due to technical issues we are currently unable to do so. So please join us in Church this Sunday.

Or join us at **11.00am** for an outdoor service at **St Edmund's Church Warkton, Please use the Village Hall Car park in Warkton village if you are coming by car and remember to bring a seat.**



During **August Church Office** will be open from **9.30am to 12.30pm Monday to Thursday.**

Outside these hours the Office telephone and email will be monitored should you wish to leave a message.

Telephone 01536 414052

Email Heatherknighton@stbots.church

St Bot's Tots



Our baby, toddler and pre-schooler group recommenced at the end of June and we have enjoyed a few weeks of play, songs, stories and learning about God in the garden at Church House.

We have a wonderful team of volunteers who, each week, make the garden ready for all that a group of enthusiastic little ones can throw at it. We also provide a craft/art activity each week that children and adults alike enjoy getting stuck into.

St Bot's
TOTS

Although we were only back for a few weeks before the summer break, it was fantastic to welcome some new faces to our group, including several babies who weren't even born when we had to close our doors in March 2020. It really has been wonderful to make new friends and see small children interact with each other as children are meant to do. We said goodbye to a few of the children as they will start "big school" in September; we wish them and their families every blessing as they start the next phase.

We have been very blessed to be able to meet in Church House garden and we had amazing weather each week for which we were truly thankful!

We plan to return after the summer break on Tuesday 7th September, when we should be able to use Church House itself as well as the garden.

We will have a few vacancies for more children in September; if you would like to register for a space(s), please drop me an email, giving me your name, email address and the name(s) and age(s) of your child(ren).

The St Bot's Tots Team looks forward to seeing you!

Helen Helen@stbots.church

Contact details

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(Opening Hours Mon - Thursday 9:30am - 12:30pm.)

Caffeination

Now that we are free (!) we would like to introduce social mixing after the morning service at St Botolph's. The traditional way, of course, to encourage this is to serve coffee, that greatest social lubricant of our time. Of course, we need to be careful to be safe, so we will take the following precautions:

No one should be made to feel bad if they choose not to join a coffee making team if invited to. We must respect one another in this.

1. Entrance and egress to and from Church House garden should be by the gate and not through church house.
2. Coffee will be served from tables outside on the patio.
3. No biscuits will be served. Please bring your own if you wish, but do not share them.
4. Coffee, sugar, milk etc. will be put into cups as required only by the coffee team.
5. The coffee team will wash their hands regularly with soap and hot water.
6. All crockery and cutlery, however small amount, will be washed in the dishwasher, not the sink. This is far more hygienic and a basic rule for health and hygiene in the kitchen.
7. As far as possible people should use Church House Garden for social mixing and not the fellowship room or anywhere inside the house.
8. Face coverings should be worn inside Church House.
9. If the weather is inclement we will not offer coffee.



Saturday Morning Prayer Time

OPENAIR PRAYER

Please do join us in the calm of early morning on the patio area of Church House gardens (marquee if it's damp!) to bring the things on our hearts before God in prayer on **Saturday 14th August, 9.00am-10.00am.**

All are very welcome

Be still and know that I am God (psalm 46:10)

Dates For Your Diary



Confirmation Service 21-11-21

at St Botolph's. Church Details to follow in due cause.
If you are considering Confirmation please speak to Andy or Mark over the next couple of months.

Baptism Service 12-09-21

At St Botolph's. Church Details to follow shortly
If you are considering baptism please register your interest with Heather in Church Office.



Church Picnic Lunch and Fun day at Rock UK Irthlingborough Saturday 2nd October

A time to re-connect and catch up with the church family as we start to return to 'normality'.
More details to follow later.



What's happening next week?

• Sunday 1st August

9.00am Holy Communion in Church
10.00am Family Service in Church
(also Live-Streamed)
11.00am Outdoor Service at Warkton

• Monday 2nd August

1.00pm Staff meeting

• Tuesday 3rd August

5.55pm St Bots TROTS
(runners meet in Church House Carpark)
8.00pm Church Meets (via Zoom)

• Wednesday 4th August

• Thursday 5th August

10.00am Staff meeting

• Friday 6th August

• Saturday 7th August

Message from Mark's Blog

Freedom! But is it?

So freedom day has arrived! However, we are still urged to be careful.

The Church of England eventually issued its guidelines last Friday afternoon. They are, "you are free to do what you like, but if anything goes wrong it's on your head!" (a gentle but accurate paraphrase). So, what are we to do? Here's what we plan:

1. As described in my last post (please see "The Beginning of the End"), we will be setting up two areas in the church building. One will have seating that is socially distanced, the other not.
2. In BOTH areas we will be asking you to wear masks. This seems sensible and is in line with the government's advice.
3. Each area will have separate entrance and egress points.
4. Ventilation in the building will be as good as we can make it.
5. We can SING TOGETHER! Only, face masks must be in place.

Concerning Holy Communion this is now allowed. This is very welcome indeed. However, there are certain stipulations:

1. We must use a common cup.
2. Use of individual cups is specifically not allowed.
3. Intinction (dipping the bread in the wine) is also specifically not allowed.

So, we do plan to reintroduce Holy Communion, but we must follow the rules. Initially short services of Holy Communion will be offered after the main morning service (to be announced). If you wish to receive communion you are very welcome. We have been advised of the following points concerning possible CoVID-19 transmission:

1. The virus is unlikely to be transmitted through the wine.
2. The virus is most likely to be transmitted, if at all, via the handling of the chalice.
3. It is possible that the virus could be transmitted by the close proximity of communicants.

We will, therefore, take the following precautions:

1. The leader will make sure that his hands are properly and regularly sterilised during the service.
2. We ask that you sterilise your hands before coming up to receive the bread and wine. We will make hand gel available if necessary.
3. Communion will be served one communicant at a time with appropriate distancing between communicants. You may, if you wish, take the chalice as usual as your hands will be sterilised. However, should you prefer, you do not have to touch the chalice and the administrator will tip it accordingly.

Please do join us for these services. We believe that we are taking every precaution to keep the service as safe as possible. Please encourage those who are anxious and bear with them in love. Remember, some people have good medical reasons to be especially careful that you don't know of. Let's bear with one another, respect one another, and love one another for the glory of God.

With my blessings Mark