SERVICES NEXT WEEK

SUNDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER TRINITY 15

ABBEY - 8.00 AM HOLY COMMUNION (BCP)

WARBOROUGH - 8.00 AM HOLY COMMUNION (BCP)

LITTLE WITTENHAM – 8:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION

DRAYTON ST LEONARD — 9:30 AM HOLY COMMUNION

ABBEY – 10:30 AM TEAM SUNG EUCHARIST WITH

CONFIRMATION

MARSH BALDON - 11:00 AM HOLY COMMUNION

BERINSFIELD — 3.00 PM INFORMAL WORSHIP

BERINSFIELD — 3.30 PM BERINSFIELD LIVING ROOM

CHISELHAMPTON — 4:30 PM EVENSONG

LONG WITTENHAM - 6:30 PM WORHSIP

A Service of Holy Communion is at St Mary's and St Berin Berinsfield every Wednesday at 9.30am. Everyone welcome.

HYMNS

Jesus is Lord 690 Let all the world 704 I come with joy 448 Now thank we all our God 739

NEXT WEEK'S BIBLE READINGS

Jeremiah 32.1–3a, 6–15 1 Timothy 6.6–19 Luke 16.19–31

NOTICES

Village Coffee Morning in the Abbey

Tuesdays 11.00 am - 12 pm

Community Coffee Morning meets every Tuesday at Berinsfield Church Hall 10.30am-12pm. Open to everyone and will remain Dementia friendly.

Abbey Tots – Wednesdays in the Abbey 2pm – 3pm

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SUNDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

Welcome to our services today, especially any who are visiting us or are new parishioners. Please make yourself known to the clergy or those on duty.

THE COLLECTS

O Almighty God, whose blessed Son called Matthew the tax collector to be an apostle and evangelist: give us grace to forsake the selfish pursuit of gain and the possessive love of riches that we may follow in the way of your Son Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Merciful God, your Son came to save us and bore our sins on the cross: may we trust in your mercy and know your love, rejoicing in the righteousness that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

BIBLE READINGS

Proverbs 3.13-18

Happy are those who find wisdom, and those who get understanding, ¹⁴for her income is better than silver, and her revenue better than gold. ¹⁵She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her. ¹⁶Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honour. ¹⁷Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. ¹⁸She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called happy.

2 Corinthians 4.1-6

Since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ²We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. ³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the

light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Matthew 9.9–13

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him. ¹⁰And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. ¹¹When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' ¹²But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Faithful God, whose Son bore our sins in his body on the tree and gave us this sacrament to show forth his death until he comes: give us grace to glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he is our salvation, our life and our hope, who reigns as Lord, now and for ever.

Amen.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS:

As Jesus called Matthew to follow him and shared table fellowship with outsiders, so we too are called into his wide and welcoming community of love. Let us bring our prayers for the church, the world, and one another.

Loving God, we pray for your Church, that it may be a place where all are welcomed. Give us the courage to reach beyond our comfort zones, and to build a community marked by mercy and grace. Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of new life in Christ, and today especially for James Trott, Theodore Trott and Eleanor Trott who are being baptised. As you called Matthew to follow you, so call James, Theodore and Eleanor to walk in your way of mercy and love. Bless them with your Spirit, surround them with your protection, and keep them always in your grace. We pray for their family, friends, and this church community. Help us all to share in their journey of faith, to offer encouragement and support, and to show the welcome of Christ, so that together we may grow as his disciples.

God of compassion, we pray for our world, where so many feel left out, unwanted, or unseen. We remember those pushed to the margins and those who feel they do not belong. May communities everywhere be places of justice and kindness, where strangers become neighbours and neighbours become friends.

God of welcome, we pray for this community and all who live, work, and go to school here. Bless our friendships, our families, and all who give their time to care for others. Show us how to open our homes, our tables, and our hearts to those who need support or companionship.

God of healing, we remember before you all who are struggling in body, mind, or spirit. Surround them with your peace and bring them hope through the care of those around them.

God of mercy, we give thanks for all who have gone before us in faith, and who now rest in your eternal care. May we, like them, follow Christ faithfully to the end and one day share in the feast of heaven. Loving Lord, make us people of mercy, ready to welcome, ready to forgive, ready to love, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.