wantage parish

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY 12 July 2026

Holy Trinity Sung Eucharist: Mass of St Thomas (David Thorne)
Hymns: NEH 263 (omit *), 456, 368, 276ii, 495

Parish Church Choral Eucharist: Mass for five voices (William Byrd) **Gloria:** Gloria from the Mass of St Thomas (David Thorne) **Motet:** If ye love me (Thomas Tallis) **Voluntary:** Adagio from Op,65 No1 (Felix Mendelssohn)
Hymns: NEH 137, 262, 358ii, 466

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Saturday 11 July	4pm Evening Prayer (Holy Trinity)
Sunday 12 July	**SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY** ***Sermon Series: Parables*** 8am Eucharist (Parish Church) *Preacher: the Vicar* 9.15am Sung Eucharist (Holy Trinity) *Preacher: the Curate* 10.30am Choral Eucharist (Parish Church) *Preacher: the Vicar* 3pm Godly Play (Holy Trinity): *Parable of the Sower*
Monday 13 July	9.30am Eucharist (Parish Church) *Followed by Parish Breakfast* 3.30pm-4.30pm TBG: Teens' Bible Group (Parish Church)
Tuesday 14 July	9.30am Old Testament Bible Study Group *(What's On Where)*
Wednesday 15 July	**St Swithun** 3pm–6pm Around Table (Holy Trinity) *Last orders at 5.30pm* 7pm Eucharist (Holy Trinity) *followed by Deanery Synod* 8pm 'Fully Booked' Book Group *(The Bear Hotel)*
Thursday 16 July	8pm Online Intercession Prayer Group *(see What's On Where)*
Friday 17 July	12 noon Eucharist (Parish Church)
Saturday 18 July	4pm Evening Prayer (Holy Trinity)
Sunday 19 July	**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY** ***Sermon Series: Judgement*** *Preacher at all services: the Vicar* 8am Eucharist (Parish Church) 9.15am Sung Eucharist (Holy Trinity) 10.30am Choral Eucharist (Parish Church) 3pm Godly Play (Holy Trinity): *Parable of the Good Samaritan*

Morning Prayer is said in the Parish Church at 9am Monday-Friday

Eucharist at the Convent Tuesday–Saturday at 10am, all welcome (space permitting).

What's On Where: For information about regular church groups and activities, see the church noticeboard, the link in the eNews, or scan the QR code:

READINGS & PRAYERS

First Reading: Isaiah 55.10-13

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.

Psalm 65 (8–end)

Response: Happy are they whom you choose to dwell in your courts

You visit the earth and water it;
you make it very plenteous.
The river of God is full of water;
you prepare grain for your people,
for so you provide for the earth. **R/.**

You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
you soften the ground with showers and bless its increase.
You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty. **R/.**

May the pastures of the wilderness flow with goodness
and the hills be girded with joy.
May the meadows be clothed with flocks of sheep
and the valleys stand so thick with corn
that they shall laugh and sing. **R/.**

Second Reading: Romans 8.1-11

There is therefore 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.

Gospel: Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23

Alleluia, **Alleluia**
The word of the Lord endures for ever.
The word of the Lord is the good news announced to you.
Alleluia

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 hundredfold, 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.'

For Your Prayers: John, Peggy; Ken.

Please also pray for: General Synod

Readings & Hymns for next Sunday:
Wisdom 12.13, 16-19, Psalm 86.11-end, Romans 8.12-25, Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43
Hymns at HT: NEH 394, 216, 433 (omit *), 499, 490
Hymns at PC: NEH 333, 492, 369, 461 (tune Corvedale)

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOREST CHURCH: Every Monday in August at 2pm we will be taking to the great outdoors to praise, worship and learn about the God of creation. Meeting at the Parish Church (whatever the weather!), we will find a place outdoors to enjoy stories, activities and a snack (provided, but please bring your own drink). FREE for children and their adults, but 'no commitment' booking at www.ticketsource.com/wantage-parish please.

PARKING CHANGES NEAR PARISH CHURCH: The Council is consulting on a proposal to tighten parking restrictions on Church Street and Priory Road. This is independent of the separate consultation about the Market Place. Please do look at what is proposed and respond by 17 July, whether you have concerns or are supportive or neutral:
https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wantage_centre_parking2026

URGENT HOUSING & PRAYER REQUEST: Victoria Ifeanyi and her family, who have been very much part of our congregation for the past four years, are having to move out of their current home imminently. Please keep them in your prayers, and if you are aware of a suitable property, please let them know directly or through the clergy or church office.

CHURCH PEWS FOR SALE: There are still some church pews for sale: various sizes, made of oak and dating from c. 1854. For details and prices, see the church noticeboard, the eNews or email Vince at buildings@wantageparish.com.

PARISH CHURCH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: The PCC have had a meeting with the architects to discuss ideas and there will be an update to the congregation in due course.

PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER: to request prayer for yourself or another person, please email prayer@wantageparish.com. *Please do not share confidential information without consent*. To ensure that we pray as faithfully as we have promised, names will be printed in the pewsheet for one month only and will be prayed for out loud every Sunday for that month. If prayer is still needed, please email again.
Long term prayer: if you would like ongoing prayer, but do not need the name to be published in the pewsheet every week, please let us know and this will be passed on to the clergy and those who have committed to pray.

COLLECTION FOR FLORA: Contributions to a leaving gift for our Verger, Flora, can be made by bank transfer to: PCC of the ECC Parish of St Peter and St Paul Wantage, Sort Code: 40-52-40, Account No: 00036295 with the reference: **FLORA**. Alternatively, cash (in an envelope clearly marked **FLORA**) can be put in the Donations box.

COMMUNITY NEWS

NEW COMMUNITY APP: Neya is a new free way to connect with neighbours and local interest groups, supported by the council and local housing associations. Available for phone or online. Join at https://app.joinneya.com/discover/wantage or find out more at the launch event on Tuesday afternoon (14 July) from 3.30pm-6.30pm at the Beacon, where there will also be family activities and free snacks! If you join, please do look up the Wantage Parish group.

VENEZUELA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL: Christian Aid is releasing emergency funds to their network of trusted local partners active in the epicentre of the devastating earthquakes in Caracas and Carabobo. They are delivering life-saving water, food, health kits to treat basic injuries and shelter to some of the worst-hit communities in some of the poorest neighbourhoods. Donations given in solidarity with the earthquake survivors will save lives and offer hope in the coming weeks and months as they rebuild their lives. For more information and to make a donation, visit *www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals* or click on the link in the eNews.

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: Revd Katherine Price (Rest Day: Tuesday) 01235 768806 vicar@wantageparish.com
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