



Sunday 26 July 2026 - Trinity 8

Sun 26 July	10.30am: Holy Eucharist President and Preacher: Fr Simon
Wed 29 July	9.30am: Morning Prayer at St Michael's Chapel
	10am: Holy Eucharist at St Michael's Chapel
Sat 1 Aug	3.00pm: Grounded Church In Oak Cottage Garden

WE PRAY FOR

In need: Angela, Hazel, Rosie Hayler, David Yarnold, Morwenna Nicholls, baby Shae.

The departed: Hazel Rixon.

In memory: Joan Challans, Harry Graham, David Miller, Arthur Georgeson, Bert Winch, George Milnes, Peter Sturdee, Felicity Simpson, Elizabeth Mason, Michael Bristow.

COLLECT PRAYER

Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may thrust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: 1 Kings 3.5-12

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God

said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.'

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 13.31-33, 44-52

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

NOTICES

Our last service at Oak Cottage School before the summer break is **Sunday 26 July**. We are invited to join St Helen's for the five Sundays of August, and will return to Oak Cottage on **Sunday 6 September**. **Wednesday services will continue during August as usual.**

Sat 1 Aug Grounded Church in the garden at Oak Cottage at 3pm

Thu 6 Aug Chapel Chat in St Michael's Chapel 2pm until 4pm.

Everyone is invited to the Parish Family Away Day on Sat 12 September, 10.00am to 3.00pm, at Newlands Bishop Farm, Solihull, B91 2RY.

This special day, themed "Blessing and Renewal", is an opportunity for fellowship, reflection, fun and creativity in a beautiful countryside setting.

The cost is £15 per person or £30 per family, both of which includes lunch. Places must be booked in advance. Please follow the link below for more information and to reserve your place:

<https://www.solihullparish.org.uk/parish-away-day-2026/>

St Michael's Church: 07514 373400 | Email: simon@solihullparish.org.uk

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
and his righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you;
allelu, alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, allelu, alleluia.

You shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God;
allelu, alleluia...

Ask and it shall be given unto you,
seek and ye shall find;
knock, and it shall be opened unto you.
allelu, alleluia...

2. In the Lord i'll be ever thankful,
in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God, do not be afraid;
lift up your voices: the lord is near,
lift up your voices: the Lord is near

3. What are the gifts we would treasure most highly:

freedom or justice or money or wealth;
food for the hungry or drink for the thirsty,
love for our children, or power, or health?

Once God had given a choice to the people:
they could decide to choose life or choose death.
They were encouraged towards life's enhancement,
shunning the ways that would quench life and
breath.

Solomon now at the dawn of his power,
challenged by God, in a dream, what to choose,
asked for discernment that he might judge wisely,
here was a gift that a ruler could use.

Now at each crisis, each time of decision,
save us from selfishness, things that oppress;
help us, O God, to be wise, never grasping,
help us to cherish those things you would bless.

4. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me save that thou art;
thou my best thought in the day and the night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
I ever with thee and thou with me Lord;
thou my great Father, and I thy true heir;
thou in me dwelling, and I in thy care.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight,
be thou my armour, and be thou my might,
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my strong tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I need not, nor all the world's praise,
thou mine inheritance through all my days;
thou, and thou only, the first in my heart,
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art!

High King of heaven, when battle is done,
grant heaven's joy to me, O bright heav'n's sun;
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.



*God said to Solomon, 'Because you have asked this,
and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or
for the life of your enemies, but have asked for
yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now
do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise
and discerning mind. ~ 1 Kings 3.11-12*