

Sunday 2nd July 2023

The Weekly Link



Sunday 2nd July

11.15 Together for Communion
Sarah leads as Ethan brings today's reflection about 'Trouble with Ishmael'. as we continue our Summer journeys with Abraham

Prayer for the Week

Gracious Father, by the obedience of Jesus you brought salvation to our wayward world: draw us into harmony with your will, that we may find all things restored in him, our Saviour Christ Jesus.

*ABC Amen --- this week
we are especially praying for*

**the delightful
the demanding
the decisive
the dithering
the disappointed
the down-hearted
the door-keepers**

The Diary at St Wulstans

Mondays to Fridays 2pm to 6pm

Sunflowers afterschool club meets

Monday 3rd July

10.30 Prayer Club in church

12.30 Sarah has pastoral meetings

7pm Sarah has pastoral meetings

Tuesday 4th July

11am Sarah has pastoral meetings

2pm School chaplains meet in the Vicarage

7pm Tolladine CIO trustees meet in church

Wednesday 5th July

9.30 Mainly Music for babies and toddlers

12pm Abide Café with midweek communion

1.30 Interring of Ashes at Astwood

7pm Deanery Synod in Broadwas Village Hall

Thursday 6th July

11am Sarah has pastoral meetings

4pm Sarah has pastoral meetings

7pm *Private hirer in church*

7.30 Pershore Abbey

Please come and support Rick and Keith as they are formally 'launched' as our churchwardens along with all the other wardens from this archdeaconry.

Friday 7th July

Sarah is on retreat today

10am 'Appreciating Richness' group meets

7pm *Private hirer in church*

Saturday 8th July

11.45 Open Door Café

12pm Family Picnic at St Barnabas

on Church Green. Bring your own picnic. Everyone invited to come along for fun, fellowship and games.

Sunday 9th July

Sarah leads at St Barnabas this morning before

11.15 Together for Communion

at which Sarah will be reflecting on the notorious story of Sodom and Gomorrah

12.45 Family Baptism at St Barnabas

Monday 10th July

10.30 Prayer Club in church

7pm The Commissioning Service

As a cluster we gather at St Barnabas to affirm our life as a ministry and mission community, and for the Archdeacon formally to license Sarah and Rosie

Tuesday 11th July

10am Sarah is in St Barnabas School

Wednesday 12th July

9.30 Mainly Music for babies and toddlers

10am Midweek Communion at St Barnabas

12pm Cluster Ministers Lunch

Thursday 13th July

7pm *Private hirer in church*

Friday 14th July

Sarah has pastoral meetings 11am to 4.30pm

10am Miriam Room in use

Saturday 15th July

11.45 Open Door Café

12pm Family Baptism at St Barnabas

Sunday 16th July

Sarah leads at St Barnabas this morning before

11.15 Together for Communion

Monday 17th July

10.30 Prayer Club in church

12pm Friendship Group meets

7pm St Barnabas PCC meets tbc

Tuesday 18th July

1.30 St Barnabas School Leavers Service

7pm St Wulstans PCC meets

Wednesday 19th July

9.30 Mainly Music for babies and toddlers meets for the final before the summer break

Luke 1:68-79

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, who has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets God promised of old to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us, To show mercy to our ancestors, and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:

to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear

holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, **to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of all their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God **the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, **and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

GENESIS 17

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers."



Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham,

for I have made you a

father of many nations. I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you. The whole land of Canaan, where you now reside as a foreigner, I will give as an everlasting possession to you and your descendants after you; and I will be their God."

Then God said to Abraham, "As for you, you must keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you for the generations to come. This is my covenant with you and your descendants after you, the covenant you are to keep: Every male among you shall be circumcised. You are to undergo circumcision, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and you. For the generations to come every male among you who is eight days old must be circumcised, including those born in your household or bought with money from a foreigner—those who are not your offspring. Whether born in your household or bought with

your money, they must be circumcised. My covenant in your flesh is to be an everlasting covenant. Any uncircumcised male, who has not been circumcised in the flesh, will be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant."

God also said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

Abraham fell facedown; he laughed and said to himself, "Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?"

And Abraham said to God, "If only Ishmael might live under your blessing!"

Then God said, "Yes, but your wife Sarah will bear you a son, and you will call him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him. And as for Ishmael, I have heard you: I will surely bless him; I will make him fruitful and will greatly increase his numbers. He will be the father of twelve rulers, and I will make him into a great nation. But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you by this time next year." When he had finished speaking with Abraham, God went up from him.

On that very day Abraham took his son Ishmael and all those born in his household or bought with his money, every male in his household, and circumcised them, as God told him. Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised, and his son Ishmael was thirteen; Abraham and his son Ishmael were both circumcised on that very day. And every male in Abraham's household, including those born in his household or bought from a foreigner, was circumcised with him.