

Worship and Activity This Week

Today	5.00pm	Office hour @ St Anne's
Wed	10.00am	Eucharist
	12 noon	Lunch in the Church Hall - open to all
Thu	10.00am	Eucharist for the Transfiguration @ St Anne's
Fri	7.15am	Eucharist
	9.00am	Morning Prayer @ St Francis
	1.00pm	Wedding of Jamie Westcott and Jessica Race
Sat	12 Noon	Kite Festival in Moor Nook Park
Next Sunday - 9th August		
	8.00am	Eucharist
	10.00am	Parish Eucharist [St Anne's] Sung Eucharist [St Francis]
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer @ St Anne's



Kite Festival - 8th August - Moor Nook Park

Sale Moor Events Group has organised a Kite Festival for this Saturday at midday.. There will be a chance to make and fly kites; stalls to see, refreshments and lots more. Go and see and join in. Suitable for all ages.

Book Group

Join us on Monday 21 September when we'll be finding out what we thought of C J Sansom's *Dissolution* —the political intrigue of Henry VIII's reign is the backdrop to this, the first in an excellent series of mysteries.

Contact Details

Baptisms, Blessings, Weddings - speak to any of the clergy after the service. They will be at the back of church. Spot the dog collar! Our monthly parish magazine *The Spire* has a full list of contact details for clergy and organisations on the back cover. For this sheet, email joanie@sneakmail.zzn.com by Wed.

No need to rush off

You are welcome to look round the church: there's a bookstall with a new range of home-made greeting cards—at a very reasonable price -

a stall of fairly traded products,

prayer displays,

reading materials

and, of course, notices, flowers, monuments, stained glass....

Or spend some quiet time.



INSPIRATION

St Anne's, Sale with St Francis, Sale Moor
0161 973 4145 www.stannessale.org



8th Sunday after Trinity

2nd August 2009

Welcome

We hope you will enjoy being with us. If you're not familiar with our services, don't worry. We follow a written order of service and we'll tell you from time to time which page we're on.

Children are welcome in church and in Sunday School or crèche across the road in the hall. If your children get restive in church, don't be afraid to get up and move around if this helps. There is a toilet at the back of church.

At St Anne's today

8am We use the black service book (from page 229)
President: Norman Hayton,
Assistant Priest

10am We use the slim green service book
President: Olwyn Marlow,
Assistant Priest
Assisting: Paul Edwards,
Reader

6pm Choral Evensong
Led by Alan Ward, Reader

At St Francis' today

10am We use the slim green service book
President: Norman Hayton,
Assistant Priest

Bible readings for today's services are on the next page.

Learning to slow down

Modern house design sometimes omits a separate dining room. Living space and dining space morph into one. Nothing wrong with that - unless the habits of the living space, particularly the way in which the seating is pointed at the TV rather than at each other, sets the tone for the family meal (assuming that the family still eats together).

Family meals, spending time in the company of those we love, talking, catching up, sharing news, insights, activities and the witterings of family banter, are precious moments. Because we have to eat, it can be space when we share more deeply than at any other time in the day. It is a forum for problems and a source of solutions.

It is also, strangely, a time to "do" nothing. The people who saw Jesus (see over) wanted to be "doing" things, getting on, being productive. Jesus invites them to sit, to listen, to think. When we gather around the Lord's Table, we too are not "doing" anything. Rather, in the Lord's presence, we bring our whole life and share our selves, our problems and hopes with him, in turn listening to what he might say to us.



Today's readings

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians [*Ephesians 4.1-16*]

I, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people." (When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

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Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John [*John 6:24-35*]

Glory to You, O Lord

When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were at the place where Jesus had given the bread, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to You, O Christ

Openness to each other

Prayer is best understood on the analogy of a shared human relationship. The right context in which to understand prayer is the context of presence rather than power; after the pattern of a personal relationship rather than a market transaction.

Since this is the case, prayer must be something far richer and far deeper than a matter merely of making requests. Prayer is more than asking God to give us this or that.

Asking need not and should not vanish away into thin air. Asking is the expression of desire, and the sharing of desire has its proper place even in the most sensitive and loving of human relationships. But it can no longer become the be-all and end-all of prayer. If there is no more to a human relationship than what each can get from the other, then the relationship is barely personal at all. Persons are

Real Fellowship

The only fellowship that is the fellowship of the Spirit is that in which Christians are gathered together in worship (once a week, on Sunday, is enough), in study of the Bible or Christian faith, or in service to the community. Life is much too short, and too serious, for the cultivation of Christian fellowship for the sake of Christian fellowship. Indeed much of local church 'togetherness' is a waste of time.

J. Neville Ward, The Use of Praying, Epworth Press, 1967, page 60

being used, not appreciated and enjoyed.

Once, however, human beings are respected for what they are in themselves and regarded as ends rather than means, then the relationships which are formed between persons acquire a value of their own, and as they develop they find expression in a rich variety of communication and communion.

At the centre of such a relationship is an openness to each other. This makes possible and sustains a process of sharing, of giving and receiving. Persons share because they care, and in the process their whole selves are involved, together with all the varied resources of feeling, imagination and thought.

Peter Baelz, Does God Answer Prayer?

Church Urban Fund

CUF aims to bring about lasting, positive change in the lives of people on the margins of society through its grants to local churches and organisations in the hardest hit areas across England.

Four **Challenging Poverty** events are taking place in our diocese; the next is on 1st September at St. Luke's, Brinnington. Bishop Keith is inviting two people from each parish to attend one of the events. Are we signed up yet?

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