

Thought for September 2022

By Revd. Claire Claxton

Do you know the song 'Life is a Rollercoaster' by Ronan Keating? With its ups and downs, gradual climbs and hurtling falls, suspense and thrills, I think a rollercoaster can be a good metaphor for life although I recall the one and only time I went on a rollercoaster with no fondness at all! I was 10 years old and my grandfather took my brother and me to Battersea funfair. The three of us queued up for the ride and then sat in what can best be described as a canoe shaped capsule. My grandfather being the tallest sat at the back so he could stretch his legs out. My brother, being the youngest sat in front of him so that he could feel safe and so I had to sit at the front. All I remember is that each time the capsule turned a corner the front of it hung over the edge and I was suspended in mid-air, hundreds of feet above the ground! I have never forgotten how scary that was and, since then, I have only ever braved the tamest of rides at theme parks, even though my sons were very happy to go on all the extreme rides.

I once heard someone say "If only life was like a rollercoaster, then you would know what to expect." Well, I suppose you would after the first time because those ups and downs don't change on a rollercoaster but, in life, we don't know what is round the next corner.

Jesus said "... do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." (Matthew 6:34) Very wise words, although it may be impossible to stop ourselves worrying about the things that concern us. Corrie Ten Boom, the Christian writer and public speaker, wrote, 'Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow. It empties today of its strength.' As the challenges of life come along, I pray that each day you can find peace in the difficult times and joy and strength from the special moments.

CMClaxton

STE MARGUERITE DE LA FORÊT



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Church Flowers in September

September 4th Suzie Pentecost

September 11th Brenda Tostevin

September 18th Brenda Tostevin

September 25th Fatima Freitas

October 2nd HARVEST Fatima and everyone



A Prayer for Wisdom

Father, we seek Your wisdom daily. Be with people making decisions that affect the lives and futures of our families, communities, countries, and the wider world. We pray that they communicate clearly, truthfully, and calmly — with each other and with the public — and that their messages are received and heeded. May truth and empathy be the touchstones of people setting policies for our protection. Amen

FOREST PARISH CHURCH CONCERT



FRIDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER

AT 7.30 P.M.

**THE STATE OF HARMONY CHOIR
WITH GUEST TRIO,
SARAH TENNANT, CLAIRE CLAXTON
& MARTIN HASSALL**

**FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS
retiring collection**

Time, talents and treasures

Whenever I talk about giving, I talk about time, talents and treasures because there are different ways in which we can give, and our time and God-given talents are as important as our financial giving. However, we also need to pay our bills, we have a project underway to make the back of the church even more user friendly, we support several charities as well as needing to fund our own ministry and mission and so ensuring that we have the funds to do all this is important. One thing that would help would be for those whose financial giving to Forest Parish Church exceeds £500 during the year to fill in a form (available from the treasurer, Richard Heaume) and the church would then benefit by being able to reclaim the tax on that money. This applies to anyone who pays tax and gives to the church by standing order, envelope scheme or cash, weekly or less frequently. We are able to claim for the year 2021 and any previous years. Every little helps so please talk to me or Richard if you have any questions.

Claire Claxton



Jam today and tomorrow!

At the back of church is a small sales area where members of the church fill a little bookcase with home made jams and chutneys. This is proving very popular, some customers coming regularly to stock up on their favourite jam or marmalade. This small area is full of hand made gifts and cards and raises money for the church. (clean jam-jars welcome)



The August Flower Festival

Many thanks to all who decorated the church and surroundings and provided refreshments for this event. The church was much admired and there was a constant stream of visitors every day. It was a difficult time as the weather was very hot but the flowers stayed fresh and beautiful and the visitors probably welcomed coming into a cool church. The displays depicted different Saints with a Guernsey connection and the little information cards were very helpful, for instance, Saint Anne, Jesus' grandmother, had a lovely granny shawl in the window! The event has so far raised £630. We await the result of the Forest Floral Britain in Bloom competition entry results later in the year.

September Dates and News

Sunday 4th September 11 a.m. Tumaini Family service

with guest speaker: Dr. Susan Wilson.

A chance to see many people's work for the charity including some from our Knit and Natter members.

Knit and Natter

Wednesday 7th September

in church 2pm-4pm come even if you only want to natter!

Coffee Morning

Wednesday 14th September

Our next coffee morning will take place from 10.30am to 12 noon in church. Plenty of space at the back of church now! Do come and join us for a cuppa, some cake and a chat. All are welcome!

Solace

Thursday September 8th & 22nd

n.b. the meeting on the 22nd will be joining in the annual Macmillan coffee morning in Forest Parish Church.

When we lose a loved one we realise how wonderful the support we have from end of life care nurses. Solace is a support group for bereaved friends. *(Regular meetings are at St Martin's Community Centre from 10.30-noon.)*

Friday 16th September 7.30 p.m. Concert by

State of Harmony Choir

with guest musicians, trio Sarah Tennant, Claire Claxton
& Martin Hassall

Enjoy the music and the refreshments afterwards.

Thursday September 22nd 10.30am

Macmillan Coffee Morning in church

Join in the coffee and cake with friendly company.



Welcome to Forest Parish Church Services in September 2022

Sunday 4th September

11am Tumaini Family service with Dr Susan Wilson

Reader: tba

Prayers: Katie Blampied

Evensong 6.30pm

Reader: Fiona Roland

Deuteronomy 30 v15-end
Luke 14 v 25 -33

Sunday 11th September

11am Parish Communion

Reader: Nancy Smith

Exodus 32 v7-14
1 Timothy 1 v12-17

Prayers: Margaret Boden Heaume



Sunday 18 September

9am Puppets and Praise

11am Parish Communion

Reader: Keith Wallace

Amos 8 v 4-7
1 Timothy 2 v1-7

Prayers: Peter Gallienne

6.30pm Evensong

Reader: tba

Sunday 25th September

9am Traditional Service BCP

11am Parish Communion

Reader: Debbie Dorey

Amos 6 v1a,4-7
1 Timothy 6 v6-19

Prayers: Vivienne Rees