

**The Church of St Francis
WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR
THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
11th July 2021**



Today we ponder on the fate of the prophets of old as we hear the story of John the Baptist and the dancing girl.

The picture above is an ancient Ethiopian representation of the story

FOR OUR PRAYERS

We pray for those who are in need of prayer at this time: Diana A; Janet M; Maegan W; Matthew; Carson W; Megan; Tom; Riley & his mum and family; Jeanette, David & Grace; Paula.

We continue to pray for Woodside House Care Home and all those in our Church, friends and family who are managing long term health issues including: Rosemary; David & Cynthia; Pete and Rosie; Doreen; Sheila; John and Jane; Shirley.

We pray for all who mourn the loss of a loved one or a friend and remember also those who have died in recent days, among them: Marion Holmes.

**The Church of St Francis
Heartsease**

**Heavenly Father
We ask your blessing upon us.
Hold the Heartsease Community,
and all the world,
in your arms of love.
Be with us.
Give us your strength,
peace, and healing grace.
Watch over us,
protect us from harm;
and keep in safety
all those who care for the sick
and attend to our needs,
in Jesus name we pray.
Amen**

COLLECTS FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things
and above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen

Creator God,
you made us all in your image:
may we discern you in all that we see,
and serve you in all that we do;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of our pilgrimage,
you have led us to the living water:
refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

READINGS FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

AMOS 7:7-15

This is what he showed me: the Lord was
standing beside a wall built with a plumb-line,
with a plumb-line in his hand. And the LORD
said to me, 'Amos, what do you see?' And I
said, 'A plumb-line.' Then the Lord said,
'See, I am setting a plumb-line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will never again pass them by;
the high places of Isaac shall be made
desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid
waste,

and I will rise against the house of
Jeroboam with the sword.'

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to
King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, 'Amos has
conspired against you in the very centre of
the house of Israel; the land is not able to
bear all his words. For thus Amos has said,
"Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land."'

And Amaziah said to Amos, 'O seer, go, flee
away to the land of Judah, earn your bread
there, and prophesy there; but never again
prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's
sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.'

Then Amos answered Amaziah, 'I am no
prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a
herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees,
and the LORD took me from following the
flock, and the LORD said to me, "Go,
prophesy to my people Israel."

PSALM 85:8 - END

⁸ I will listen to what the Lord God will say, ♦
for he shall speak peace to his people and to
the faithful, that they turn not again to folly.

⁹ Truly, his salvation is near to those who
fear him, ♦ that his glory may dwell in our
land.

¹⁰ Mercy and truth are met together, ♦
righteousness and peace have kissed each
other;

¹¹ Truth shall spring up from the earth ♦
and righteousness look down from
heaven.

¹² The Lord will indeed give all that is good, ♦
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³ Righteousness shall go before him ♦
and direct his steps in the way.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now,
and shall be for ever. Amen**

EPHESIANS 1:3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly
places, just as he chose us in Christ before

the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.

He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us.

With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.

In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

MARK 6:14-29

King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, 'John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him.' But others said, 'It is Elijah.' And others said, 'It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.' But when Herod heard of it, he said, 'John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.'

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her.

For John had been telling Herod, 'It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.' And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him.

When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee.

When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, 'Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.' And he solemnly swore to her, 'Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.'



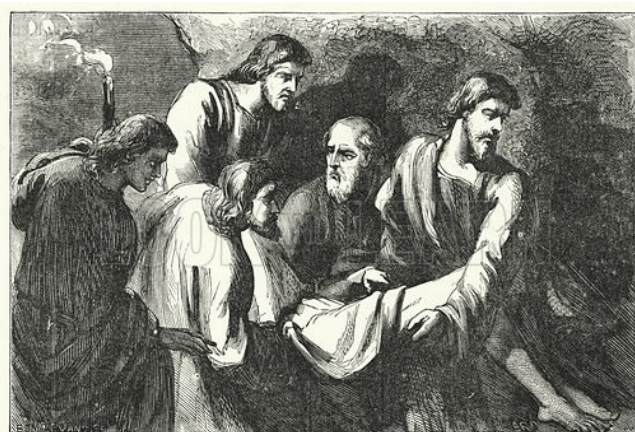
She went out and said to her mother, 'What should I ask for?' She replied, 'The head of John the baptizer.'

Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, 'I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.' The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her.

Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl.

Then the girl gave it to her mother.

When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.



BURIAL OF JOHN THE BAPTIST. — MATTHEW XIV. 12.



**Let us build a house
Where love can dwell
And all can safely live
A place where Saints
and children tell
How hearts learn to forgive
Built of hopes and dreams
and visions
Rock of faith and vault of grace
Here the love of Christ
shall end divisions
*All are welcome, all are welcome
All are welcome in this place***

FORTHCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

- Mon:** Morning Prayer – 9am
- Tues:** Morning Prayer – 9am
Evening Prayer – 5pm
- Weds:** Morning Prayer – 9am
BCP Holy Communion – 11.30am
Evening Prayer - 5pm
- Thurs:** Morning Prayer – 9am
Evening Prayer – 5pm
- Sun:** Celebrating Together – 10.30am
[Holy Communion]

**WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST FRANCIS
A THANK YOU**

Thank you to Michael and Alison Culwick who have been faithfully keeping the outside spaces of St Francis neat and tidy by trimming back hedging, cutting grass and battling with bindweed! Your efforts are much appreciated by all of here at St Francis and by those whose loved ones are at rest in the memorial garden.

Thank you too to David Wyer for cleaning out the guttering and clearing away the weeds to the front of NextDoor @ St Francis - it looks much more loved and cared for now!

We look to the day when we can gather together a team to look after the outside maintenance – if you would like to help please talk to a Churchwarden or the Vicar.



LET IT GROW

**WHY NOT COME AND SEE WHAT
'LET IT GROW' IS ALL ABOUT?
WEDNESDAYS @ 9am – 11.30am
Weeding, sowing, planting, &
TEA AND CAKE BREAK 10:15am**



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Heartsease
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ST FRANCIS CONTACT DETAILS:

- Vicar:** The Revd Janet Wyer
07368 832294
revdjanetwyer@outlook.com
- Curate:** The Revd Tracy Williams
07834 845623
- Church Office:** 01603 431259
- Email:** stfheartsease@outlook.com
- Website:** www.stfrancisheartsease.co.uk