**Collect**

Almighty God,

who called your Church to bear witness

that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself:

help us to proclaim the good news of your love,

that all who hear it may be drawn to you;

through him who was lifted up on the cross,

and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**Deuteronomy 4.1-2, 6-9**

**Moses Commands Obedience**

4So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. 2You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you. 6You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!’ 7For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? 8And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

9 But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children’s children—

**Mark 7.1-8, 14, 15,21-23**

7Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, 2they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. 3(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; 4and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) 5So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, ‘Why do your disciples not liveaccording to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?’ 6He said to them, ‘Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,  
“This people honours me with their lips,  
   but their hearts are far from me;   
7 in vain do they worship me,  
   teaching human precepts as doctrines.”   
8You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.’

14 Then he called the crowd again and said to them, ‘Listen to me, all of you, and understand: 15there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.’ 21For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, 22adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. 23All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.’

**Post Communion Prayer**

God our creator,

you feed your children with the true manna,

the living bread from heaven:

let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage

until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**NOTICES:**

At the end of the service please place your service booklet in the box provided at the back of church and take this sheet home with you.

To comply with NHS Test & Trace we ask you to fill in the contact sheet and place this in a separate box at the back of church. Please do not fold the sheet. For the time enter the time of the service you are attending. If you are using the NHS app the QR code is displayed at the back of church and in the porch.

**Forthcoming services:**

29th August Trinity 13

10.30am Benefice Communion at St Mary’s

5th September Trinity 14

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Mary’s

11.00am Morning Prayer at St Peter’s

1.30pm Baptism of Matilda Gerrard at St Mary’s

3.00pm Installation of the Bishops of Birkenhead & Stockport at Chester Cathedral

12th September Trinity 15

9.30am Holy Communion at St Mary’s

11.00am Holy Communion at St Peter’s

19th September Trinity 16

9.30am Morning Prayer at St Mary’s

11.00am Holy Communion at St Peter’s

26th September Trinity 17

9.30am Holy Communion at St Mary’s

11.00am Morning Prayer at St Peter’s

**Pastoral Visiting**

To enable us to work in a safer way and use travel distance more economically the clergy will resume pastoral visiting by prior arrangement.

Travelling from house to house is not the best way to protect people’s health and many calls are to homes where people are out.

If you would like a member of the clergy to visit please contact the Vicar. Home Communions will resume from September onwards by prior arrangement.

**For your Prayers**

Recent weddings

Robert Quirk & Angela Marr

Frederick Dodson & Charlotte Price

Joseph Hook & Chloe Creek

Luke Woolridge & Katy Heaword

Forthcoming Weddings

Timothy Wheeldon & Claire Ruddiforth

Thomas Keene & Alice Grove

Departed

Interment of ashes

Scott Wallis

Jessie Hales

Funeral

 Gillian Bennett