



The Lion

A Monthly News Sheet for St. Mark's, Basford

www.stmarksbasford.co.uk

October 2025



Dear Friends,

As I sit to write these few words the sun is shining through the study window, but there is a chill in the air. We have been very lucky with the weather this year which has meant for some of (the more hardy kind) not having to turn on the central heating yet!

On the subject of Autumn, Wm. Cullen Bryant wrote '*Autumn the years last loveliest smile*'. October marks the height of autumn in the Northern Hemisphere it's characterised by falling leaves, vibrant fall colours and a crisp cooler atmosphere. For many cultures October is a time of harvest; gathering in the crops before the winter months arrive. Just over a week ago I visited my daughter and her family; they live in Hampshire in a small, isolated village where the harvest is already 'gathered in' and the fields have been prepared for next year's harvest; but what does that mean for us in leafy Basford?

On the subject of Harvest Jesus writes in Matthew's gospel '*The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few. Matt. 9:37*'. There are so many people in the world with so many needs. During Jesus' earthly ministry, his divine ability to be in any place at any time was restricted. The vast number of people and all of their needs were immense. There is so much work to be done if the harvest is to be plentiful.

Spiritually speaking nothing has changed from the days of Jesus. The harvest Jesus spoke

about is just as plentiful as it was 2,000 years ago yet there are still people in desperate need of him. Our prayers for labourers into his harvest are more desperately needed today. We are experiencing that need during this interregnum; few priests are available to cover services where a church is in vacancy. Yet Jesus had just a few devout men, twelve of them who became labourers in the harvest of people. Amazing!

On harvest Sunday, 19th October, this church will reach out twice on that day and feed God's people. We are all invited to eat together (tickets available from Diane) Firstly we will gather at the Lord's Table to eat the bread and drink the wine of his new life 'God's spiritual food'. God invites us. We are his guests. Jesus will feed us, and renew us, and bless us through this simple act of eating and drinking. But then we are invited to eat once more, this time in the church hall. There we will celebrate being together, being a community of faith, being the family of God, being friends with one another. Members of the congregation will have prepared the meal; an act of love towards each one of us and for that we are thankful.

Thought and prayer for today.....

Even as we are being fed both spiritually and physically, we know there are many others around the world who will go hungry on that day. So please remember our offertory to the

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St Mark's Reader: Janet Pazio ☎ 07594135691; **Safeguarding Coordinator:** Jill Potts-Ayres ☎ 07792 549356.

Food Bank to help feed others. Jesus calls us to love God and to love our neighbour as ourselves. Also please pray for those who are being called to serve as disciples of Christ in the Priesthood and in Lay Ministry.

God's blessing to you all.

Revd. Pat.

Worship Services during September

1 st	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
5 th	16th after Trinity	10.00am	Holy Communion
8 th	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
12 th	17th after Trinity	10.00am	Holy Communion
15 th	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
19 th	Harvest + HC	10.00am	Family Worship
21 st	Tuesday	12:00pm	Funeral
22 nd	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
26 th	Bible Sunday	10.00am	Holy Communion
29 th	Wednesday	10.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)

House Group:

The House group continues **Wednesdays at 7:15pm**. When we continue to look at Mark's gospel. For more information, please speak to Janet.



*Our Harvest Festival
with Holy Communion, will take
place on Sunday 19th October.*

When we intend to double-up on our support for 'Open Door' Please see our list of foods needed either online or at the back of church.

Diary Dates for October

1 st	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group
4 th	Saturday	11:00am	Tabletop
8 th	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group
15 th	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group
19 th	Sunday	12:00pm	Harvest Lunch
22 nd	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group
29 th	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group

Early November Dates

5 th	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group
6 th	Thursday	2:00pm	Ministry meeting
11 th	Tuesday	7:00pm	PCC
12 th	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group
19 th	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group
22 nd	Saturday	TBC	Christmas Fayre
26 th	Wednesday	7:15pm	House group

Harvest Lunch:

Don't miss the food, fun and chatter at our Harvest Lunch to be held in the church hall on **Sunday 19th October at 12.00pm following our Harvest Service**. Tickets priced £10 on sale from Diane on the run-up to this event.

Congratulations:

Many congratulations to our Gardening Team who have once again won Gold in the Community Garden Award! Congratulations to all who contributed!