

Sunday 27 August (Trinity 12)

9.30 Longney: Storyteller Holy Communion

11.00 Hardwicke: Holy Communion

4pm Elmore: Evening worship

Readings: Isaiah 51: 1-6, Matthew 16: 13-20

**PRAYERS PLEASE... for PEACE in Ukraine, Sudan, Haiti, Burkino-Faso, Niger, AND in our Industries and public services
..... for all refugees and asylum seekers, especially Rohingya Muslims in Bangladesh**

...Thank God for diplomats and peace-keepers.

...for the sick and struggling: Chris and Pam, Sean, Karen and Keith, Nick, Julie, Gail, Margaret, Derek, Joy, Lesley, Colin G, Beryl, Mair, Tina

.....for the family and friends of Mik Porter, Patrick O'Neill, Pat Bell, Shaun Dowdeswell, Pamela Rayner

.....for Longney and Hardwicke PCCs' re-ordering plans, Elmore's organ replacement and Hardwicke's bells repairs.

..... For new Headteachers, Heather Francis and Sharon Cale, from September respectively at Longney and Hardwicke schools

.....for Jane Edwards in Mozambique. Her latest blog is at

<https://janeinmozambique.wordpress.com/2023/07/11/ive-got-the-power/>

.....for Tim Fletcher Pioneer "Sportily" Minister, working on Hunts Grove.

Please use the Benefice Prayer diary. It is on our website

Please pray for young people (including 15 from Hardwicke and Hunts Grove), who attended the Sportily activity holiday at TRAC

Advance notices

Saturday 9th September - Ride and Stride Day - See Justine or Richard if you wish to help raise funds for Churches like ours, we have had a lot of help this year!

What can I do to help alleviate poverty? Please read the article on our A Church Near You websites [How can I help alleviate poverty? - Hardwicke: St Nicholas - A Church Near You](#)

Benefice of Hardwicke and Elmore **with Longney**

www.hardwicke-elmore-longney.church

Priest-in-Charge Rev Richard Martin 01452 720015

vicar@hardwicke-elmore-longney.church

Assistant Priest Revd George Parfitt

Licensed Readers Pat Buckland, Judy Cheshire and Mike Williams

Authorised Leaders of Worship: Neil Hollis and Doff Stone.

TODAY Sunday 20 August (Trinity 11)

9.30 Elmore: Holy Communion

11.00 Hardwicke School: all-age worship

Readings: Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8, Matthew 15: 21-28

Week beginning 20 August

Wed 23rd 9.30am Hardwicke: Holy Communion

(and Thurs 24th) 9-3pm Hardwicke school: HAF activities

Sat 26th, 1pm Elmore: Wedding

The Collect for 20 August (Trinity 11)

God of glory, the end of our searching,
help us to lay aside
all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom,
and to give all that we have
to gain the pearl beyond all price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Readings for 20 August

Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8

This is what the LORD says:

‘Maintain justice and do what is right,
for my salvation is close at hand
and my righteousness will soon be revealed.

And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD
to minister to him,
to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants,
all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it
and who hold fast to my covenant –
⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain
and give them joy in my house of prayer.
Their burnt offerings and sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.’

⁸ The Sovereign LORD declares –
he who gathers the exiles of Israel:

‘I will gather still others to them
besides those already gathered.’

Matthew 15: 21-28

The faith of a Canaanite woman

²¹ Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²² A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, ‘Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.’

²³ Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, ‘Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.’

²⁴ He answered, ‘I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.’

²⁵ The woman came and knelt before him. ‘Lord, help me!’ she said.

²⁶ He replied, ‘It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.’

²⁷ ‘Yes it is, Lord,’ she said. ‘Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.’

²⁸ Then Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.’ And her daughter was healed at that moment.