

## **Next Sunday 24 September (Trinity 16)**

9.30 Longney: Storyteller Harvest Festival and Holy Communion  
(Harvest Collect and readings will be on a separate sheet)

11.00 Hardwicke Holy Communion

4pm Elmore Evening worship

Readings Jonah 3: 10-4 end, Matthew 20: 1-16

**PRAYERS PLEASE... for PEACE in Ukraine, Sudan, Haiti, Burkino-Faso, Niger, Mali, 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, Pauline, Nick, Julie, Gail, Margaret, Derek, Joy, Lesley, Jane, Beryl, Mair, Tina, Marion, Philippa

**.....for the family and friends of** 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 prayer letter is here:- [0823-Edwards.pdf \(bmsworldmission.org\)](https://www.bmsworldmission.org/0823-Edwards.pdf)

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

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

FROM CHRISTIAN AID: Please join us in prayer for South Sudan

Lord Jesus, you bless the peacemakers and comfort those who mourn.

We pray to you for all people affected by the conflict in Sudan.

May there be hope for healing in the region.

Console with your presence all who are fearful, exhausted, and grieving.

Lord Jesus, you were carried into Egypt in your mother's arms, in search of safety.

We pray to you for those crossing into South Sudan to escape the violence. May

they have food, water, support and a secure place to stay.

## **Benefice of Hardwicke and Elmore** **with Longney**

[www.hardwicke-elmore-longney.church](http://www.hardwicke-elmore-longney.church)

**Priest-in-Charge** Rev Richard Martin 01452 720015

[vicar@hardwicke-elmore-longney.church](mailto: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 17 September (Trinity 15)**

9.30 Elmore: Holy Communion

Readings: Genesis 50: 15-21, Matthew 18: 21-35

11.00 **Hardwicke school** All-Age Harvest Festival Reading: Matt 13: 31-32

Week beginning 17 September

Wed 20th 9.30am Hardwicke: Holy Communion

7.30pm Longney PCC

Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> 10-12noon Longney working Party

1.30pm Hardwicke: Blessing of Marriage

Difference course. Responding to Archbishop Justin's vision for the church to be a reconciling presence in the midst of conflict, this course explores what it means to follow Jesus in our lives and seeing transformation through everyday encounters.

If you are interested please let Richard know and he'll book you on.

<b>Course 1</b>	<b>Course 2</b>
<b>All Tuesdays 7pm - 9pm</b>	<b>All Wednesdays 1:30pm - 3:30pm</b>
26 September 2023	10 January 2024
3 October 2023	17 January 2024
10 October 2023	24 January 2024
17 October 2023	31 January 2024
24 October 2023	7 February 2024

**Venue:** Cooke Room, St Mary De Crypt, Southgate Street, Gloucester.

### **The Collect for 17 September (Trinity 15), used at Elmore**

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit  
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:  
grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel  
that, always abiding in you,  
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service;  
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.

### **Readings for 17 September, used at Elmore**

#### **Genesis 50: 15-21**

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, 'What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?' <sup>16</sup> So they sent word to Joseph, saying, 'Your father left these instructions before he died: <sup>17</sup> "This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly." Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father.' When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

<sup>18</sup> His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. 'We are your slaves,' they said. <sup>19</sup> But Joseph said to them, 'Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup> You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. <sup>21</sup> So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children.' And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

#### **Matthew 18: 21-35**

Peter came to Jesus and asked, 'Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?' <sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, 'I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.'<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>23</sup> 'Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold<sup>[b]</sup> was brought to him. <sup>25</sup> Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children

and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. <sup>26</sup> 'At this the servant fell on his knees before him. "Be patient with me," he begged, "and I will pay back everything." <sup>27</sup> The servant's master took pity on him, cancelled the debt and let him go.

<sup>28</sup> 'But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins.<sup>[c]</sup> He grabbed him and began to choke him. "Pay back what you owe me!" he demanded. <sup>29</sup> 'His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, "Be patient with me, and I will pay it back." <sup>30</sup> 'But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

<sup>32</sup> 'Then the master called the servant in. "You wicked servant," he said, "I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. <sup>33</sup> Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?" <sup>34</sup> In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

<sup>35</sup> 'This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

### **Harvest Collect and Reading to be used at Hardwicke school**

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well being; 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.

#### **Reading: Matthew 13: 31-32**

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. <sup>32</sup> Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.'