

This week's services



Sunday 23rd August

10.30am, Holy Communion, CW, **Finstock**

Friday 28th August

6.30pm, Evening Prayer, **Wilcote**

Sunday 30th August

10.30am, Holy Communion, BCP, **Wilcote**



These Bible readings are designated for each day

Monday	<i>John 1: 43-end</i>
Tuesday	<i>Acts 9: 1-19a</i>
Wednesday	<i>Acts 9: 19b-31</i>
Thursday	<i>Acts 9: 32-end</i>
Friday	<i>Acts 10: 1-16</i>
Saturday	<i>Acts 10: 17-33</i>

Please pray for the following throughout the week

Monday *Those who are sick or grieving within our community.*

Tuesday *Those who are suffering in this country and around the world.*

Wednesday *The King and other leaders in this country.*

Thursday *For the troubled areas around the world, we pray for peace and justice.*

Friday *For the ministry of the Forest Edge Benefice and for those who lead us.*

Saturday *For an abundance of love, peace, harmony and forgiveness to reign within families and relationships.*

Please also pray for the Chipping Norton Deanery.



If we as a Church can help in any way, please contact:

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PEW SHEET



23rd August 2026
12th Sunday after Trinity

Please take this pew sheet with you
when you leave.

Benefice website:

<http://www.forestedgebenefice.co.uk>

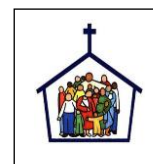
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The Collect



Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to
hear than we to pray and to
give more than either we desire or
deserve: pour down upon us the
abundance of your mercy, forgiving us
those things of which our conscience is
afraid and giving us those good things
which we are not worthy to ask but
through the merits and mediation of 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.

First Reading Isaiah 51: 1-6

Listen to me, you that pursue
righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look
to the rock from which you were hewn, and
to the quarry from which you were dug.
Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah
who bore you; for he was but one when I
called him, but I blessed him and made him
many. For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will
comfort all her waste places, and will make
her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the
garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be

found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Second Reading **Romans 12: 1-8**

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Gospel Reading **Matthew 16: 13-20**

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?'

Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

On many a Sunday at the back of Catholic churches will be someone collecting money for the "S.V.P." - the St Vincent de Paul Society. They are a group of people found in most parishes who volunteer to be of help to local people who are in need. There are a million members of the S.V.P. world-wide, helping the poor locally. Over 18,000 volunteers in Britain make more than a million and a half visits each year to needy people in their homes, as well as in hospital and prisons. Special projects include holidays for the needy, charity shops, day centres and hostels for the homeless, the mentally ill and for young people at risk. They provide hostels for those on probation or bail, and also offer support to refugees, unemployed people, and those with drug or alcohol problems. The S.V.P. Society also has set up a housing association. It was a Frenchman, Frédéric Ozanam, who founded the SVP Society. On this day in 1997 Pope John Paul II beatified him - naming him "Blessed Frédéric Ozanam", being a step on the way to calling him a saint. Saints are people put forward as an example from whom we can learn. Frédéric was a married man living with great faith and concern for other people. He wrote that he "dreamed of encircling the whole world with a network of love and care."

**Lord,
may my attitude
and all that I think and do
always be based
on a spirit of love and care,
so that I may make a difference
in my own part of the world
by treating people as individuals.
Amen**