



5th October 2025



For meditation: *Gracious God, give us wisdom to perceive you, diligence to seek you, patience to wait for you, eyes to behold you, a heart to meditate on you and a life to proclaim you, through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord.*
Benedict of Nursia (c480 – 550)

NEWS AND VIEWS

Today is Workplace Chaplaincy Sunday – a national day of prayer and support for those who engage specifically in workplaces around the country as Chaplains. These roles are largely undertaken by lay volunteers but there do remain some paid ministerial staff in post. The work is done in such places as Bus stations, Police stations, airports, farms, waterways, factories and retail outlets.

Tomorrow, 6th October is St Faith's Day – she was a 2nd Century Christian with two sisters, Hope and Charity. All three, with their mother, were martyred by Emperor Hadrian.

Early warning:

The next Church Council meeting will be held in the church at 2pm on Wednesday 15th October. All are invited to attend this important meeting in the life of the church.

Welcome Back! Tony returns to us from France tomorrow so we wish him safe travels.

FOR PRAYER

On this day of prayer for chaplaincy in the work place we remember all of our members who are still in regular employment as they daily live out their Christian faith and have opportunities to share with colleagues. We give thanks for paid and voluntary chaplains around the country, being 'listening ears' to employees and management. We pray for Teresa as she walks alongside the folk at Brunel House – both residents and staff.

We remember in prayer the congregation at Chew Stoke today.

LECTIONARY READINGS – 12 October

Jeremiah 29: 1, 4-7 2 Timothy 2: 8 -15

Psalm 66: 1-11

Luke 17: 11 -19

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

By the rivers of Babylon we sat down; there we wept when we remembered Zion. On the willows near by we hung up our harps. Those who captured us told us to sing; they told us to entertain them: "Sing us a song about Zion." How can we sing a song to the Lord in a foreign land? Psalm 137: 1- 4

DIARY

Wednesday 8th October

Grace 3.30 – 4.30pm
After school activities, fun and food for children with a guardian. Helpers welcome from 2.30pm

Thursday 9th October

Café 9.30 – 12 noon

Sunday 12th October

191st Church Anniversary 11.00am
led by Rev Ward Jones and including Holy Communion. This will be a joint Service with our Anglican friends.

Chaplains in a shopping centre

Fragments of interaction
Unpredictable, varied,
Occasionally conversations,
Week by week slowly gathered
Building up trust
A sometimes welcome,
Or shuttered faces.
Shuttered windows even:
Gone forever contacts
Suddenly closed down,
Bitter pang of loss,
Hard not get in the way
Veering from pointless to helpless
Yet warmly greeted after absence:
"We missed you. We're so glad you're back."
Often asked why we are here,
We come to see how you are:
"Oh, so you're mystery shoppers?"
We come because you are people
Not target machines or robots.
You are made by God and he loves you.
Often all we can give is a smile
So we pray it's a smile from Jesus.

Rosemary Riepna
Kent Workplace Mission

