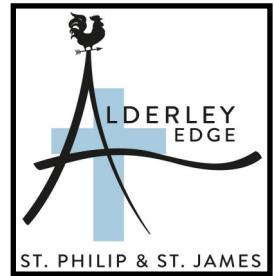


Calendar for September 2023

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Service</u>
<u>Sunday 3rd September</u>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Choral Eucharist
	11.45am	PipnJay
	6.30pm	Taize Service
<u>Sunday 10th September</u>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Choral Eucharist
	6.30pm	Zoom Service
<u>Sunday 17th September</u>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Harvest Festival Family Service
	6.30pm	Evensong at St Philip & St James
<u>Sunday 24th September</u>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Choral Eucharist
	6.30pm	Zoom Service
<u>Sunday 30th July</u>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Choral Eucharist
	6.30pm	Zoom Service
<u>Every Wednesday in September</u>	11.30am	Warm Wednesday

**St Philip & St James
Parish Church Alderley Edge
SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWS SHEET**



Dear Friends,

This year we have mainly been reading passages from Matthew's Gospel in church and this month we have come to a section of the Gospel which is rich in parables Jesus told, parables that are not included in the other Gospels.

These include the parable of the man who is forgiven his debt by his king, only to insist that a much smaller debt is repaid to him by a fellow subject of that same king. The message is clear. If you believe that God has blessed you and forgiven you, then you are expected to share this blessing and this forgiveness with those around you.

It makes perfect sense when Jesus tells the parable the way he does. Any good person would follow this rule. And yet, in our lives, we do not live this way. Rather, we take for granted the things we have; in our minds they become 'ours'. And we begrudge these same things to others.

In another parable, Jesus describes a landowner who hires labourers to work in his vineyard. During the course of the day, he keeps going back to the marketplace to hire more labourers. Then at the end of the day, the landowner pays all the labourers the same daily wage, irrespective of how many hours they have worked.

The result is that everybody has what they need. But the labourers who have worked all day complain. They want the latecomers to not have enough, displaying a petty mindedness which is irrational in one sense and yet all too familiar to us.

Amid the 'cost of living crisis' and the housing crisis, so many people seem to focus on denying things to others less fortunate than themselves, even though they expect to have these things themselves. This attitude prevents us from focusing on how we can get through these economic challenges together.

And these attitudes creep into family life and community life as well as we become fixated on denying others. We persuade ourselves that denying others will make us happy. But the reality is that it leads us to a sterile and bitter existence far removed from God and from each other.

So how can we get back on track? As we focus on harvest; the gathering and the sharing; may the word of God lead us in the paths of peace and justice.

Warm Wednesday's

Warm Wednesday's and Voices Together is re-starting from Wednesday 6th September. All Welcome.

revrobinpye@gmail.com
07794 122602
www.stphilipandstjames.co.uk
Parish Office
01625 581477

Conservation Club

We are very excited to announce the launch of our monthly prize draw. This is a great opportunity for you to support St Philip and St James Church whether you attend regularly, occasionally or not at all. Please do read the enclosed leaflet that contains further information. Our initial draw will take place in October with first payment taken by 25th September. You are welcome to join at any point in the year.

Application forms can be placed in the labelled box at the back of the Church or posted to Mrs A Brabban-Brown, 20 Hitch Lowes, Chelford, SK11 9SR.

You can be sure of a warm welcome if you join us to watch as the draws take place.

Date for your diary

Christian Aid Quiz
Saturday 7th October, Scout Hut, Alderley Edge
Tickets £15
For further information and tickets please email churchoffice.spsjae@gmail.com

ST PHILIP & ST JAMES MINISTRATIONS JULY & AUGUST

**Funerals: 7th July Jamie Smith, 17th July Pauline Pitt,
18th August Malcolm Blessitt**

Baptisms: 9th July Freya Nihill, 16th July Arlo Wheeler