

Welcome to St Dunstan's and Southville Churches

Feltham Ecumenical Parish:
Anglican and Methodist Churches in partnership

8 October 2023

**Eighteenth Sunday
after Trinity**

Today's gospel reading is the parable of the wicked tenants. It was commonplace in the first century for a wealthy investor to buy property for a farm or vineyard and then leave it in the care of tenants. Come harvest, they'd send someone to collect their portion of the proceeds. In this parable, the landowner is God, the vineyard represents Israel, and the tenants are the religious Jewish leadership. The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. Last of all, he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said (Matthew 21:35-37). What Jesus is saying is that God had sent the prophets to Jerusalem, but they were mistreated and even killed. But now God had sent Jesus hoping that He'd demand the respect that was not given to the prophets. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance." So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. "Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end," they replied, "and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is amazing in our eyes?'" Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed (Matthew 21:38-44).

If a landowner didn't have an heir in the first century, the land became the property of the tenants. So instead of showing the landowner's son his due respect, they decide to kill him so the land will become theirs.



Jesus is prophesying His own death at the hands of the Jewish religious leaders. And even though His death will make a way for the forgiveness of mankind, there will be a reckoning for this disobedient people and generation. Because they're rejecting the One who will become the cornerstone of God's kingdom. Jesus' warning is that the vineyard would be taken from those who refuse to submit to God and given to those who would. The implication here is that God's vineyard was being opened to the Gentiles-and anyone who would submit themselves to Jesus, the cornerstone.

Derek Perry

Church notices: Southville Methodist

Sunday services:

- 9.00 am **Revival & Prophetic Prayer Service**
- 10.00 am **Prayer and Praise**
- 10.30 am **Morning Worship** - with Holy Communion once a month

Sunday 15th October only:

- 10.00 am **Shared service of dedication of our partnership** at St. Dunstan's Church
Celebrant and preacher: Revd. Martine Osborne, Anglican Area Dean

Methodist Circuit

Bible Study, in person, on Thursdays 10.30-11.30am. Contact Graham Wells for details on 01784 258785 or g.wells988@gmail.com.

Church notices: St. Dunstan, Church of England

Sunday services:

- 8th October 9.30am: **Morning Prayer** on Zoom™
- 9.45am: **Holy Communion** in church
- with **Junior Church** in the Church Centre
- 11.15am **Young people's confirmation group** meets in church
- 15th October **10.00am** **Holy Communion; Shared service of dedication of our partnership** in St. Dunstan, with our Methodist friends from Southville. Celebrant and preacher: Revd. Martine Osborne, Anglican Area Dean
- 22nd October 8.00am **Holy Communion** in St. Dunstan, said service
- 9.30am Service of Confirmation **in St. Mary, Bedford**
- Anne Dollery will be there with our confirmation candidates and anyone who would like to support them is welcome
- 9.45am **Morning Worship** in St. Dunstan led by Rachel Stuchbury (with hymns/songs)

Wednesdays:

- 10:00am: **Holy Communion** in church

Regular events:

Monday coffee drop-in 10.00am to 12 noon in the Church Centre, every Monday except bank holidays. Free tea and coffee in a friendly gathering, which might include crafts or gentle activities and always a joke! Come and go as you please; bring anyone who might enjoy it.

The fortnightly **Bible study on Zoom™** will meet again in October – contact the vicar for joining details.

Second Thursday of the month 2pm-4pm: **WOT group** (Women on Thursdays) meets in the Church Centre. The next meeting will be on 12th October.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 10th October 2pm-4pm, **TALC** (Tuesday Adult Leisure Club) at Southville Church

Wednesday 11th October, **Parish Office closed**

Thursday 12th October 8pm, **planning meeting** with Southville Church, in Church Centre, looking at the coming year.

Saturday 14th October 6pm **Harvest Celebration with Concert** Tickets £10 includes 2-course Harvest Supper at Staines Methodist Church. *Booking essential* contact roz.sendorek@btinternet.com or text 07712 816163. All in the circuit are invited.

Sunday 15th October 10am: **Dedication service** at St Dunstan's for our partnership with Southville Methodist church. The preacher and celebrant will be the Area Dean, the Revd. Martine Osborne.

Monday 16th October 9.00am-3.30pm: **Racial justice pilgrimage** from Waterloo Station to Grenfell Tower, led by the Anglican Bishop of Willesden. All welcome, see <https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=5af4adf742512ff619ff611e4&id=0c05494404&e=061dfad9d8>

Monday 16th October 7pm-8:30pm, **Autumn Lecture Series 2023 – Here I Stand, I Can Do No Other** on Mondays livestream or in person at St Martin-in-the-Fields. Attend in person or livestream (£10). Next dates 16th October, Ken Loach Here I Stand: Films that Give Voice to the Voiceless, 23rd October Rory Stewart Here I Stand: Politics on the Edge, 30th October Sam Wells Here I Stand: With God.

Tuesday 24th October 7.30-8.45pm: **Information evening for new Anglican Church officers**, on Zoom™. Register via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/kensington-area-new-church-officers-evening-2023-tickets-695190793377?aff=oddtcreator>.

Thursday 2nd November 8pm, **Service for All Souls'** at St. Dunstons

Friday 10th November, 7-8.30pm **Kensington Area Youth Event** for young people in Years 7-13 at St Saviour's Sunbury. Email the Office for a booking form.

Saturday 11th November: **An evening with Graham Kendrick** (who wrote some songs we sing – e.g Shine Jesus Shine, Meekness and Majesty). Tickets £15 until 31st August, more expensive thereafter. More details at <http://www.strichardshanworth.church/grahamkendrick>. St. Richard's is also hosting a singer called Philippa Hanna and her band on 20th October; she has been praised for bridging the gap between Gospel, Pop and Country music.

Saturday 2nd December at 5.30 pm, **St Paul's Cathedral Advent Carol Service**. You can request tickets for the service according to the number of people who wish to attend. The ticket guarantees you a seat anywhere in the cathedral on a first come/first served basis – this means that, if you want to sit together, you need to arrive together. Also young people from across the diocese can be part of the procession of light which moves through the Cathedral as part of the processions. There is a rehearsal earlier in the afternoon for this, when the children and their supervising parents/guardians will be taken through the procession The service will last approximately an hour and a quarter. Tickets are free. If you wish tickets, please email admin@stdunstansfeltham.org.uk by *Friday 10th November* with how many tickets you need and if any young people want to be in the procession.

People

We send our prayers and blessings to Leslie-Anne Lewis as she begins her studies for ordination. She will now be studying part-time at Ripon Theological College, Cuddesdon.

Opportunity to help

Serving tea and coffee at St. Dunstan: due to the well-earned retirement of Jean Harwood, the Sunday refreshments rota is short of volunteers – which could mean one Sunday per month with no coffee-after-church! If several people joined the list, each would only serve once in six or seven weeks. Any offers? And offers of help with serving refreshments at Saturday morning Lego™ sessions would be welcome.

And many thanks for the help given! - i.e. for all the Harvest gifts, to All We Can (at Southville) , Tear Fund, The Upper Room or Feltham Food Bank. God sees it all and God's grace will work through our gifts to bring blessing – to us as well as the recipients.

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Prayer sheet for 8th October 2023

for the Ecumenical Parish of Feltham: St Dunstan's Anglican and Southville Methodist churches

Collect from the Anglican tradition:

Gracious God,
you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief
and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Readings, Sunday by Sunday

8 th October	15 th October (readings set for the day)	15 th October (shared Anglican/Methodist service of dedication)
Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 <i>or</i> Isaiah 5: 1-7 Philippians 3: 4b-14 Matthew 21: 33-46	Exodus 32: 1-14 <i>or</i> Isaiah 25: 1-9	Philippians 4: 1-9 Matthew 22: 1-14

Invitation to remember in our prayers this week:

In the news

We remember today people working in dangerous occupations or conditions; we thank God for people who risk their lives to save others, and pray for their safe return and for the success of their endeavours.

From Churches Together

We ask God to bless all the leaders and people at St. Mary, Bedfont, and ask that the ministry of that church may be fruitful; we pray especially for those who are to be baptised and/or confirmed there on 22nd October, Soheila, Maureen & our 3 teenagers from our parish.

We offer God our prayers for those who live or work in The Centre, Feltham, and for those working in the shops, offices or businesses in the parish.

Those who are ill or in particular need:

Jim Devine, Julie Dutton (Brenda Cook's daughter), Amanda Elliott, Hilary Elliott, Jonathan Griffiths, Fiona Holloway, John Howliston, Jacob Hunter, Ian Lecky, Ray Newell, Mary Walden, Gill Welland, Barry Went, Susanna Woollam

Those who have recently died

Rose Mayger

Those whom we remember this week:

Ted Collins