

NOTICES & DIARY DATES

The Revd Patricia Lawless: we have received many tributes to Pat following the news of her death last week. You will be able to read some of them in this month's magazine. Pat was so well-loved and respected, not just in this parish, but across the deanery. Her funeral will take place in St John's on Friday 9 October at 11.00 am.

Baptism Service - Thursday 1 October at 7pm: Three members of our congregation will be baptised. Please could as many people as can come and support them in this step of faith and welcome them, fully, into the Church family.

Harvest Festival - Sunday 4 October: As usual we will be gathering goods for the Frome Food Bank so please be generous with your offerings, as well as the more traditional goods from gardens. A list of most needed items requested by Fair Frome is on p.1 of October *Inspire* - Thank you!

October Mini Market - Sunday 4 October: A goods request for produce again, and also some more (preferably nearly new) bric-a-brac to refresh that stall, please. Helpers are needed - please see the Sign-Up sheet in church. All offers of time are most welcome on Saturday (set up) and Sunday (market and pack up), it's a team effort!

Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2026 - we need empty shoeboxes in the first instance! Suggested lists for contents will be in church soon, together with decorating & filling dates. See October *Inspire* for further details. Thank you! Alison H

Rev. Seamus Away - 5 - 19 October: Rev. Seamus will be taking an autumn break. All services will take place as usual. Please contact the church office for any admin enquiries and our Readers or Fr. Kevin Tingay for pastoral care.

Save the Date! Christmas Lunch: Our Christmas lunch will be on Wednesday 16 December in the Bennett Centre.

Fair Frome Foodbank: There are collection points in most supermarkets. All help gratefully received – thank you!

THE PARISH OF FROME, ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, BA11 1PL

SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2026

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

SUNDAY SERVICES

Saturday
5pm Vigil Eucharist
in the Lady Chapel

Sunday
8.45am Online Service
contact admin for code

10.00am Choral Eucharist

5pm Let Us Pray

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Monday
8.45am Morning Prayer

Friday
12.30pm Lunchtime Eucharist
In the Lady Chapel

Confessions, Sacrament of the Sick and Pastoral Conversations are by appointment. Please contact Rev. Seamus to arrange.

Tues 29 9am Morning Prayer: St Michael and all Angels
10am Worship Committee meeting
11am Julian Meeting
12.30pm Eucharist

October

Thurs 1 2pm Craft & Conversation
7pm Baptismal Eucharist (St Therese of Lisieux)
Sat 3 9am United Prayer
Sun 4 Harvest Festival
11.15am-2pm Café and Mini Market
Wed 7 Selwood Academy Yr 5 Welcome Service
Fri 9 11am Funeral of The Revd Patricia Lawless

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Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity (Year A)

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18.1-4, 25-end

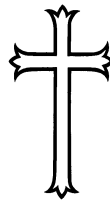
The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**

SECOND READING: Philippians 2.1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue



should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 21.23-32

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

This is the Gospel of the LORD. **Praise to you, O Christ**