

Dear all,

In my last letter I mentioned the diocesan clergy gathering, and the 2 foci of shared ministry and gathering. The final session looked at the different cultures of churches.

I started to talk about the idea of shared ministry, but became rather side-tracked by the priestly ministry. I thought I'd leave it in though, to show what the expectations of the church are. But the point is that, with the exception of specifically priestly things such as consecrating the communion, absolution and blessing, most other aspects of the role are shared ministry with the whole body of Christ, the church.

Paul, when he lists the gifts of the Spirit in 1 Corinthians and Romans, includes the exciting stuff such as healings, tongue, discernment of spirits etc.. But he also includes gifts of faith, teaching, encouragement etc.. How much do we need the gift of encouragement today, when so much is set up to discourage?

I believe that there are so many giftings or callings (vocations) in the church. I've mentioned the gift of encouragement. What about the gift of listening, the gift of 'the word in season', the gift of a shoulder to cry on, the gift of music, the gift of administration, the gift of cleaning, the gift of service coffee, the gift of welcoming, the gift of weeding...

As we look towards the establishment of the LMP (Local Mission Partnership) we are going to be looking more towards ministry shared throughout the whole body – not because we are in a desperate time, but because we should always have been doing it. We have perhaps just awoken to this fact.

Please do be open to what gifts you may have been given, and explore how they can be offered. Encourage one another to discover their gifts, and to feel affirmed when they practice those gifts in our midst. Let us develop a true culture of encouragement and affirmation in this place. Even a 'thank you' at the right moment is a gift.

The lectionary readings for Sunday morning are: 1 Kings 19: 15-16, 19-end; Galatians 5: 1, 13-25; and Luke 9: 51-end. The Psalm is Psalm 16.

The hymns for the service are [Filled with the Spirit's Power, UMH 537, Septet of singers with special guest Mike Shawgo, Piano - YouTube](#) (probably a different tune!); [Hymn: Jesus calls us here to meet him - YouTube](#) (definitely a different tune!); [Be Thou My Vision \(Tune: Slane - 5vv\) \[with lyrics for congregations\] - YouTube](#) (definitely the same tune!).

(In looking for a version of the first hymn, I accidentally came across this – how about it Chris? [Power Filled With the Spirit \(Holy Ghost Power\) - YouTube](#))

Anglican Chant [Psalm 16 "Preserve Me, O God" - YouTube](#) (from my 'home' cathedral, where I was confirmed).

The Psalm Project [Psalm 16 \(Fullness of Joy\) \(feat. Rachelle Hope\) - The Psalms Project - YouTube](#)

And an amazing modern Hebrew language a capella version [Accent - Ki Lo Ta'azov \(Psalm 16 in Hebrew\) - YouTube](#)

Anthems suggested include:

[Christ Has No Body Now But Yours - David Ogden - YouTube](#)

[Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester - YouTube](#)

[A Prayer of Desmond Tutu - YouTube](#) by James Whitbourn

[Listen sweet Dove - YouTube](#) by Grayston Ives

[VOCES8 - Beati Quorum Via - YouTube](#)

Don't forget:



Pennyless



Penny Stevens on violin and Les Woods playing guitar form a distinctive and powerful sound as they range through the world of original and roots folk music, high energy and fun!

Saturday 9th July, 2022
Priory Hall Garden, DSJ

Bring your own picnic. Garden open from 6pm.
Music starts 7pm. Event inside if wet.

Tickets £10 (children free) include teas or coffee
from J Astle 01778 346879 or V Worthington
01778 343860

 Priory Church

Tickets will be available in church this Sunday.



Stay safe.

Blessings and love

Mark