



WEEKLY LETTER FROM THE CHAPLAINCY

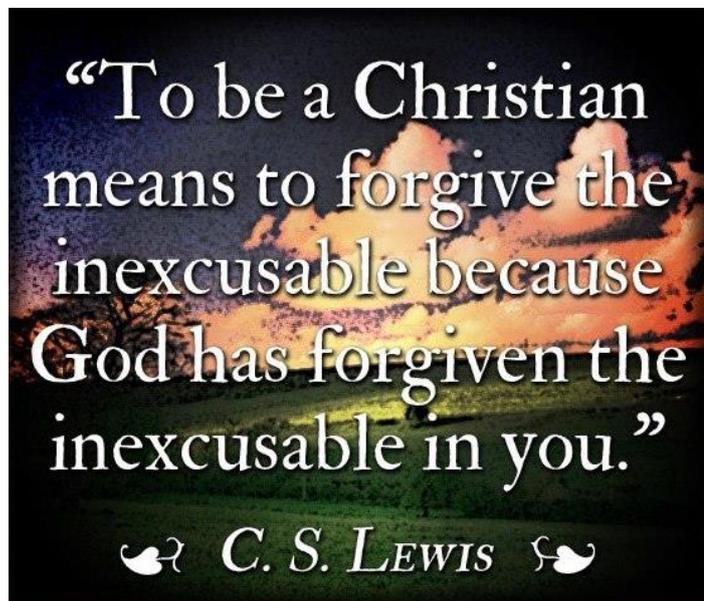
Sunday September 13th 2020 – 14th Sunday after Trinity

WELCOME to the latest weekly letter on this Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity, as the Church continues its journey through 'Ordinary Time'.



In our Gospel Reading for this Sunday, we hear Peter's question to Jesus as to how often he should forgive a fellow Christian who sins against him. 'As many as seven times?' he asks. 'No' says Jesus, 'seventy seven times' or perhaps even

'seventy times seven times' – you can read the Greek either way. It is short hand for saying that there is no limit to the times we should forgive one another. More about that in our worship together this week as I try to make sense of it in our Zoom service on Sunday morning and the Epilogue on Sunday evening. Don't forget to keep in touch if there is any way in which I can help you – chaplain@scilly.church / 423911.



SUNDAY WORSHIP



Our Parish Morning Service via Zoom on Sunday at 11.00 a.m. As for every Sunday, the code is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/477892334?pwd=aWVpWXVidksralpVZm1yUjN6VDg0dz09>.

You will be able to join from 10.30 a.m. and chat to others before we start properly at 11.00 a.m. **It is also possible to join our Zoom service by telephone**, and there are also instructions on how to use the telephone access attached to the email message sent with this weekly letter. If you know of anyone who might like to join in this way, please pass on the relevant information or ask them to contact me.

Please note that shortly after 11.00 a.m. I will be 'locking' the service, which means that latecomers will be unable to join our worship. Apologies in advance if you try to join late or if you lose your coverage and try to rejoin – I'll happily share what you have missed at a later date, but you will find yourselves locked out of the live broadcast. Sorry!!

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

You can find the Sunday readings and prayers on one of the other attachments or enclosures that I have sent to you. In our Zoom service and Epilogue we will be considering Jesus's command to forgive one another from **Matthew 18.21-35**. In the Old Testament



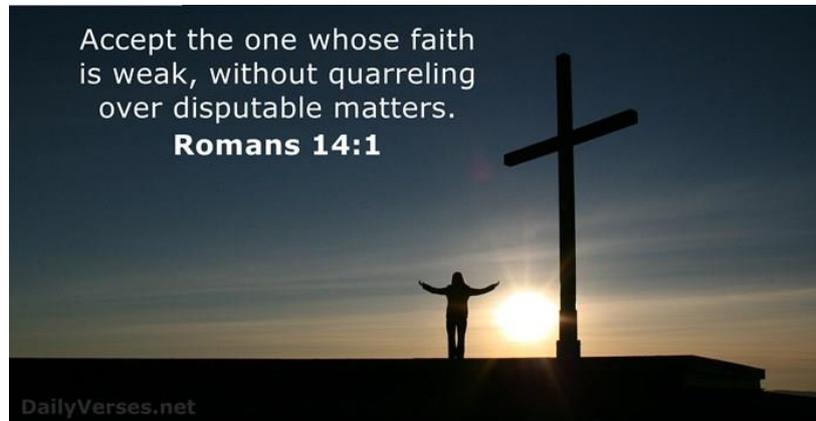
reading from **Genesis 50.15-21**, we hear the end of the long story of Joseph and his brothers. an Old Testament precursor to that Gospel passage as the theme of forgiveness is prominent

within it. But it also contains some incredible words about the way in which God works through the fallible lives of human beings. Joseph says to his brothers that, 'although [they] intended to do harm to [him], God intended it for good.' In our reading from Romans,

Romans 14.1-12,

Paul continues to set out the ethical and spiritual implications for Christian living in the light of the Gospel. In this particular passage,

he encourages his Christian congregations to bear the needs of one another in mind when making decisions that affect their own lives. Eating food that has been sacrificed to idols might not be an issue for those who are confident in their faith, and know that such idols mean nothing. But if someone who is less sure about things sees these confident Christians joining in what appears to be idol worship, it is likely to prove confusing and unhelpful for them as they work out the faith for themselves.



THINKING IT THROUGH



I'm attaching/including my sermon from last Sunday for those who may want to read it. It is based upon Jesus' teaching about how disputes between Christians should be handled, some teaching which we could very well apply to many areas of our modern society.

FUTURE EVENTS



Don't forget that at our Zoom service on Sunday September 20th we will be joined by **Bishop Philip** as our special preacher. The Bishop hopes to visit us in person next April.

Please note that our **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**, has been arranged for Tuesday 29th September at 9.30 a.m. It will take place by Zoom and we will be sending the joining code and papers to everyone in the parish who receives this weekly letter.

So far as our worship plans are concerned, just to remind you that we intend to continue with Zoom worship on Sunday at 11.00 in the morning and the Epilogue in the Parish Church at 8.15 in the evening up to and including the first Sunday of October. There will be transitional arrangements for October 11th and 18th and we are aiming to return to Church on Sunday mornings from October 25th.

A PRAYER DURING THE PRESENT PANDEMIC

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support
the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us
from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

