



Sunday 17th September, 2023, 15th Sunday after Trinity

Genesis Ch 50 vv 15 – 21

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Matthew Ch 18 vv 21 - 35

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' ²² Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³ 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me,

and I will pay you everything." ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." ²⁹ Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

Collect:

Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching, and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Post Communion

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please Turn Over

Those asking for prayer: Catherine, Katrina, Kayleigh, Ann, Eleanor, Maureen, Tilly, Maurice, Joe, Angelika, Glen, Chris, Shirley & Ivy. **Those who have died..** Bob Harrison, Wilf Armstrong, Joshua Slater, Doris Armstrong, Marjorie Smith.

Today: 17th September, 15th Sunday after Trinity

09:30 **Holy Communion** St John's, Hipswell

11:00 **Harvest Festival** St Cuthbert's, Colburn

Monday 18th September

10:00-12:00 **Wellbeing Café** St Cuthbert's Community Hall

18:00-19:00 **Wardens' Hour** Meeting Room

Tuesday 19th September

10:00-12:00 **Veterans' & Community Art Group** in the hall

19:00-20:00 **Meeting to Pray**, St Cuthbert's Community Hall

Thursday 21st September

09:30-12:00 **Deanery Chapter** St Cuthbert's, Colburn & Hall

14:00 **Funeral of Wilf Armstrong**, Darlington Crematorium

Next week: Please bring gifts of food to St John's for the auction, food for the 'Bring & share' lunch, and cash for the collection in aid of the Ethiopia Hunger Crisis Appeal.



Harvest Festivals: Tearfund's Ethiopia Hunger Crisis Appeal

As explained recently, we have decided this year to donate the financial proceeds of our two harvest festival services to **Tearfund**, to support its '**Ethiopia Hunger Crisis Appeal**'. In **Borena**, southern Ethiopia, where 5 successive annual rains have failed, 20 million people are on the verge of starvation, over 7 million women & children are malnourished, and 7 million cattle have died. **Tearfund** has been supporting the local church in **Borena**, in its vital gift of cash grants to help families survive this awful drought. Tearfund's partner churches, like the **Ethiopian Guenet Church**, continue to offer relief & seek to reach those many more people facing extreme hunger.

Our **Harvest festivals** are today September 17th, St Cuthbert's, 11am, & next Sunday, 24th, at St John's, also at 11am. Please bring produce & food gifts, and cash for the collections, and the auction at St John's. All financial giving & the proceeds of the auction of produce at St John's will go to support this project. Let's pray for this vital work, and offer what support we can...

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Safeguarding: Safeguarding Children, Young People, Victims/perpetrators
We are committed to supporting victims of Domestic Abuse and Vulnerable Adults.

If you are suffering as a result of present or past experiences, we would encourage you to seek help. Various helpline numbers are shown below, or on the relevant web pages, on our website.

Hipswell Parochial Church Council (PCC) has adopted the Church of England's policy and best practice on Safeguarding, which may be found on the Church of England's website:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/safeguarding>

Our **Parish Safeguarding Officer**

(PSO) is Marie Smalley, can be contact by email: mariesmalley02@gmail.com or by phone: 07852156134.

Our **Diocesan Safeguarding Advisers**

(DSA) can be accessed by mail: safeguarding@leeds.anglican.org or by phone T: (0113) 3530 257

If a child or adult is at immediate risk of significant harm, in the first instance you should always contact your local Social Services team North Yorkshire (01609) 780780 or the local police (call 101).

National helplines:

Childline: 0800 1111 NSPCC: 0808 500 8000

Domestic Violence Helpline: 0808 200 0247

MACSAS (Ministers and clergy sexual abuse survivors): www.macsas.org.uk

Tragedy: We continue to hold in our prayers the family of **Joshua Slater**, a young boy of 8 from Catterick Garrison, who died recently. There has been a huge local outpouring of sympathy, with 100s of flower bouquets and a major fundraiser organised locally. Do continue to pray for **Kirsty**, his Mum, for friends & school staff—as everyone starts to come to terms with the shock of this heartbreaking news. May God bless and hold each of them, and surround them with His love, during this period of intense mourning. **Amen.**

Please Take Me Home With You