



PARISH OF CIRENCESTER
St John Baptist | Holy Trinity | St Lawrence

The Eighth Sunday after Trinity
26th July 2026

Collect

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern
both our hearts and bodies
in the ways of your laws
and the works of your commandments;
that through your most mighty protection,
both here and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

or Lord God,
your Son left the riches of
heaven
and became poor for our sake:
when we prosper save us from
pride,
when we are needy save us from
despair,
that we may trust in you alone;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Kings 3:5-12

⁵ At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' ⁶ And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today.

⁷ And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.

⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?'

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.

Romans 8:26-39

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. .../

³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?

³² He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

³¹ He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

³³ He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

⁴⁴ 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ 'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' ⁵² And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

Post Communion

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your word
be deaf to clamour and dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit;
may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love
shine with the light of hope;
and may the bodies which have been fed with your body
be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever.

BCP Sunday 26th July - The Eighth Sunday After Trinity

BCP Collect and Readings beginning on Page 168

This Week's Sunday Services more information: www.cirenparish.co.uk

St John Baptist: 8a.m. BCP and 10a.m. Eucharist; 12noon Baptism;
4p.m. Evening Worship

Holy Trinity: 8a.m. Eucharist and 10a.m. All-Age Eucharist

St Lawrence: 10.30a.m. Eucharist

Next week's CW readings for 2nd August - The Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Isaiah 55.1-5; Romans 9.1-5; Matthew 14.13-21

BCP Sunday 2nd August - The Ninth Sunday after Trinity

BCP Collect and Readings beginning on Page 170

Next Week's Sunday Services more information: www.cirenparish.co.uk

St John Baptist: 8a.m. BCP and 10a.m. Eucharist; 4p.m. Choral Evensong

Holy Trinity: 8a.m. Eucharist and 10a.m. Non-Eucharistic Family Service

St Lawrence: 10.30a.m. Eucharist; 4pm Restore@4

Parish Forum open for enquiries Mon, Thu, Fri...10a.m. – Midday

Canon Graham is available every Monday 5.30 - 6.30p.m. in the Parish Forum

NOTICES FOR THE PARISH

The first **Cirencester International Organ Festival** event is on **Friday 31st July** at **7.30pm** in **St John Baptist** featuring **Stefan Donner** (Concert Organist - Austria).

Tickets are available on the Parish Website, at tourist information and on the door.

Mothers' Union: Our next meeting is on **Wednesday August 5th** at **2.30pm** in the **Parish Hall**, Watermoor. An informal meeting of tea and chat. All welcome.

Mothers' Union, Mary Sumner Day Picnic is on **Saturday August 8th**, **12.30pm – 3pm** in **St Joseph's Church Hall**, Oldends Lane, Stonehouse, GL10 2DG. Refreshments will be provided but please bring your own lunch and camping chair should we be able to sit outside. The picnic will close with a short service.

Choral Evensong on **Sunday 9th August** at **4pm** in **St John Baptist** will be sung by the **Bisley Benefice Choir** conducted by **Revd. Tom Merry**, former curate in Cirencester

There is **no service** at **10:30am** at **St Lawrence's** on St Lawrence's Sunday (**9th August**). In the afternoon there is a small celebration, but we are inviting the community rather than the wider parish.

Advance Notice: Sunday 30th August - No Evening Worship at St John Baptist - but you are welcome to come and support Thomas Hawkes who will be giving an organ recital at Westminster Abbey at 5pm.

Contributions to pewleaflet@cirenparish.co.uk by Tuesday evening please!

Following the Earthquake in **Venezuela** if you would like to make a **donation** to the **Disasters Emergency Committee** see the website below:

<https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/venezuela-earthquake-appeal>

The **New Arts** are offering an exclusive **10% discount** on tickets for their performance of Rossini's much-loved comic opera, ***The Barber of Seville***, at the beautiful Rodmarton Manor on **Friday 7th August at 7.30pm**. Tickets can be booked at: <https://buytickets.at/newarts/2191995> using the code: PARISHCHURCH

Can you help? My name is Pippa Adams. a friendly 22yr old female, who attends Grace Church in Cambridge, and I am currently a vet student completing various placements over the summer holidays. One of my placements is in Cirencester, at Benson and Babb vets from **24th August - 4th September** I live in Essex and study in Cambridge so am looking for somewhere to stay during my placement. Is there anyone who might have a spare room that I could use whilst on my placement? Of course, I would be happy to pay and can also offer baby-sitting/pet sitting in evenings or on the weekend! I would be out at placement during the day so I would hope to not be too much of an inconvenience! Pippa's contact is pa481@cam.ac.uk

From the Parish Calendar:

- Sun 26 Jul 5pm: Organ Festival Chorus Rehearsal – St John Baptist
- Wed 29 Jul 11am: Incorporated Association of Organists Recital – St John Baptist
- Thu 30 Jul 5.30pm: Organ Festival Rehearsal – St John Baptist
- Fri 31 Jul 12.30pm: Organ Festival Rehearsal – St John Baptist
- Sat 1 Aug 9.30am: Cleaning in Church – Holy Trinity
- Sat 1 Aug 7.30pm: Organ Festival Chorus Concert – St John Baptist

Contact Details:

Canon Graham 01285 239655 / 07871 571147; email: vicar@cirenparish.co.uk

Rev'd Luke 07850 270719; email: revlukefalvey@cirenparish.co.uk

Parish Office 01285 659317; email: office@cirenparish.co.uk

Monday to Saturday:

St John Baptist: Morning Prayer: Daily at 9am (not Saturday)

Midday Eucharist: Daily at noon (Saturday at 10am)

Evening Prayer: Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 5pm

Little Angels: Mondays at 9.30am

Holy Trinity: Eucharist: Wednesdays at 7pm

St Lawrence: Drop In: Wednesdays at 9am

Parish Forum: Coffee & Chat: Thursdays at 10am

Contributions to pewleaflet@cirenparish.co.uk by Tuesday evening please!