



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

The 12th Sunday after Trinity
23rd August 2026

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray
and to give more than either we desire or deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our conscience
is afraid
and giving us those good things
which we are not worthy to ask
but through the merits and mediation
of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

or God of constant mercy,
who sent your Son to save
us:
remind us of your goodness,
increase your grace within us,
that our thankfulness may
grow,
through Jesus Christ our
Lord.

Isaiah 51:1-6

51 Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.
2 Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.
3 For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.
4 Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples.
5 I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out
and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.
6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be for ever, and my
deliverance will never be ended.

Romans 12:1-8

12 I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present
your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual
worship. **2** Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of
your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and
acceptable and perfect.

.../

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Matthew 16:13-20

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' ¹⁴ And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' ¹⁵ He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Post Communion

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

BCP Sunday 23rd August - The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

BCP Collect and Readings beginning on Page 175

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

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

Holy Trinity: 8a.m. Eucharist and 10a.m. Eucharist

St Lawrence: 10.30a.m. Eucharist

Next week's CW readings for Sunday 30th August – 13th Sunday after Trinity

Jeremiah 15.15-21; Romans 12.9-21; Matthew 16.21-28

BCP Sunday 30th August - The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

BCP Collect and Readings beginning on Page 176

Next Week's Sunday Services more information: www.cirenparish.co.uk
St John Baptist: 8a.m. BCP and 10a.m. Eucharist; **NO** 4p.m. Evening Worship
Holy Trinity: 8a.m. Eucharist and 10a.m. Eucharist
St Lawrence: 10.30a.m. Eucharist

Parish Forum open for enquiries Mon, Thu, Fri...10a.m. – Midday
Canon Graham's Open Office is NOT available this Monday 24th August 2026

NOTICES FOR THE PARISH

There will be a **Special Parochial Church Meeting** (SPCM) at **9:00 am Sunday 30th August** in the Parish Forum to consider the financial statements for 2025, which were not reviewed at our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in April. Our *Annual Report and Unaudited Financial Statements Year Ending 2025* will be available on the PCC section of our website prior to the meeting, along with a hard copy in each of our churches.

Mothers' Union Corporate Communion is on **Thursday August 27th at noon** in the **Parish Church**

Further **Tower Open Days** are planned in the Parish Church. The next dates are from **Saturday 29th August** and **12th September** from 10am until 4pm and **19th September** from 10am until 12noon.

Mothers' Union. Our next meeting is on **Wednesday September 2nd at 2.30pm** in the **Parish Hall**, Watermoor. Our speaker is from "**The Severn Freewheelers**". There will also be a bring and buy stall. All welcome.

Confirmation preparation. For any who might be considering confirmation, Canon Graham will be running an **introductory course** that prepares candidates for Confirmation in the Church of England. The course is designed around those who are seeking to deepen their faith, and in a friendly way attempts to address questions around 'believing and belonging'. **Monday 7th September at 7.30p.m.** meeting at the Vicarage 41 Rendcomb Drive.

We are supporting the annual **Ride+Stride** event on **Saturday 12th September** to raise funds for the **Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust** (GHCT) and to support the fabric of our churches. **Canon Graham, John Lawrence and Mark Dennis** will be **cycling** to visit local churches, others are very welcome to participate too. GHCT has helped the PCC in the past, most recently with a grant toward the St John Baptist Project. We would be very grateful for your donations, as well as any sharing and promotion of our JustGiving page: <https://justgiving.com/page/cirenparish-rideandstride2026>.

We are holding a **Family Fun Day** with raffle at **Cirencester Hospital** on **Saturday 12th September**, from **2:00pm to 4:00pm** and are keen to welcome as many local people as possible. Raffle tickets from the hospital. *Cirencester Hospital League of Friends*

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

The new **"How to be (un)successful" course** is an open invitation to redefine success not by what we achieve, but by how we live: 6 weeks from **7.30pm Tuesday 15th September** at **St Lawrence**. For details email briansenior@cirenparish.co.uk or see <https://cirenparish.co.uk/community-and-whats-on/how-to-be-successful/>

Cirencester Beer Festival 2026 will be hosted by the **PCC** and **Cirencester & District Round Table** at **St John Baptist** on **Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd October**. All proceeds will support the ongoing work of the church and the local charitable activity of the Round Table. You are warmly invited to sponsor one of the beers or ciders that will be at the heart of the festival. This gives you the chance to support a new community event and to give the beer or cider a name, which might be a joke, a family tribute or something personal to Cirencester. It will be listed in the festival programme and on the drink listing. Beer sponsorship costs £100 (per barrel) and cider £60 (per keg). If you have questions, please contact Bill O'Connell (07834 363486 or villagevicar@hotmail.co.uk) or Peter Ewart (07748 760519 or peter@ewart.uk.com). If you want to go ahead and reserve a beer or cider sponsorship, please contact Cirencester & District Round Table at info@cirencesterroundtable.org.uk

Cirencester History Festival is from **23rd October until 1st November**. For poster containing names please see the Parish Website. Tickets go on sale 4th September. Website: <https://cirencesterhistoryfestival.org>

From the Parish Calendar:

- Until 31 Aug: Art Society Exhibition – St John Baptist
- Wed 26 Aug 2pm: Funeral (Erich Jersche) – Holy Trinity
- Thu 27 Aug 9am: Quinquennial Inspection – Holy Trinity
- Thu 27 Aug 9.15am: Seedlings – St Lawrence

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

Canon Graham is on annual leave from August 10th - 26th. Enquiries please to Revd Luke Falvey

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!