

# Saint Mary's Newsletter: July

**Vicar:** David Smithson 027 4213200 Fridays

07 8492761 Afterhours

**Peoples Warden:** Sally-Ann Riddell 022 1077562

**Vicars Warden:** John Heaton 021 702871



## SERVICES FOR JULY

### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>:

10am Holy Communion Service

Readings: Melanie

Intercessions: Melanie

Refreshments: Melanie

### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>:

10am Holy Communion Service

Readings: Majella

Intercessions: Majella

Refreshments: Majella

### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>:

10am Holy Communion Service

Readings: Rosalie

Intercessions: Rosalie

Refreshments: Rosalie

### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>:

10am Holy Communion Service

Readings: Trish

Intercessions: Trish

Refreshments: Trish

### Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>:

10am Holy Communion Service

Readings:

Intercessions:

Refreshments: Café Lunch



**Parish Café Lunch:** After the service 30<sup>th</sup> July



## Hero Truth Tellers

The Newsletter's "Month in Christian History" is replaced by "Hero Truth Tellers": They are modern heroes of the Faith who stand for the truth despite adversity and being "cancelled" by society and social media. You will get a brief introduction, and shown where you can find them on various platforms. If searching for them try the search Engine "Duckduck Go" as Google Search hides positive or truthful aspects, and Wikipedia also tends to portray them in a negative light



# Worship

## IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

The overall lesson about worshipping the Lord in spirit and truth is that worship of God is not to be confined to a single geographical location or necessarily regulated by the temporary provisions of Old Testament law. With the coming of Christ, the separation between Jew and Gentile was no longer relevant, nor was the centrality of the temple in worship. With the coming of Christ, all of God's children gained equal access to God through Him. Worship became a matter of the heart, not external actions, and directed by truth rather than ceremony.

In Deuteronomy 6:4, Moses sets down for the Israelites how they are to love their God: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might." Our worship of God is directed by our love for Him; as we love, so we worship. Because the idea of "might" in Hebrew indicates totality, Jesus expanded this expression to "mind" and "strength" (Mark 12:30; Luke 10:27). To worship God in spirit and truth necessarily involves loving Him with heart, soul, mind and strength.

True worship must be "in spirit," that is, engaging the whole heart. Unless there's a real passion for God, there is no worship in spirit. At the same time, worship must be "in truth," that is, properly informed. Unless we have knowledge of the God we worship, there is no worship in truth. Both are necessary for God-honouring worship. Spirit without truth leads to a shallow, overly emotional experience that could be compared to a high. As soon as the emotion is over, when the fervour cools, the worship ends. Truth without spirit can result in a dry, passionless encounter that can easily lead to a form of joyless legalism. The best combination of both aspects of worship results in a joyous appreciation of God informed by Scripture. The more we know about God, the more we appreciate Him. The more we appreciate, the deeper our worship. The deeper our worship, the more God is glorified.

This melding of spirit and truth in worship is summed up well by Jonathan Edwards, the 18th-century American pastor and theologian. He said, "I should think myself in the way of my duty to raise the affections [emotions] of my hearers as high as possibly I can, provided that they are affected with nothing but truth." Edwards recognized that truth and only truth can properly influence the emotions in a way that brings honour to God. The truth of God, being of infinite value, is worthy of infinite passion.

### Parish Bank Account:

**02 0410 0103053 00** Thanks for your weekly A/P contributions to keep our Parish running!

**But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

- Matthew 6:20 -



### Hero Truth Teller of the Month:

**Rev Calvin Robinson:** Last month the vicar spoke briefly about the Oxford educated Rev Calvin Robinson, who was cancelled by the Church of England for having outspoken views on today's secular culture. He was refused a curacy after his training. Calvin was accepted by The Free Church of England. You can still find his excellent no nonsense common sense talks and interviews on Facebook or YouTube, and on Rumble.

