

Saint Mary's Newsletter: Sep 2026

Vicar: David Smithson 027 4213200 Fridays

07 8492761 Afterhours

Lay Minister: Charles Clark 021 02691764

Peoples Warden: Sally-Ann Riddell 022 1077562

Vicars Warden: John Heaton 021 702871



SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER

Sunday 6th:

10am Holy Communion Service

Morning Tea: Karen

Intercessions: Karen

Sunday 13th:

10am Holy Communion Service

Morning Tea: Melanie

Intercessions: Melanie

Sunday 20th:

10am Holy Communion Service

Morning Tea: Trish

Intercessions: Trish

Sunday 27th:

10am Holy Communion Service

Morning Tea: Ruby

Intercessions: Ruby



Calf Fundraising Scheme: Donate a calf (if you are a farmer), or townies can donate \$300 which will cover the costs of purchasing a 4 day old bull old calf and rearing costs. It is an easy and low maintenance fundraiser that has the potential to raise \$450 - \$600 per calf sold. The better the calf, the higher the price we get for it.

Forms and info are on the Welcome table or see Sally-Ann and Richard



Hating What God Hates?

To hate what God hates means bringing our moral convictions in line with His character, responding to evil as He does, and loving righteousness enough to reject anything that opposes His holiness. Proverbs 6:16 lists behaviours God “hates” and calls “detestable,” but the passage’s larger point is that God’s people should grow to reflect His heart. The more we know Him, the more we learn to oppose what He opposes—not out of cruelty or anger, but out of reverence for His holiness and love for His ways. Proverbs 6:16–19 catalogues seven sins God hates: pride, lying, shedding innocent blood, wicked schemes, eagerness to do evil, false testimony, and stirring up conflict. These sins are not random. They represent attitudes and actions that destroy relationships, corrupt justice, and oppose God’s design for flourishing families and communities. Underlying these actions are hearts turned away from God. The Bible clearly documents the objects of God’s hatred. He hates idolatry (Deuteronomy 12:31), empty religious rituals (Isaiah 1:14; Amos 5:21), and injustice (Isaiah 61:8). Proverbs 8:13 adds arrogance, corruption, and perverse speech to the list. These passages show that God’s hatred is always directed toward sin, not people.

To hate what God hates means developing a moral opposition to evil that reflects God’s values. It is not emotional, vindictive rage or personal hostility. Instead, it is a Spirit-guided resistance to anything that contradicts God’s Word, His character, or His purposes.

As believers grow in their love for God, they also grow in their hatred of evil and sin. When we esteem His holiness, justice, and goodness, we naturally begin to reject what is unholy, unjust, and corrupt. The psalmist declares, “Let those who love the LORD hate evil, for he guards the lives of his faithful ones and delivers them from the hand of the wicked” (Psalm 97:10; see also Proverbs 13:5; Amos 5:15). Loving God and hating evil are inseparable. God’s hatred is not like human hatred. Human hatred often springs from anger, prejudice, or selfishness. The Bible consistently condemns hatred toward people (Leviticus 19:17; Proverbs 10:12; 1 John 2:9–11, 4:20; Titus 3:3). Jesus bluntly rejects hatred and commands His followers to love even their enemies (Matthew 5:21–22, 43–44).

To hate what God hates is a pure and holy reaction against sin. It is based on His justice, His love for what is good, and His desire to safeguard His creation. When believers hate what God hates, they are not indulging in malice. They are agreeing with God’s assessment of evil. King David expressed this righteous alignment: “O LORD, shouldn’t I hate those who hate you? Shouldn’t I despise those who oppose you? Yes, I hate them with total hatred, for your enemies are my enemies” (Psalm 139:21–22, NLT). David was not motivated by personal spite; he was declaring loyalty to God’s cause and opposition to rebellion against Him.

How do we resolve the biblical tension? By understanding that we should hate what God hates—sin, injustice, and rebellion against His will—while maintaining love toward people, even those who oppose God. We oppose injustice, but we show compassion to the unjust. We reject falsehood, but we speak truth gently and with love. We resist evil, but we pray for those trapped in it. We “hate what is evil” and “cling to what is good” (Romans 12:9).

Jesus modelled this dichotomy perfectly. He confronted sin boldly yet extended mercy to sinners. Believers are to do the same.

Righteous hatred of evil is a mark of spiritual maturity. As we grow closer to the Lord, we become increasingly aware of sin, both within ourselves and in the world. We grieve when God’s name is dishonoured, when hypocrisy harms the church, and when injustice destroys lives. This grief is not bitterness; it is evidence of having a heart after God’s own heart. As we walk with God each day, we model His character. We love what God loves: righteousness and truth. And we hate what God hates: sin and evil.

Why We Anglicans Worship the Way We Do:



Anglicans worship as they do because we believe Christian worship should be governed by Holy Scripture, shaped by the practice of the ancient and undivided Church, and ordered according to the historic liturgy of the Church. We understand public worship not as a matter of personal taste or innovation, but as the Church’s reverent offering of praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God through Jesus Christ. For this reason, Anglican worship is centered on the reading and preaching of God’s Word, the faithful administration of the Sacraments – especially Holy Communion – and the common prayers of the Church. The liturgy, preserved in the Book of Common Prayer, provides a scriptural, doctrinal, and orderly pattern of worship that unites the Church across generations. Ceremonies, music, vestments, and sacred symbols are valued not for their own sake, but because they direct the heart and mind to the glory of God and the mystery of Christ. In all things, Anglican worship seeks to embody the apostolic faith with reverence, dignity, and beauty, giving glory to the Holy Trinity while forming God’s people in holiness and truth.

Bishop Robert Giffin

Healing & Anointing:



For those who require prayer for healing, please see the vicar who will pray for you and anoint with oil