

MINISTRY MUSINGS

Trinity 4

What value do you put on what you have ~ the blessings from God and the material things?

This week we look at how God expects us to respect His creation and provision and how that can conflict with human nature! Again we see how we block our relationship with God by getting our priorities and our attitudes wrong!

Isaac and Rebekah married but were childless. Isaac prayed to the Lord and they got twins! The boys were very different in personality and ability and Isaac favoured Esau whilst Rebekah favoured Jacob. Esau was quick to react and Jacob thought things through. Esau as the eldest had the birthright but Jacob knew the birthrights value. When the opportunity presented itself Jacob bargained with Esau and successfully got him to hand his birthright over for nothing more than a meal! When a parent has a favourite child if they are not careful they take sides within the family and that can prove unhealthy: it can blind the parents to the child's needs and prevent the child from learning to become an independent and responsible individual. No-one ever said being a parent was easy and non- parents should be responsible in our support of those who are! Thankfully God does not condemn us for our flawed human nature; He offers reassurance, healing and affirmation that we can become less flawed

"... there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus," *Romans 8:1*

but we have to hear what the Lord has for each of us
~*"Whoever has ears, let them hear."* *Matt. 13:9*

Have you listened?

"to what the parable of the sower means: When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart."

Matt. 13:18:19

What are you doing about understanding more?

Sunday 20th July 2014

5th Sunday After Trinity

9.00am Holy Communion

President and Preacher:

Revd Sr Elizabeth Shearcroft CA

Readings:

Genesis 28: 10 - 19a OT p 25

Romans 8: 12 - 25 NT p 153

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43 NT p 14

**10.00am Ecumenical Love
Streatham Service on the Common**

Ministry Members

If you need to contact any of the Ministry Team, DO NOT ring after 9pm, except in absolute emergency.

Revd. Sr Elizabeth Shearcroft, CA, Vicar

Mr Martin Keene, Warden (light duties)
Mr Hopeton Cunningham, Warden
Mrs Susan England, Deputy Church Warden
Mrs Doreen Coombs, Deputy Ch. Warden
Miss Jenny Hull, Reader
Dr Marion Gray, Reader
Mr David Gray, Reader
Mrs Caroline Hewitt, Treasurer
Mrs Joyce Lynch, Envelope Secretary
Ms Lorraine Thomas, Stewardship
Initiative Officer

Mrs Vanessa de Carvalho, PCC Secretary
Mrs Laura Reynolds, Safeguarding Officer
Mrs Maureen Boothe, Safeguarding Officer
Mrs Kirsty Jenkinson, Administrator
Kirsty is aiming to be in the office on **Monday and Thursday mornings** and can be contacted at office@immanuelstreatham.org.uk or 8679 6888. All hall enquiries should be directed to the Office.

You can contact anyone on the ministry or administrative teams by sending an e-mail to: office@immanuelstreatham.org.uk, or look them up in the Church Address Book and Prayer Diary, available from the Parish Office.

Wider Ministry:

The wider ministry team comprises stewards, the Welcome Team, and Junior Church leaders. Pastoral issues should be brought to the attention of the Ministry Team.

Immanuel and St Andrew

Registered charity no: 1131245

www.immanuelstreatham.org.uk

OPEN DOOR

Our weekly "notice board" to guide you through today's worship and to take away for reference

Sunday 13th July 2014

4th Sunday after Trinity

10.00am Holy Communion

with Fair Trade Stall

President and Preacher:

Revd Sr Elizabeth Shearcroft CA

Readings:

Genesis 25: 19 - 34 OT p 22

Romans 8: 1 - 11 NT p 153

Matthew 13: 1 - 9, 18 - 23 NT p 13

COLLECT FOR TODAY

O God, the protector of all who trust in you,
without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy:
increase and multiply upon us your mercy;
that with you as our ruler and guide
we may so pass through things temporal
that we lose not our hold on things eternal;
grant this, heavenly Father,
for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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