

Bridges Group News

Date: 27th July 2023

Sunday: Trinity 12



News and Views – hosted this week by Priors Hardwick

We've been hearing a lot over the past few days about playing the game and winning or losing. The build-up was amazing the stakes were as high as they could possibly be. It was the final of the World Cup in Ladies Football. And the England team lost the match by just one goal. They came 2nd out of 32 national teams!

Mark and Luke describe Jesus calling his 12 disciples. He had lots of people following him at the time, but he spent a night praying alone, then came down in the morning and chose just 12 for his 'team'. How did the others feel? Did they remain his friends and supporters?

Then much later one disciple betrayed Jesus and as a result took his own life.

After Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension the eleven remaining men gathered themselves and with prayer appointed Matthias to replace Judas Iscariot. So how did he, Mathias feel? We know he'd been one of those NOT included in the first time round (that was one of the requirements needed to be 'in the running') and we don't hear any more about him throughout the Acts of the Apostles – but that was the same for several of them. But we do read that on more than one occasion the Apostles as a team, in the name of Jesus, healed many people just as Jesus had done. They were a team where each one had his place and was needed by the rest.

Back in the 70's Michel Quoist was comparing the Christian life to a football team:

"In this world Lord we each have our place. But It isn't the position we hold that is important, Lord, but the reality and strength of our presence. What difference does it make whether we are a back or a forward? As long as we are fully what we should be?"

And as one onlooker said to me as I lost an important match many years ago: "It's the losers who make the tournament!!"

Looking ahead

- Afternoon Teas at Lower Shuckburgh Church every Saturday until August Bank Holiday 2pm-4pm
- Teas on the Green at Napton every Sunday through August (weather permitting) from 2-4pm – bring a chair
- Deanery Synod : Thursday 21st September & 7th December, 7.30pm at the Tom Hauley Room in All Saints Harbury
- WI Lavender Service, Thursday 5th October 2pm at Stockton followed by tea and cakes

Services this Sunday: 27 th August, Trinity 12	Services next Sunday: 3 rd September, Trinity 13
9.00am – BCP Communion at Lower Shuckburgh 10.30am – Morning Worship at Wormleighton 10.30am – CW Communion at Stockton 3.00pm – 4 th Sunday at Priors Marston	9.00am – PET SERVICE at Priors Hardwick 10.30am – Morning Worship at Priors Marston 10.30am – CW Holy Communion at Napton 10.30am – Morning Worship at Stockton
Bible readings for the week are : Isaiah 51:1-6, Matthew 16:13-20	Bible readings for the week are : Jeremiah 15:15-21; Matthew 16:21-end

(For more details of events and diary dates, see our website: www.thebridgesgroup.org.uk or the parish magazines)

Next Week's Bridges Group News will be hosted by Stockton