

Words of Light and Hope from Tony Foottit

Orpine (*Sedum telephium*) – Simon and Jude.

Orpine is a sedum or stonecrop. The name *orpine* is derived from that of a metal, because it has great powers of survival, not only on rocky banks where it grows especially in the north of Britain, but its seed heads happily survive the onslaughts of winter. In fact one of its names is *Everlasting*. Saxifrages and stonecrops are cousins of orpine. It has many exotic relations – the tulip tree, magnolias and cassia (source of one of the ointments which Joseph used to embalm the body of Jesus), avocados, cinnamon and nutmeg. Orpine has pairs of leaves which are not evenly spaced. On 28 October the Church honours two little known saints - Simon and Jude. They are an unlikely pair. Simon was a zealot, a member of a group of political terrorists. Jude is a patron of lost causes and some people seek his help when they have lost a precious possession. When you have lost something you need the virtue of patience. Jude was a brother of Jesus and author of the short letter in his name. Zeal and patience are both valuable virtues for any enterprise and are often needed in equal measure but can so easily be in conflict.

Conflict or tension is a normal part of human life. Although conflict is occasionally necessary to resist wrongdoing, it can lead to anxiety, stress, guilt, anger and sorrow. It can escalate, especially if it is caused by greed or jealousy. Friendly competition can deteriorate into real disagreement, which can then turn into hatred and even war. So conflict needs to be tackled rather than allowed to fester. It is best to keep one's response under strict control. *Jaw-jaw is better than war-war*, as Churchill famously said....The Bible is often a source of conflict, usually between a literal, zealous interpretation and a more liberal, patient understanding. Simon and Jude - zeal and patience – we need them both but especially patience as we seek to help establish Jesus' everlasting kingdom of peace in our conflict-ridden world.

A Calendar of Wild Flowers (part).

Thanks be to God for Saints Simon and Jude

Dates for your diary.....(see our [website](#) for more information)

Pre-Christmas Coffee Morning - St Margaret's Church, Swannington, 10am-12pm 21st November. Raffle, Tombola, Christmas gifts etc (and lots of cake!)

'Oh Yes it is!' The History of the English Pantomime – a talk by Jim Stebbings at St Margaret's Church, Swannington, 2.30pm 29th November, £10 with seasonal refreshments, tickets from pamela.smith@btinternet.com



REEPHAM & WENSUM VALLEY
BENEFICE

Pew Notes
25th Oct

Upcoming Sunday services

- ❖ **Sunday 1st November - All Saints' Day**
9.00am Holy Communion, St Peter & St Paul, Salle
10.00am for 10.30am Café Church, St Michael's, Reepham
10.30am Holy Communion, All Saints, Weston Longville
- ❖ **Sunday 8th November – Remembrance Sunday**
9.00am Mattins, St Andrew's, Thurning
10.45am Remembrance Service, St Mary's, Reepham
10.30am Remembrance Service, Village Hall, Gt Witchingham
- ❖ **Sunday 15th November**
10.00am for 10.30am Café Church, St Michael's, Reepham
10.30am St Andrew's, Attlebridge
- ❖ **Sunday 22nd November – Christ the King**
9.00am Holy Communion, St Andrew's, Thurning
10.30am Holy Communion, St Mary's, Reepham
10.30am St Margaret's, Swannington

Contacts:

Rector: Revd Nigel revd.nigelkinsella@gmail.com

Benefice Development Administrator: Sharon, parishofficerwv@gmail.com

If you would like to receive our weekly e-newsletter or advertise any events please email Sharon

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact your
Parish Safeguarding Officer.

Details in the church porch or on the RWV Benefice website:

<https://www.reepham-and-wensum-valley-team-churches.org.uk>

Last Sunday after Trinity (Reepham)

Thessalonians 2.1-8

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Matthew 22.34-end

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: 'What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?' They said to him, 'The son of David.' He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, "The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet'"? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Bible Sunday (Swannington)



Colossians 3.12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Matthew 24.30-35

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see "the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven" with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. 'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.