

## The Ten Commandments

Human beings have always sought the advice of others as to 'what to do'. The world today is no different with lots of self-help gurus offering advice, and enough inane books purporting to offer wisdom able to be picked up from your local bookshop. As Christians, we do not seek our advice from these fallen, human sources, but from God himself, who has revealed to us in the Scriptures and Tradition the Truth which saves. The Ten Commandments are an important part of this deposit of faith. They are commandments, not suggestions, and to break them is to injure God. Our Lord lived by them, spoke of them often, and encouraged his own followers to do the same. Moreover, he intensified them: whereas the Jewish people had become legalistic in applying them, Jesus tells us that we can contravene the commandments even in our hearts, whether that be lust, hate or whatever. He explains that we need an attitude of love to apply them properly. Thomas Aquinas defined love as 'willing the good of the other'. This is the interpretive key to all the commandments, which urge us to love God first, and then our neighbour. When making one's confession, it is a good practice to go through these commandments, to think what they are really saying, and to reflect on our own moral lives as to whether we have contravened them. If we have, we should confess our sins, to the God whom we know loves us and forgives us.

## Saints & Heroes

### St Serenus

St Serenus, whose name perhaps conjures up images of serenity, is given the wonderful title of 'the Gardener'. However, this peaceful horticulturist met a not-so-peaceful end. His trials began when he advised a lady on the inappropriateness of her strolling in the garden at a certain hour without a male accompaniment. The lady withdrew but was not impressed, and complained to her husband, who had poor old Serenus hauled in front of the governor. The dispute was seemingly settled – the husband withdrew his complaint – but Serenus' answer had given him away as a Christian. Serenus did not deny it, but confessed the same, which led, sadly, to his decapitation on this day in 307. And so Serenus moved from planting daisies to pushing them up, as we might say with our English idioms. Perhaps our lesson from Serenus is, be careful who you end up talking to when working in the garden!



FORWARDINFAITH

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23rd February  
2020

Sunday Next  
Before Lent  
Seventh Sunday  
of the Year

## Be Perfect

*be ye therefore perfect*

MATTHEW 5:48

'Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect' – this isn't an optional extra for the Christian life. In our baptism we were given every necessary grace to become a saint of God, and in doing so become who we truly are. Yet, so often we fall short of this goal. Our faith is tepid, our commitment lukewarm, we are led astray by the mundane and tawdry things of this world. The way to hell is so often not filled with the 'racy' sins, but with the little infidelities, the minor infractions, that slowly but surely alter our image away from the Creator and towards a broken, bruised, and damaged thing. Mercifully, in the infinite goodness and love of God a remedy is gifted to us all – confession! Nothing is too small or indeed too big to confess. It in this act of laying oneself bare before the Almighty and trusting in his promises that we step closer to perfection. We deny ourselves, silence the ego, and place God on his rightful throne in our hearts and our lives. In confession, we take the first steps towards perfection.

### Prayers to Remember

Almighty and everlasting God, who hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Book of Common Prayer*

**SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT**

*Welcome to our services today*  
9.15am Sung Mass at All Saints'  
11am Sung Mass at Holy Trinity  
6pm Evensong and Benediction at Holy Trinity

**WEEKDAY MASS AT HOLY TRINITY**

*(Readings: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time - Year 2  
Thursday and Saturday - Readings for weekdays after Ash  
Wednesday.)*

Mon 24<sup>th</sup>      **Feria**

9.30am Mass

Wed 26<sup>th</sup>      **ASH WEDNESDAY**

7.30pm Sung Mass and Imposition of Ashes

*(7pm Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament)*

Thurs 27<sup>th</sup>      **Feria in Lent**

9.30am Mass

Sat 28<sup>th</sup>      **Feria in Lent**

11am Mass

**NEXT SUNDAY - LENT 1**

9.15am Sung Mass at All Saints'

11am Sung Mass at Holy Trinity

6pm Evensong and Stations of the Cross at Holy Trinity

**ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY VISITS HAWLEY** -

The Most Revd Justin Welby is making a three-day visit to Guildford Diocese from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> March. As part of this, he will be coming to Holy Trinity Hawley for Morning Prayer on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 8.30am**. All are most welcome to attend on this unique historic occasion. **Please put it in your diaries now!**

**AN EVENING WITH THE ARCHBISHOP** - all are invited to "An evening with Justin Welby", to be held on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm** at the Lakeside Complex, Camberley. This is a free, ticketed event: to book a ticket visit [cofeguildford.org.uk/whats-on/archbishop-of-canterbury-march-2020](http://cofeguildford.org.uk/whats-on/archbishop-of-canterbury-march-2020), where you will also find information about other events during the Archbishop's visit to the Diocese.

**201 CLUB** - is again supporting Step by Step, an ecumenical project to support young homeless persons in the area. Membership costs £12 per year, with half of the money raised going to the charity and the other half in prize money. Please see Sue or Tony Evans (01276 32816) for any further information required. New members welcome!

**FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT** - Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Feb - Sun 8<sup>th</sup> March. Please take a look at the Traidcraft table in Holy Trinity where you will find 'Special Offers' during Fairtrade fortnight. By buying products you will be supporting fair trade.

**REVISION OF CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL** - our Church Electoral Roll needs to be updated on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April. The revision will start on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March and finish of Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March. The application forms will be available at both churches from the 8<sup>th</sup> March from Corinne Chapman. If your name is already on the Roll, do nothing, but if it is not, she will be pleased to advise you on your eligibility.

**LENT BEGINS THIS WEEK ON ASH WEDNESDAY** -

26<sup>th</sup> February with a Sung Mass and Imposition of Ashes at Holy Trinity at 7.30pm. Palm Crosses should be returned to church to be burnt in readiness for Ash Wednesday.

**FRIDAYS IN LENT AT HOLY TRINITY** - 12.30pm Lenten Lunch (Bread and Vegetarian Soup). If anyone would like to make some soup please see Rita Davies. A collection (optional) will be taken for our Lenten Charity.

**LENT CHARITY** - this year's nominated charity is the Bishop of Guildford's Lent Challenge, which is supporting two causes: the diocesan Communities Fund, transforming the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in our diocese through the ministry of our churches; and the Anglican Church in South Sudan, raising up leaders to build the church in this young nation.

**LENT REFLECTIONS** - you are encouraged to sign up for the daily Lent reflections, on the theme "Keeping Things Simple", available at [cofeguildford.org.uk/lenr](http://cofeguildford.org.uk/lenr).

**DIARY DATES - FORWARD IN FAITH**

**GUILDFORD**

**CHRISM MASS AT WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL**

**SATURDAY 4<sup>th</sup> APRIL** - the coach will depart at 8.50am from St Augustine's, Aldershot, 9.10am from All Saints', Hawley and 9.20am Holy Trinity, Hawley to arrive at Winchester in time for the 11.00am Chrism Mass. The coach will depart from Winchester for the return trip at 4.00pm. Cost £12, under 18's £5. **Sign up sheets are in the porch, please add your name to the list.**

**RICHBOROUGH FESTIVAL AT CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MAY** - \*

**CORPUS CHRISTI FESTIVAL AT ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH, ALDERSHOT FRIDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JUNE** - Mass will start at 7.00pm with Bishop Norman presiding and refreshments will be served after the service.

**COACH TRIP TO ST ALBAN'S CATHEDRAL SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup> AUGUST** - \*

\* Full details of these coach trips including pick-up times are on the notice boards. The trips to Canterbury and St Alban's are linked and if going on both these trips the cost is reduced to £20 for both, a saving of £4, individual trips are £12. Under 18s go for £5 each on all trips.

**DARREN NEVE** - (one of our organists) is looking for ad-hoc administrative work until May 2020. If you have a business or work for a company looking for administrative support, please contact him. Post-graduate qualified, he is extremely competent with MS Office Suite (except Access, but has database experience in other programmes) and is conversant with both Windows 7 and Windows 10. Excellent telephone manner and can easily man a reception if required. Email: [djneve@msn.com](mailto:djneve@msn.com)

**TEA AT TWO AT ALL SAINTS'** - meets on Fridays from 2pm - 4pm in All Saints' Hall. Come and join us for great cake, tea and conversation. We look forward to seeing you.

**WEEKLY SHEET ITEMS** - should be sent by **Wednesday morning** to [pauline\\_scott@icloud.com](mailto:pauline_scott@icloud.com) thank you.

