

Reflection John 2. 1-11



Let's do some maths:

6 stone water jars each holding 20-30 gallons
= 180 gallons max

One gallon = 4.55 litres

180 gallons = 819 litres or 1092 regular bottles of 75cl or 91 cases.

Some wedding feast (or gathering).

Fr David

Codes for Zoom Evening Prayer, details tbc

Meeting ID: 861 6577 7243

Passcode: 202677

Telephone numbers: 0203 481 5237,
0203 481 5240, 0131 460 1196

NEXT SUNDAY 23.01.2022 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

SERVICES: 10.30am in Church.

READINGS: OT Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10
NT 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a
GOSPEL Luke 4: 14-21



CONTACT US

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St Thomas, Exeter

Sunday 16th January 2022

2nd Sunday of Epiphany

10.30am in Church

Thank you for considering again the arrangements for **Sunday worship** in the Hall or the Church, and for your suggestions so far. While I know it's cold and may get colder in church, there is a sense of space, and please bear in mind that our pre-Christmas decision was made before the arrival of the Omicron variant. Ian and I would welcome further comments.

Our engagement with **looking outward** can be small or big, or middle-sized. It often begins with very natural stuff like knowing our neighbours, or the groups we are part of anyway. In that sense, what do our individual and communal connections look like?

17 January is the feast of **St Anthony of Egypt**, one of the most important desert fathers and mothers, who left pithy sayings: *Abba Anthony said, 'I no longer fear God, but I love Him. For love casts out fear.'* (John 4.18)

Fr David



Collect

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Isaiah 62.1–5

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

1 Corinthians 12.1–11

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of

knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses

John 2.1–11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Post Communion

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord **Amen**

NOTICES

For our services in Church, **mask wearing** is now compulsory. On most Sundays you can also be seated with some social distancing if you wish. Please don't be embarrassed to be safe. If you are coming to coffee, we also recommend wearing a mask until you are seated in the Hall.

Coffee and tea will be offered after the 10.30am Mass. It will be served in the Hall. **Volunteers are still required. See Judith.**

Knit and Natter January 2022 We shall be meeting every Thursday from 10.30 to midday at 19 Maple Road. Details from Jenny on 01392 498725.

House Group. Next Meeting on **Tuesday 25th January 2022.** We will be comparing other religions with Christianity, new people very welcome!

Community Larder The Community Larder is receiving donations on Tuesdays from 10am-12noon. Thanks to everyone for their generosity in 2021.

Volunteers are needed to clean the Church nave. The nave is divided up into small blocks for people to take on and clean about fortnightly. Please see Judith for details.

Flower Team. If anyone would like to join the flower team they would be most welcome. This would involve arranging flowers for various occasions and watering and dismantling them when appropriate. We are looking to form a rota. If you are interested please contact Ian.

Street Pastors are starting their training sessions on 7th March 2022. If anyone is interested in joining the Street Pastors please see the website below. www.streetpastors.org/locations/exeter

Thursday Tots There is a temporary role here in the kitchen while Revd Sarah is away on placement. Please speak to her directly.

Living in Love and Faith There is an opportunity to join a Diocesan wide version of this Course that is starting on January 25th. Please see Diocesan website and email Philip Sourbut if you are interested. Philip.sourbut@exeter.anglican.org