



THE PARISH CHURCH OF KESWICK ST JOHN OCTOBER 2018

Vicar: Reverend Charles Hope, The Vicarage, Ambleside Road, Keswick, CA12 4DD (75855)

Associate Priest: Reverend Helen Marshall, 2a Eskin Street, Keswick, CA12 4DH (72467)

Licensed Lay Minister (Reader): Mrs Susan Leighton, 5 Ratcliffe Place (75195)

Church Website: www.keswickstjohn.org.uk – **Facebook:** Keswick St John

Message from Helen: Secure in the Midst of Change

Most of you know that I will soon be moving to Geneva where David has started a new job with the World Council of Churches. I don't have a job to go to, but I am exploring various different possibilities of ministry there. It is both exciting and daunting.

As I prepare to leave, I look back on the nine years I have lived in Keswick with deep gratitude. It has been a great privilege to be part of the community of St John's and to share some of your joys and sorrows. There have been many changes during that time both for individuals and for the church as a whole; many of us have gone through times of struggle and suffering as well as times of joy and new opportunities.

Sometimes as we face change of all kinds – good and bad – we can be filled with anxiety and a sense of insecurity. I certainly feel some nervousness as I approach a new life situation! This prompts me to reflect again on where our true security lies. I am reminded of the collect for Night Prayer:

'Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world, may rest upon your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen'.

In all the changes we face throughout our lives, the one thing that remains unchanging is God's love for us. This is where our true security lies, and nothing can take that away from us.

One of my favourite spiritual writers is Mother Julian of Norwich who wrote her *Revelations of Divine Love* in 14C England during a time of great suffering, change and insecurity. The plague, the Black Death, was a frequent threat, and could wipe out whole families and neighbourhoods in a matter of weeks. In addition to this, there was the ongoing misery caused by the 100 Years War, and the unrest and violence of several peasant revolts.

Mother Julian wrote her *Revelations* during this time of great insecurity and fear; *yet* one of her favourite words is the old English word 'seker' (which means 'secure'). She writes frequently of being 'seker' in God and finding in him our 'sekernesne' (security). This is a challenge to all of us. We may face different kinds of insecurity: personally, from ill health, family difficulties or bereavement; nationally, from the ongoing chaos caused by the Brexit process; or internationally, from the global threat of climate change and environmental disaster. *Yet*, we can still find our 'sekernesne' (security) in God and his love for us, for our families, for our church and for our world.

May the firm security of God's love be the foundation of all we are and do, in our individual lives and as a church community, now and always.

'I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love which surpasses knowledge- that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.' (Ephesians 3 v17-19).
Helen

PARISH DIARY OCTOBER 2018

Morning Prayer is said in church most Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 9.00am and on Wednesdays at 8.30 in the Crosthwaite Parish Room

Sunday 30th HARVEST SUNDAY 8 am Eucharist

10 am Sung Eucharist
6 pm Evening Prayer

Mon 1st October

Tues 2nd 10 am Toddlers Group, Church
2pm MU Crosthwaite Parish Room

Wed 3rd 9-10.30 Mission Community Starting Group, Sunday School Room.
7.30pm Julian Prayer Group – Church

Thurs 4th 10.45 Eucharist
8-9.30 Bible Study on James at the Vicarage

Fri 5th Choir Practice

Sat 6th 2 pm Readers Licensing Service at Cathedral

Sunday 7th October 8 am Eucharist

10 am Sung Eucharist
12.30 Baptism at Grange
3pm Pet Service
6 pm Evening Prayer

3.30pm at St Andrew's Penrith "Chosen" The Saltmine Theatre Company present the story of Mary Sumner and the Mothers' Union. See Marija and Michael Webb 71180

Mon 8th

Tuesday 9th

Wednesday 10th 7:30 Cameo

Thurs 11th 10.45 Eucharist

12 Clergy Chapter meeting at Great Clifton
8-9.30 Bible Study on James at the Vicarage

Fri 12th Choir Practice

Sat 13th 9am Churchyard Working Group

10.30-4.15 Diocesan Synod at Windermere

Sunday 14th 8 am Eucharist

10 am Sung Eucharist (followed by 'Bring & Share' lunch to mark Rev Helen Marshall's last Sunday with us.)

4-6pm Messy Church

6 pm Evening Service Methodist Church

Monday 15th 7.30 Keswick Clergy meet at the Vicarage

Tuesday 16th 2pm MU in Methodist Church Talk with Sheila Files

7.30 PCC meets in Church

Wednesday 17th

7.30pm Mission Community Treasurers' Meeting at Sunday School Rooms

7.30pm Julian Prayer Group

Thursday 18th 10.45 Eucharist

Fri 19th 2-4pm Knit and Natter at Sue's House

7.30pm Choir Practice

Sat 20th

Sun 21st 8 am Eucharist

10 am Sung Eucharist

4pm at Keswick Methodist Church Launch of the Mission Community

6 pm Evening Prayer

Mon 22nd

Tues 23rd

Wed 24th

Thurs 25th 10.45 Eucharist

Fri 26th 10.30 for 11 Poppy Appeal Launch

7.30 Choir practice

Sat 27th Concert Holy Trinity Grange 'Wither must I wander',
Hal Fowler, Baritone & Derek Harrison, Piano

Sun 28th 8 am Eucharist

10 am Sung

6 pm Evening Prayer

Mon 29th 6:30 Scouts visit to church

Tues 30th

Wed 31st