St Clement's Church Office,
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St Clement JE2 6QQ

Tel: 745260 *(please leave a message on the answerphone if the office is unattended)*

email: **stclementjersey@outlook.com**
website: [**www.stclementschurch.org.je**](http://www.stclementschurch.org.je)**,**

Facebook: St Clement Church Jersey Channel Islands

*(watch the 10.30am service live and recorded)*

Rev Tracy Le C Bromley Tel: 857693 Rev Martin Dryden Tel: 874668

St Clement treasurer:Rob Sharp **robsharp@fastmail.fm**Bank account details: St Clements Parish Church 40-25-34 84087488

St Nicholas treasurer: lan Bromley **captainimb@aol.com**Bank account details: St Clements Parish Church 40-25-34 94289579
*(the reference to St Clement is correct)*

*Please put a note in the 'reference' box for online banking so that the treasurers know what the payment is for and/or from whom, if that is important. Thank you.*

**September 11th, 2025**

**Dear Friends of St Clement & St Nicholas**

Sue and I have recently returned from a few days in Normandy visiting family and friends, and we were struck by the abundance of apples there were everywhere we went.  Apples originated in Kazakhstan, where their wild ancestor, *malus sieversii*, still grows today but they had spread throughout Europe by the 15th century, including Jersey, where they became the mainstay of the economy.  I mention these things because we are moving towards our harvest festival weekend, and it prompted me to think about apples in the Bible. Quite apart from “the” apple in the Garden of Eden (which wasn’t an apple at all – check it out for yourself!), apples are a symbol of love in the Song of Solomon (“Like an apple tree among the trees of the forest is my beloved”); timely advice in the Book of Proverbs (“Like apples of gold in settings of silver is a ruling rightly given”), and safeguarding wisdom (“Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye).  That expression is a metaphor for something precious and to be protected. In the ancient Near East, the eye was considered one of the most sensitive and valuable parts of the body.  And then there is apple blossom – sensational!  Stop and wonder the next time you pass an apple tree, or apples for sale in a shop.  We take them so much for granted and yet they are truly extraordinary. Thank the Lord for apples and our many other blessings.

Martin

***Jayne is taking annual leave from 15th – 19th September.*** *All enquiries, please contact Tracy or Martin*

**Future Dates for your diary**

**LITE (Lunch In The East) -** **Tuesday 16th September, Caldwell Hall 12 – 1.30pm.**

*St. Nicholas are hosting and would love to see as many of you as possible.*

**HARVEST WEEKEND**

**Thursday 25th – Sunday 28th September**

Mike and Dacia have been working hard, planning for opportunities for us to be together and to help others. They are:

**Thursday 25th, 1-5pm Caldwell Hall Bake & Chat -**

**Friday 26th, 10–12.30pm Caldwell Hall MacMillan's Jersey Greatest Coffee Morning**

**Saturday 27th, 10-12pm in Church Preparation for Harvest**

**Harvest Festival, St Clement's Family Service - Sunday 28th 10.30am**

To this end it will be really helpful if Mike and Dee can get some idea of how many can help and what can be supplied.

If you would like to get involved in any way please let Jayne, Tracy or Martin know.

**Welcome to St Clements Parish Church**

**Service of Morning Worship**

**September 14th, 2025**

**A&M 356**

**All nations of the world**

**be joyful in the Lord:**

**with willing hands your Master serve**

**with one accord.:**

**in ceaseless praise**

**with heart and voice in him rejoice**

**through all your days.**

**Be sure the Lord is God,**

**creation’s Source and Spring:**

**in him alone we live,**

**to him our lives we bring.**

**from days of old**

**he feeds his flock and guides**

**the wanderers to his fold.**

**In gladness go your way**

**approach his courts with song**

**in thankfulness to him**

**to whom all things belong**

**His name adore:**

**his gracious mercy, truth and love**

**for evermore.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, The love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you **and also with you.**

We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God’s holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world and knows our every word and deed. Let us then open ourselves to the Lord and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessed is the Lord, **for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy **and in our song we will praise our God.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, Creator and Redeemer of all; to you be glory and praise for ever.
From the waters of chaos you drew forth the world and in your great love fashioned us in your image.
Now, through the deep waters of death, you have brought your people to new birth by raising your Son to life in triumph. May Christ your light ever dawn in our hearts as we offer you our sacrifice of thanks and praise. Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
**Blessed be God for ever.**

**CA 657**

**There is a green hill far away,**

**outside a city wall**

**where the dear Lord was crucified**

**who died to save us all.**

**We may not know, we cannot tell**

**what pains he had to bear,**

**but we believe it was for us**

**he hung and suffered there.**

**He died that we might be forgiv’n**

**he died to make us good;**

**that we might go at last to heav’n**

**saved by his precious blood.**

**There was no other good enough**

**to pay the price of sin;**

**he only could unlock the gate**

**of heav’n, and let us in.**

**O, dearly, dearly has he loved,**

**and we must love him too,**

**and trust in his redeeming blood,**

**and try his works to do.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

*We keep silence. We say the Old Testament Canticle*

**Blessed are you, God of Israel, for ever and ever, for yours is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour and the majesty.**

**Everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the kingdom, O Lord,
and you are exalted as head over all.**

**Riches and honour come from you and you rule over all.**

**In your hand are power and might; yours it is to give power and strength to all.**

**And now we give you thanks, our God, and praise your glorious name.**

**For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

*We sit for the first reading*

**The First Reading is taken from Exodus, Chapter 32, beginning to read at the seventh verse**

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Go down, because your people, whom you brought up out of Egypt, have become corrupt. They have been quick to turn away from what I commanded them and have made themselves an idol cast in the shape of a calf. They have bowed down to it and sacrificed to it and have said, ‘These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt.’

“I have seen these people,” the Lord said to Moses, “and they are a stiff-necked people. Now leave me alone so that my anger may burn against them and that I may destroy them. Then I will make you into a great nation.”

But Moses sought the favour of the Lord his God. “Lord,” he said, “why should your anger burn against your people, whom you brought out of Egypt with great power and a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out, to kill them in the mountains and to wipe them off the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce anger; relent and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Israel, to whom you swore by your own self: ‘I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and I will give your descendants all this land I promised them, and it will be their inheritance forever.’” Then the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

*Exodus 32 7-14*

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

*We stand to sing the Gospel Canticle to the tune (O Jesus I have promised CA 503i)*

**O bless the God of Israel,
who comes to set us free,
who visits and redeems us
and grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy,
of rescue and release;
God shall fulfil the promise
to bring our people peace.**

**Now from the house of David
a child of grace is given;
a Saviour comes among us
to raise us up to heaven.
Before him goes the herald,
forerunner in the way,
the prophet of salvation,
the messenger of Day.**

**Where once were fear and darkness
the sun begins to rise —
the dawning of forgiveness
upon the sinner's eyes,
to guide the feet of pilgrims
along the paths of peace:
O bless our God and Saviour,
with songs that never cease! *7.6.7.6.D***

**Gospel Reading.** *We remain standing*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

Then Jesus told them this parable: “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?  And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbours together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

“Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=luke%2015&version=NIV#fen-NIV-25597a)] and loses one. Doesn’t she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbours together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’ In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

*Luke 15 1-10*

This is the Gospel of the Lord**. Praise to you, O Christ**.

**Sermon Martin:** The Old Testament reading is shocking on a number of levels.  Firstly, because the people of Israel broke the covenant at the very moment that God has given it to them. What a disastrous start! How would it end?  Secondly, because Moses presumed to change God’s mind, and thirdly because God was persuaded.  This is but one example of the tension that runs throughout the scriptures between God who is merciful and God who will not be mocked.  It is a tension for creator and creation alike. The tension is never really resolved, but it’s what makes prayer so urgent and important.  If you ever wanted a reason to pray, here it is.

*We stand to sing the Creed to the tune (Father, Lord of all creation CA 163)*

**We believe in God the Father,
God almighty, by whose plan
earth and heaven sprang to being,
all created things began.
We believe in Christ the Saviour,
Son of God in human frame,
virgin-born, the child of Mary
upon whom the Spirit came.**

**Christ, who on the cross forsaken,
like a lamb to slaughter led,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
he descended to the dead.
We believe in Jesus risen,
heaven's king to rule and reign,
to the Father's side ascended
till as judge he comes again.**

**We believe in God the Spirit;
in one Church, below, above:
saints of God in one communion,
one in holiness and love.
So by faith, our sins forgiven,
Christ our Saviour, Lord and friend,
we shall rise with him in glory
to the life that knows no end.**

**Prayers of Intercession**. Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer**

Help us to search for those who wander away from you, the source of all love. May they find their way back to rejoice in the peace that you bring.

May all who seek high office desire to be instruments of your kingdom, choosing ways of compassion and service.

May we work together in our communities so that all may flourish. *Please pray for our island government and its ministers.*

May we learn to see with your eyes all who need healing, be it of body, mind or spirit. Lead us in prayer and practical help for them.

Comfort all who mourn. May we learn to trust and rejoice in your unending love.

***And at the end:*** Merciful Father**, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**The Collect for the thirteenth Sunday after Trinity**: Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**The Parish Prayer: Lord God, we thank you that you know all our needs before we ask and that you go ahead to prepare the way for us. We pray for James who you have chosen to be our next Rector. May you bless James, together with Katie and their family with all they need at this time and may you build us up in faith and love to serve you well with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. Amen**

**The Lord’s Prayer:** Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray with confidence
as our Saviour has taught us**:**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

**A&M 678**

**In Christ alone, my hope is found,**

**he is my light, my strength, my song;**

**this Cornerstone, this solid Ground,**

**firm through the fiercest drought and storm.**

**What heights of love, what depths of peace,**

**when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!**

**my Comforter, my All in All,**

**here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,**

**fullness of God in helpless babe!**

**This gift of love and righteousness,**

**scorned by the ones he came to save:**

**till on that cross as Jesus died,**

**the wrath of God was satisfied –**

**for every sin on him was laid;**

**here in the death of Christ I live.**

**There in the ground his body lay,**

**light of the world by darkness slain;**

**Then bursting forth in glorious day**

**up from the grave he rose again!**

**And as he stands in victory**

**sin’s curse has lost its grip on me,**

**for I am his and he is mine**

**bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death,**

**this is the power of Christ in me;**

**from life’s first cry to final breath,**

**Jesus commands my destiny.**

**No power of hell, no scheme of man,**

**can ever pluck me from his hand;**

**till he returns or calls me home,**

**here in the power of Christ I’ll stand.**

**The Blessing:** The Lord bless you and watch over you, the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

We say the Grace together: **The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.**

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord
**Thanks be to God.**