

and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

2nd READING: ROMANS 12:1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God— what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the

giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 16:13-20

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' ¹⁴And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' ¹⁵He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of all mercy,
in this Eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer Diary For Sunday 23rd August 2026 12th SUNDAY after TRINITY

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always pray for all the Lord's people.

Ephesians 6:18

Today

Let us support one another in prayer and see how God answers all our needs.

Monday—24th August

Let us support one another in prayer and see how God answers all our needs.

Tuesday—25th August

Pray for families that parents and children will be able to spend quality time together. Pray for healing of broken relationships.

Wednesday—26th August

Pray for the children and young people on holiday, that there may be positive activities available for them and that they may be protected from evil influences.

Thursday—27th August

Pray for those with addictions that they may be released from them and get the help that they need.

Pray for an end to drug dealing in our area.

Friday—28th August

Pray that in God's mercy that we shall have rain soon to restore the pasture for the animals and replenish the reservoirs.

Saturday—29th August

Pray for the Lord's blessing on the Coffee Morning in the Church Hall today. Pray for a time of building good friendships.

NEWS UPDATE—starting 23rd August

Dear Friends, dates for your diaries:

SATURDAY 29th AUGUST

09:30–12:00 Coffee Morning in Wem Church Hall.
We would welcome raffle prizes. I have been busy making jam and chutney to share with you all for a small donation to church funds. Do come along and bring a friend for a cup of coffee and a chat and if you would like to help please speak to Sybil or Kim.

SUNDAY 30th AUGUST

11:15—COMBINED BENEFICE SERVICE AT LEE
'Come, let us celebrate together!'

SATURDAY 12th SEPTEMBER

RIDE & STRIDE FOR SHROPSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

The Church will be open for riders & striders

**14:30 — in the Church An Afternoon with
Kim: enjoy songs, ballads and jazz.**

Tickets £10 (including refreshments in the interval) available from Kim and Sybil

ROTAS

I will shortly be preparing the September/October rota of people to read lessons, lead intercessions, welcome people to our 09:45 service and to serve coffee after that service. If you can help with any of these tasks, please speak to Sybil or let me know your availability by returning a completed availability form (from the back of church) by 23rd August.

Contributions to the **September Benefice Magazine** should be sent to
phoebe42.lee@gmail.com no later than
26th August please.

Thank you

Services in the Benefice

Sunday 23rd August—TRINITY 12

WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	11:00	Holy Eucharist
LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 26th August—Funeral Service

WEM	14:30	John Temple Girling RIP
-----	-------	-------------------------

Thursday 27th August

WEM	09:30	Holy Eucharist
-----	-------	----------------

Sunday 30th August—TRINITY 13

WEM	08:00	Holy Eucharist
-----	-------	----------------

◆ — BENEFICE SERVICE AT LEE — ◆

LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist
-----	-------	----------------

Thursday 3rd September

WEM	09:30	Holy Eucharist
-----	-------	----------------



Come and join us for coffee and biscuits in the
hall after the 9:45 service.

ALL WELCOME!



Sybil

Sybil Farmer, PCC Lay Chair
St Peter & St Paul's Church, Wem

To view our September Services & Events
please go to our website: <https://wemcofe.co.uk>

St Peter & St Paul's, Wem

THE 12th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Sunday 23rd August 2026

THE COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of 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.

1st READING: ISAIAH 51:1-6

¹ Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me,