

the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written, *'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.'*

¹² So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18:21-35

²¹ Peter came and said to Jesus, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' ²² Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

²³ 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts

with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." ²⁹ Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer Diary For Sunday 13th September 2026 15th SUNDAY after TRINITY

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Everyone was filled with awe at the many signs and wonders performed by the apostles.

Acts 2: 42-43

Today

Pray that we may have the same priorities as the early Church and devote ourselves to prayer.

Monday—14th September

Pray for John, our Rector, and all the Church leaders that they may have good health, strength, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the work of the Church.

Tuesday—15th September

Pray for the wellbeing of school children and teachers as they begin a new school year.

Pray especially for those facing a big change in starting High School for the first time.

Wednesday—16th September

Pray for young people leaving school and starting University, College, apprenticeships or employment, that they may adjust to the changes well and flourish in their chosen direction.

Thursday—17th September

Pray for the lonely and isolated that they may be identified and befriended by Church members.

Friday—18th September

Pray for the Food Bank and Food Hub that they will have all the resources that they need for supplying those in food poverty. Pray that those with plenty will give generously.

Saturday—19th September

Pray for a spiritual awakening among the people of Wem. Pray for opportunities to talk about your faith in conversation with others.

NEWS UPDATE—starting 13th September
Dear Friends, dates for your diaries:

TUESDAY 15th SEPTEMBER

15:00 — Social committee meet at Kim's.
If you would like to help with any events, we would be delighted if you would join us, please speak to Kim 07970 357553 to arrange this.

SATURDAY 26th SEPTEMBER

09:30-12:00

Coffee Morning in Wem Church Hall

FRIDAY 2nd OCTOBER

From 10:30 — we will be decorating the church ready for **HARVEST FESTIVAL** on **SUNDAY 4th OCTOBER**. If you would like to help with this please speak to Sybil.
All help will be much appreciated.

SATURDAY 10th OCTOBER

14:30 — An Afternoon with Musical Friends.

Tickets £12

from Kim 07970 357553
or Wendy 07828 282996
or on line £13



Damsons

My damson trees have a lot of fruit this year, so if you would like to come and 'pick your own' please contact me.

Sybil

Services in the Benefice

Sunday 13th September—TRINITY 15		
WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Morning Prayer
WESTON	09:30	Holy Eucharist & Holy Baptism
LEE	11:15	Holy Eucharist
Thursday 17th September		
WEM	09:30 19:30	Holy Eucharist Choir Singing Practice
Sunday 20th September—TRINITY 16		
WEM	08:00 09:45	Holy Eucharist Holy Eucharist
WESTON	09:30	Holy Eucharist
LEE	11:15	Morning Prayer
Thursday 24th September		
WEM		NO SERVICE



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>



THE COLLECT

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.

1st READING: GENESIS 50:15-21

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

2nd READING: ROMANS 14:1-12

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for