

27 September 2026

The Seventeenth Sunday
after Trinity

PILGRIMS PROGRESS

The Parish of Boston: A Place of Hospitality - A Place to Belong + A Place to Believe



COLLECT

Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18.1-4, 25-end

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

SECOND READING: Philippians 1.21-end

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved,

SERVICES

Sunday 27 September

09.30am	Eucharist	St Thomas'
	<i>Hymns: 223*, 736, 690, 628, 818</i>	
	<i>Setting: Thorne St Thomas</i>	
	<i>Voluntary: J S Bach, Short Prelude and Fugue in C</i>	
11.00am	Choral Eucharist	St Botolph's/Online
	<i>Hymns: 586, 507, 679, 805, 612</i>	
	<i>Setting: Thorne, St Thomas with Mathe Gloria</i>	
	<i>Anthem: Wesley, Lead me Lord</i>	
	<i>Voluntary: J S Bach, Short Prelude and Fugue in C</i>	
01.00pm	Baptism	St Botolph's
02.00pm	Baptism	St Botolph's

Monday 28 September

09.00am	Said Eucharist	St Botolph's
02.00pm	Communion	Westfield care home
02.00pm	Pastoral Visit	Boston West

Tuesday 29 September

09.00am	Morning Prayer	St Botolph's
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Wednesday 30 September

09.00am	Morning Prayer	St Botolph's
10.30am	Said Eucharist	St Botolph's

Thursday 01 October

09.45am	KS1 Worship	St Thomas' School
11.00am	Said Eucharist	St Thomas'

Saturday 03 October

09.00am	Morning Prayer	St Thomas'
02.00pm	Wedding	St Botolph's

just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 21.23-32

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

POST COMMUNION

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Sunday 4th October

10.30am	United Eucharist	St Thomas' Church
11.45am	Drinks in Church	St Thomas' Church
12.30pm	Parish Lunch	St Thomas' Hall
05.00pm	Choral Evensong	St Botolph's/Online

Please remember to bring harvest gifts for auction.

Today is the last day to buy Lunch tickets from the Parish Office or a Churchwarden, £10 each. Lunch, wine, tea & coffee will be included. Please contact Fr David if you are able to provide desserts.

This year the proceeds from our Harvest Festival will go to Haven Domestic Abuse Service who support Men, Women and Children who are living with or have experienced Domestic Abuse in and around Boston.

BOSTON FOODBANK DONATIONS

We would be very grateful for the following items: Tinned meat, instant noodles, small tins of fruit & vegetables (with ring pull openings). Donations can be dropped off at St Botolph's Church or via the Supermarket donation points.

ALL SOULS SERVICES AT ST BOTOLPH'S

Saturday 31st October, 11am

During the service of readings, music, prayers and light, names of the departed will be read out and remembered. To include your loved ones name, please complete a form at the back of Church.

Sunday 1st November, 5pm

Choral Requiem with music by the Parish & B-16 Choir.

ST BOTOLPH'S CRAFT MARKET

Saturday 10th October, 10am - 3pm

Celebrate our local, small, businesses! Free entry. From cakes, knitted items, pottery to terrariums - there will be something for everyone!

BOOK CLUB

Last Monday of each Month, 1pm St Botolph's Refectory

Starting tomorrow we are launching our very own Book Club! Limited to 12 spaces, please contact mick.broadhurst@parishofboston.co.uk to sign up!

PARISH GIVING

Make a one-off gift to the Parish of Boston or set up regular giving online via www.parishgiving.org.uk or scan the QR code.



CRANMER AWARDS COME TO ST BOTOLPH'S

Saturday 17th October, 2pm

We will be hosting a regional heat, on behalf of The Prayer Book Society. Open to 11-18yr olds, competitors recite passages of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer. The National Final is held at Hampton Court Palace with cash prizes. Pick up a leaflet for more information.

VACANCY - ASSISTANT ORGANIST

The Parish of Boston is seeking a talented part-time Assistant Organist to join our music team. For more information please speak to John Lyon or email music@parishofboston.co.uk.

LET US PRAY *Prayers for an Inclusive Church*

God of strange authority, whose questions challenge the powers of this world: teach us to look beyond appearance, to see your kingly rule emptying itself in cross-stretched arms, through Jesus Christ, the only Lord, the humble Servant. Amen.

NEXT SUNDAY - Harvest Festival

10.30am	United Parish Eucharist	St Thomas'
05.00pm	Choral Evensong	St Botolph's/Online