Sunday 30th August 2026
13th Sunday of Trinity

St James, Aslackby

visiting minister Revd. David Oxtoby

South Lafford and Billingborough Group of Parishes

Collect

Almighty God,
you search us and know us:
may we rely on you in strength
and rest on you in weakness,
now and in all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jeremiah 15.15-21

15 O Lord, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.
16 Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart;
for I am called by your name,
O Lord, God of hosts.
17 I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.
18 Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.
19 Therefore, thus says the Lord:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.
20 And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the Lord.
21 I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Psalm 26.1-8

1 Give judgement for me, O Lord,
for I have walked with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.
2 Test me, O Lord, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind.
3 For your love is before my eyes;
I have walked in your truth.
4 I have not joined the company of the false,
nor consorted with the deceitful.
5 I hate the gathering of evildoers
and I will not sit down with the wicked.
6 I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord,
that I may go about your altar,
7 To make heard the voice of thanksgiving
and tell of all your wonderful deeds.
8 Lord, I love the house of your habitation
and the place where your glory abides.

Romans 12.9-21

9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; 10 love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. 11 Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. 16 Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. 18 If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' 20 No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Matthew 16.21-28

21 From that time on, Jesus began to show his
disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and
undergo great suffering at the hands of the
elders and chief priests and scribes, and be
killed, and on the third day be raised. 22 And
Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him,
saying, ‘God forbid it, Lord! This must never
happen to you.’ 23 But he turned and said to
Peter, ‘Get behind me, Satan! You are a
stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your
mind not on divine things but on human things.’
The Cross and Self-Denial

24 Then Jesus told his disciples, ‘If any want to
become my followers, let them deny themselves
and take up their cross and follow me. 25 For
those who want to save their life will lose it, and
those who lose their life for my sake will find
it. 26 For what will it profit them if they gain the
whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will
they give in return for their life?

27 ‘For the Son of Man is to come with his angels
in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay
everyone for what has been done. 28 Truly I tell
you, there are some standing here who will not
taste death before they see the Son of Man
coming in his kingdom.’

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South Lafford parish. Billingborough Group benefice.