

News and Prayer Update for 23rd August

Rostherne with Bollington, St John High Legh and St Paul Over Tabley

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Do You Need to Talk To Someone? Call any of the above, we have other people who are also experienced in listening who are willing to help, so **please do call, we are here for you.** All conversations are in strict confidence.



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FACE COVERINGS – Face Coverings are now a legal requirement for those attending church (unless you are exempt from doing so). Please see the latest guidance issued.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-08/COVID%2019%20advice%20on%20face%20coverings%20v3.0.pdf>

Link for this week's Service: <https://youtu.be/wN652vE4CNs>

HYMN: Tell Out My Soul

(Timothy Dudley-Smith born 1926)

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of his word;
In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy name, the Lord, the mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and forever more!

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Collect for 11^h Sunday after Trinity:

O God, you declare your almighty power
most chiefly in showing mercy and pity:
mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace,
that we, running the way of your commandments,
may receive your gracious promises,
and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure;
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.

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READINGS FOR 11th SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Psalm: Psalm 138

- ¹ I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; ♦
before the gods will I sing praise to you.
- ² I will bow down towards your holy temple and praise your name, because of
your love and faithfulness; ♦
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.
- ³ In the day that I called to you, you answered me; ♦
you put new strength in my soul.
- ⁴ All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, ♦
for they have heard the words of your mouth.
- ⁵ They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, ♦
that great is the glory of the Lord.
- ⁶ Though the Lord be high, he watches over the lowly; ♦
as for the proud, he regards them from afar.
- ⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you will preserve me; ♦
you will stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand
will save me.
- ⁸ The Lord shall make good his purpose for me; ♦
your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever; forsake not the work of your
hands.

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First 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.
- ² Do 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.
- ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the
same function,
- ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one
of another.
- ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion
to faith;
- ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching;
- ⁸ the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the
compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Gospel Reading: 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?'

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¹⁴ And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.'

¹⁵ He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?'

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.'

¹⁷ And 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.

¹⁸ And 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.

¹⁹ I 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.'

²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

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REFLECTION ON THE READINGS by Revd Philip

'Last upon round would be old Ma Peggoty's place. It was like taking bread to the top of the world'. For many of us those words will take us immediately back to Dvorjak's New World Symphony and an image of a boy struggling to push a loaded delivery bicycle up a steep hill in the Hovis advertisement from 1973. Much parodied ever since, it has been named Britain's favourite advertisement and was filmed on Gold Hill in Shaftsbury, Dorset. The director was Ridley Scott, now Sir Ridley who would go on to achieve fame by directing the films Alien, Blade Runner, Gladiator and The Martian to name but a few.

At the end of the advertisement the baker tells his son about what has gone into his bread, specifically wheatgerm which is still considered a natural food that can benefit our health. I wonder if you are one of those people who turned to baking during the lockdown? Perhaps you experimented with making bread; sourdough seems to be very popular at the moment. Maybe cakes were your thing. There were certainly enough programmes on cooking to give us all ideas and aspirations to emulate the TV chefs. Now of course we are being given advice about how to lose all the extra weight put on over the past months.

In our epistle from the book of Romans, the Apostle Paul speaks about the body of Christ being made up of many members. Each one brings their gifts to bless the whole body, and irrespective of how young or old, big or little, rich or poor, each individual contribution helps to build up the body of Christ, the Church. Paul urges his readers not have an inflated opinion of their own importance, for while there are different gifts according to the grace given us, all are essential if the body of Christ is to function as it should. Paul was Jewish and knew that part of his people's problem was that while they knew, correctly, that they had been chosen by God to be in a covenant relationship with him, they believed, wrongly, that this made them superior to every other nation and that eventually they would be exalted to a pre-eminent position over them. Ultimately, they anticipated the time when they would be served and not servers. Paul wanted to make sure that Christians did not fall into the same trap. Pride has no place in the Christian family; humility (what Paul describes as

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sober judgement) is of far more value. There are roles in the church, and Paul picks out some of them, may have greater impact and attract greater attention than others. Not everyone can be the Archbishop of Canterbury, perhaps not everyone would want to be that person. But Paul reminds us that all roles are given as a gift from God.

In his writings, Paul repeatedly returns to this theme of all Christians being one body in Christ Jesus. It is an indication that the early church was not necessarily a comfortable place, and that its life was marked by petty rivalries and jostling for status and power. Only a few decades after Paul wrote his letters, Pope St Clement wrote, 'Why do we divide and tear to pieces the members of Christ and raise up strife against our own body and ... forget that we are members one of another?' Such behaviour is a reflection of how the world lives and behaves. Paul reminds his readers that as Christians they should not be, 'conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds'. The same is true for us as we face the same temptations as did the members of the early church. We also are urged to 'present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is our spiritual worship.'

What gifts has God given you? You may not think they are worth considering, but whatever they are, bring them to him and ask that he use them in the service of his family the church. All of them are essential ingredients in the glorious mix that brings life to the body of Christ and enables it to grow and flourish.

HYMN: Take My Life and Let it Be

(Francesca Leftley born 1955)

Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord to thee;
take my moments and my days,
let them flow in in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only for my King;
take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine:
it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart: it is thine own;

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it shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love; my Lord, I pout
at thy feet its treasure-store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

STORYTELLING SERVICE Sunday 23 August 2020

Song: Seek Ye First (v1. Karen Lafferty b.1948; vs 2 and 3 unknown)

Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
and His righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia.

*Alleluia, alleluia,
Alleluia, allelu, alleluia.*

Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Allelu, alleluia.

Ask and it shall be given unto you,
seek and ye shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened up to you.
Allelu, alleluia.

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Today's story is – The Great Banquet <https://youtu.be/ehJRacsTe4Y>

Song: Our God Is A Great Big God (Jo Hemming and Nigel Hemming)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-424MpB_pd0

Our God is a great big God.
Our god is a great big God.
Our God is a great big God
and He holds us in His hands. x 2.

He's higher than a sky-scraper.
And He's deeper than a submarine.
He's wider than the universe and
beyond my wildest dreams.
And He's known me and He's loved me
since before the world began.
How wonderful to be a part

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of God's amazing plan.

Song: I Can Clap My Hands <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWQVzNsS5qI>

I can clap my hands to praise the Lord
(clap, clap)

I can clap my hands to praise the Lord
(clap, clap)

Anything that I can do

Can be used to praise God too

I can clap my hands to praise the Lord
(clap, clap)

I can stamp my feet to praise the Lord
(stamp, stamp, stamp, stamp)

I can stamp my feet to praise the Lord
(stamp, stamp, stamp, stamp)

Anything that I can do

Can be used to praise God too

I can stamp my feet to praise the Lord
(stamp, stamp, stamp, stamp)

I can shout 'Praise God' to praise the Lord
(praise God)

I can shout 'Praise God' to praise the Lord
(praise God)

Anything that I can do

Can be used to praise God too

I can shout 'Praise God' to praise the Lord
(praise God)

I can do all 3 to praise the Lord
(clap, stamp stamp, praise God)

I can do all 3 to praise the Lord
(clap, stamp stamp, praise God)

Anything that I can do

Can be used to praise God too

I can do all 3 to praise the Lord
(clap, stamp stamp, praise God)

Steve Morgan-Gurr

Closing prayer.

Be with us Lord in the days ahead. May the lips that have sung your praises always speak the truth; may the ears that have heard your word listen only to what is good; and may our lives as well as our worship be always pleasing to you, for the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Craft from Zoe

Make some party decorations. Why not have a party to celebrate God's love for us.

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PRAYER in the coming week:

At this time of uncertainty while lockdown is slowly being eased, some areas of our society have returned to almost normal but other areas are still totally closed. We have also had local lockdowns in several areas nearby where additional restrictions have again been applied. We need to be aware that over the next few months we may well face additional restrictions again and this will require endurance as well as a continuing alertness to what is expected of us. However, we must not forget that the one constant throughout is God's love for us:

²¹ But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:

*²² The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;*

*²³ They are new every morning;
great is thy faithfulness.*

Lamentations 3: 21-23 (NRSVA)

Monday: pray that we would all be aware of others around us who have differing amounts of confidence to go out and interact with others. Many are now confident to go to work or to the shops, but others who have been shielding still need to be very careful and are taking their first tentative steps out in public. We need to be patient with those who still need support; maybe that person holding you up in the shop is out in public for the first time in months. We also need to avoid being judgemental and remember that not all disabilities are visible - some people without masks are unable to wear face coverings.

Tuesday: pray for all our local businesses as they try to get back to working effectively and where possible, try to support them.

Wednesday: pray for those who take a break away from home and pray that when away, whether for a few hours or a few days, they will be able to holiday safely in areas where other visitors are considerate and social distancing is the norm.

Thursday: pray for all pupils and staff as schools prepare to return for the new term in September. Also pray for all those young people trying to sort University/College places or careers at this time.

Friday: pray for all who have an uncertain future: those people who work in the areas that have not yet been able to open up again and for those who have lost their jobs.

Saturday: pray for all of us as we do our part to follow the guidance and rules to avoid putting ourselves and others at risk. Pray also for our safety if others around us do not always do their part.

Good News – We're Holding Services Again!

Please wear a face covering if you are attending services unless you are exempt from doing so. Please inform the service leader if you lip read.

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Sunday 23rd August:

10.00 Holy Communion at St John High Legh
11.00 Holy Communion Holy Trinity

Sunday 30th August:

10.00 Holy Communion at St John High Legh
10.30 Holy Communion at St Mary Rostherne
18.30. Evening Worship at Holy Trinity Little Bollington

Wednesday Mornings

09.00 Celtic Morning Prayer at St John High Legh

We regret that we are unable to open St Paul's just yet because of building work taking place.

We will continue to stream services each week from St Pauls for the time being, alongside streaming live from St Mary's.

It is important that no one feels they must come to services if they are reluctant, for whatever reason, to mix with a group of people.

The Weekly News and Prayer Update will Continue.

NOTICES

❖ Sunday Morning Coffee 23 August 11.00

Join us for Coffee and a Chat on Zoom. Just click on the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82028760943?pwd=ZldZVEQvNVhlc1RENXRDSWJxeXk3QT09>

❖ Coffee and Chat Wednesday 26th August

We are having a Zoom Coffee and Chat meeting every Wednesday morning from 11.00 am to 12.00 noon. Just click on the link below.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89021657184?pwd=Qm50VnpQck5CRkpackxUWTVjNFFLZz09>

Join the Prayer Chain:

Our Reader, Chris Stanisstreet has organised a **Prayer Chain** which is done by email and telephone. The idea behind this, is that when a specific prayer request is made, it is passed on by group e-mail to the people on the list who then pray for the particular situation.

If you would like to receive prayer requests or would like to make a prayer request, please let Chris Stanisstreet know:

Tel: 01925 755559; Mob 07918 981 723; stanbess2003@yahoo.co.uk

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Offering and Fund Raising – Please continue to give if you can

The best and safest way to give is by monthly Standing Order or direct payment into the bank account and to do this please contact the Treasurer of the Church you attend for the account details. You may also send a cheque – please contact the relevant Treasurer.

St Mary's Treasurer: Mr Christopher Tetlow Tel: 0161 928 2137

St John's Treasurer: Nick Whimpany Tel: 07905 741969

Holy Trinity Treasurer: Mrs Hilary Girardier: Tel: 01925 754 717

St Paul's Treasurer: Judy Hancock Tel: 01565 733246

If your income has been adversely affected by the current situation, please do not worry about giving to the Church just now.

Homemade Jams For Sale

There are various Jams and Marmalade available at prices between £2.00 / £3.00 per jar depending on size, either from St Mary's or by telephoning the Vicarage- we will deliver them to you.

St Paul's are offering: Strawberry, Gooseberry, Damson or Strawberry and Gooseberry jams.

St Mary's are offering: Strawberry, Rhubarb & Ginger, Rhubarb Jelly, Redcurrant Jelly, Marmalade. Yellow Raspberry.

Morning and Night Prayer

If anyone does not yet have access to the "Worship at Home" booklet containing the Order of Service for Morning Prayer or Night Prayer, please contact the Vicarage, as there are large print copies and ordinary size ones that can be posted out or versions that can be e-mailed.

Bible Readings and Psalms for the Coming Week from the Lectionary.

Here are some suggestions for more Psalms and Bible readings to use with Morning and Night Prayer:

These readings usually follow on from each other so you get a bit more of the story each day (except on special Saints Days).

Mon 24th Aug: Bartholomew Apostle: Psalm 86; Genesis 28: 10-17; John 1: 43-end

Tuesday 25th August: Psalm 89: 1-18; 2 Samuel 5: 1 – 12; Acts 7: 1-16

Wednesday 26th August: Psalm 119: 105-128; 2 Samuel 6: 1-19; Acts 7: 17-43

Thursday 27th August: Psalm 92; 2 Samuel 7: 1-17; Acts 7: 44-53

Friday 28th August: Psalm 88; 2 Samuel 7: 18-end; Acts 7: 54 - 8: 3

Saturday 29th August: Psalm 97; 2 Samuel Chapter 9; Acts 8: 4-25

Night Prayer from the Day of Pentecost to All Saints Day

This Collect can be used at Night Prayer on any day throughout the year.

Lighten our darkness, Lord we pray,

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and in your great mercy
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night,
for the love of your only Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Psalms:

Sunday: Psalm 104: 1, 21-33; 134

Monday: Psalm 4

Tuesday: Psalm 143

Wednesday: Psalm 31: 1-5 [19-end]

Thursday: Psalm 16

Friday: Psalm 139: 1-18

Saturday: Psalm 91 (this is the one in the Worship at Home Booklet)