

News and Prayer Update for 7th June (TRINITY SUNDAY)

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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Link for this week's service: https://youtu.be/-a_oG8xepo

HYMN: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning
Our song shall rise to Thee:
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns
Around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee.
Who were, and are, and ever more shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee
Though the eye of sinful man
Thy glory may not see
Only Thou art holy, there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty
Oh thy works shall praise Thy name
In earth and sky and sea
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty
God in three Persons blessed Trinity.

Reginald Heber

READINGS FOR TRINITY SUNDAY

Psalm: Psalm 8

- 1 *O Lord our governor,*
how glorious is your name in all the world!
- 2 Your majesty above the heavens is praised
out of the mouths of babes at the breast.
- 3 You have founded a stronghold against your foes,
that you might still the enemy and the avenger.
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have ordained,
- 5 What is man, that you should be mindful of him;
the son of man, that you should seek him out?
- 6 You have made him little lower than the angels
and crown him with glory and honour.
- 7 You have given him dominion over the works of your hands
and put all things under his feet,

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- 8 All sheep and oxen,
even the wild beasts of the field,
9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea
and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea.
10 *O Lord our governor,
how glorious is your name in all the world!*

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First Reading: 2 Corinthians 13: 11-end

- 11 Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.
12 Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.
13 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 28: 16-20

- 16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.
17 When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted.
18 And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
20 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

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REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

Why do Christians believe in the Trinity? Surely a simpler way of speaking about God would make things a lot easier.

As we regularly read the Bible's witness to the works and words of God it becomes clear that God wants to be understood in a Trinitarian manner.

Consider our two readings today.

Paul's second letter to the Corinthians is a severe one but he ends it with a benediction, so familiar to all of us in the words of the grace, when we speak of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

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In the Matthew reading

The disciples were told to baptise people, as we do today, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

So, how can God be "in three persons, blessed Trinity", as we heard in the hymn earlier today?

God created the world, establishing it with order and form.

God redeemed the world in Jesus Christ.

God is present in the world here and now, guiding and encouraging believers.

The Father is revealed by the Son.

Our capacity to hear the word of the Lord and to then act in response to it is given by the action of the Holy Spirit.

There are also difficulties in trying to visualise the Trinity. St Patrick allegedly used a shamrock to illustrate that a single leaf could have three elements.

Gregory of Nyssa used the analogy of a rainbow, which allows us to distinguish and appreciate the different colours of the sunbeam but there is only one sunbeam and the colours blend seamlessly.

I have heard people use the analogy of ice, water and steam, as being different forms of the same substance, water.

None of these images can truly represent the unity of the Trinity.

In the end it would seem that human words and metaphors are simply inadequate to express the glory and wonder of our Trinitarian God.

However, one thing is abundantly clear from our gospel reading, that the power of the Holy Spirit works in us and through us and that we too, just like the early disciples, have been commissioned to go out and make people in all the world his disciples.

So your commission this week could be, "ACORN"

A - ASK God in prayer is there someone he wants you to connect with outside the church family.

C - CONTACT that person. Asking "**How are you?**" should be enough to open up the conversation

O - OBEY God's calling wherever it takes you.

R - REPORT back to another Christian

N - NOTICE what God is **doing through you and in you.**

What our Trinitarian God is achieving through you. Amen.

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Collect for Trinity Sunday:

Holy God,
faithful and unchanging:
enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth,
and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love,
that we may truly worship you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

HYMN: Majesty.

Majesty, worship His majesty
Unto Jesus be all glory, honour and praise,
Majesty, kingdom authority
Flow from His throne, unto His own
His Anthem raise

So exalt, lift up on high, the name of Jesus,
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the King
Majesty, worship His majesty,
Jesus who died, now glorified
King of all kings.

Jack W. Hayford

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PRAYER in the coming week:

Monday - pray for key workers who live in your road or village and key workers you know personally.

Tuesday - pray for all those who are providing services for others in your locality.

Wednesday - pray for those who are in need, especially the poor and people who suddenly find themselves without income. (*Practical: give food to the local food bank*).

Thursday - pray for provision in communities across Cheshire and for the work of Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester Councils.

Friday - pray for this country, the Government and all who are leading the fight against Covid-19 in whatever way.

Saturday - pray for the countries of the world where there is poverty and lack of medical and social provision for those in need. (*Practical: give to one of the main charities. We have received several requests. You can sometimes text around £10.00 without further contact from them.*)

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ACORN

Nick Whimpany and Revd Patricia attended a webinar on 1st June about the role of the Church in lockdown and beyond. One of the main ideas (from Michael Harvey) is the simple ACORN acrostic that Chris Stanisstreet mentioned in her reflection this week. It builds on Pilgrim and Alpha both of which have been used in the United Benefice at different times.

It is possible that a good number of you can think of someone that you would be able to contact. This is a good starting point so please think of someone this week and then contact that person, listen to them, and invite them to share in God's love through prayer for their situation.

The notes of the full meeting have been written up by Nick and will be circulated to PCC members and to anyone else who requests them.

Summary of Acorn

A - ASK: In prayer ask God is there today someone you want me to connect with, outwith the Church

C - CALL : Contact that person. Ask "How are you?" That should be all that is needed to open up the conversation during which you may well have the opportunity to offer to pray for something or someone they are concerned about at the moment.

O - OBEY : There will be an ache or hurt at present. Identify it

R - REPORT: have a system to report it back to another Christian.

N - NOTICING GOD: what he is doing through us and in us

NOTICES

Zoom Meetings to help us meet remotely when unable to be together

The following meetings will be going ahead each week:

❖ Sunday Morning Coffee

There will be a Zoom Coffee meeting starting at 11.00am on Sunday. Make your drink, get your biscuits and join us.

❖ Midweek Morning Prayer

There will be a Zoom Morning Prayer Service at 9.30am on Wednesday. Bring your copy of the Worship at Home booklet.

❖ Coffee and Chat

We are having a Zoom Coffee and Chat meeting every Wednesday morning from 11.00 am to 12.00 noon.

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To join any of these meetings you will need the necessary link and password.

To get the details, please contact:

Patricia on 01565 830595 or email: pmrobinson51@gmail.com

Magazine

This was e-mailed to your inbox last week. If you haven't received it please let Patricia know.

If you or anyone you know are not online, please let us know so that we can get a hard copy to you or anyone else you may know of.

Reminder: We are always looking for interesting items to include in the magazine, so if you have any contributions to include in next month's magazine, please send them to your usual editor.

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 her know.

Chris Stanisstreet Tel: 01925 755559; Mobile 07918 981 723;

Email: stanbess2003@yahoo.co.uk

Thank You

The Treasurers would like to thank all those who have sent in an offering. This is very helpful as we still have to pay the bills for each of our churches even though we are not able to use the buildings at the moment.

The best way to give is by direct payment into the bank account and to do this please contact the Treasurer of the Church you attend for the account details. Better still, if you are able, because your income is not affected, please set up a monthly direct debit.

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.

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Morning and Night Prayer

If you would like to join with us, we are saying Morning Prayer at 9.00am Monday to Saturday (Wednesday 9.30am) and Night Prayer at 9.00pm Monday to Saturday. Whenever you are able, why not say it at the same time as we do, then we will be joining together in prayer and worship.

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).

Monday 8th June: Psalm 1; Joshua 7: 1-15; Luke 10: 25-37

Tuesday 9th June: Psalm 5; Joshua 7: 16-end; Luke 10: 38-end

Wednesday 10th June: Psalm 119: 1-32; Joshua 8: 1-29; Luke 11: 1-13

Thursday 11th June: Corpus Christi: Psalm 147; Deuteronomy 8:2-16; 1 Corinthians 10:1-17

Friday 12th June: Barnabas the Apostle: Psalm 100; Jeremiah 9: 23-24; Act 4: 32-end

Saturday 13th June: Psalm 23; Joshua 10: 1-15; Luke 11: 37-end

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.

Lighen our darkness, Lord we pray,
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)