

News and Prayer Update for Sunday 14th June

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/ZujaGR7sBzY>

HYMN: Praise My Soul the King of Heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to His feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like me His praise should sing?
Alleluia, alleluia,
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for his grace and favour
to our fathers, in distress;
praise Him still the same for ever,
slow to child, and swift to bless.
Alleluia, alleluia,
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like, he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame He knows;
in His hands He gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia,
Widely as His mercy flows.

Angels help us to adore Him;
ye behold Him face to face;
sun and moon bow down before Him;
dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia,
Praise with us the God of grace.

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READINGS FOR 1ST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Psalm: Psalm 100

- ¹ O be joyful in the Lord, all the earth;
serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.
- ² Know that the Lord is God;
it is he that has made us and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his
pasture.
- ³ Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and bless his name.
- ⁴ For the Lord is gracious; his steadfast love is everlasting,
and his faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

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First Reading: Romans 5: 1 – 8

¹ Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

³ And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,

⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,

⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die.

⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 9: 35 – 10: 8

³⁵ Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness.

³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few;

³⁸ therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.'

¹ Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness.

² These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John;

³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;

⁴ Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans,

⁶ but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

⁷ As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near."

⁸ Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

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REFLECTION ON THE READINGS by Rev'd Philip

I wonder how many of you recall the Summer of Love, the hippie festival that took place in America in mid-1967. I must confess that it largely passed me by, but I do remember many of the songs that came out of that era. The Mama's and the Papa's singing 'If you go to San Francisco, be sure to wear flowers in your hair', and the Plastic Ono Band singing, 'All we are saying, is give peace a chance'. It was the era of the Vietnam War, and the Summer of Love and other events of that period were, amongst others things, a declaration of opposition to that conflict that by its conclusion had cost the lives of nearly 400,000 people. Ask anyone at the time what peace meant to them, and the answer would probably be an absence of war. The answer today might be the same but additionally with an absence of racial tension, recently brought into sharp focus with the killing of George Floyd earlier this month, the absence of commercial conflict such as that between China and other countries, and the desire to see the end of the coronavirus epidemic that is costing the lives of so many people around the world. We all want peace from whatever it is that makes us fearful and maybe keeps us awake at night.

Many religions are all about people trying to climb up to God, to earn his approval through living good lives, through self-denial, prayer, charitable giving. Christianity is the opposite. It is about how God reached down to people through the incarnation of his Son Jesus. He lived our life, died our death and opened the gates of heaven to all who believe in him. Paul wrote to the church in Rome that, 'since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ'. The peace he wrote about has nothing to do with an absence of war or suffering; the church he wrote to was suffering persecution. Neither is it the absence of anxiety, an inward peace that many try to achieve through yoga, meditation or other spiritual practices. The peace Paul writes about is harmony with God.

Justification by faith was one of the great theological rallying cries of the Protestant reformation, the realisation that salvation is the gift of God and cannot be bought or earned through living a good life. Justification, being declared righteous by God, was made available to us through the death of Jesus on the cross. When we put our trust in him and decide to follow him as his disciples, we are instantly brought into a right relationship with God. One of the main benefits of being in such a relationship is peace, a divine peace that reflects the peace that exists between the members of the Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. As Christians we share in the family life of the Trinity, and we also share the peace that flows from them, through them and between them.

In our Gospel reading we hear Jesus sending his disciples out on a mission to tell people the good news of the kingdom. They were to proclaim that, 'the kingdom of heaven has come near', and prove it by transforming the lives of those they met. We are also called to proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God and call people to follow his Son Jesus. We may not have the miraculous power to cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers or cast out demons. What we can do is help people come into a relationship with Jesus and so enable them to experience the transforming peace that comes from having sins forgiven and being in a right relationship with God.

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Collect for 1st Sunday after Trinity

O God,
the strength of all those who put their trust in you,
mercifully accept our prayers
and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature
we can do no good thing without you,
grant us the help of your grace,
that in the keeping of your commandments
we may please you both in will and deed;
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.

HYMN: Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided—
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

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PRAYER in the coming week:

Monday - pray for our GPs and all who work in our local medical practices;

Tuesday - pray for all carers and NHS workers living in our parishes;

Wednesday - pray for our local hospitals and the wider NHS, including those who operate the 111 call system;

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Thursday - pray for all types of care homes, hospices and those organisations who provide support to people in their own homes; a special mention to our local care homes of Bucklow Manor Care Home, Tabley House Nursing Home and the EAM Care Group;

Friday - pray for wisdom for all those advising and making decisions about health and releasing lockdown restrictions (such as those contributing to the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies, Public Health England etc and the Government);

Saturday - pray for all organisations reaching out to support the health of others across the world, such as the Mercy Ships.

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. This week's link is:-

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82048106709?pwd=Yy9vK2VPNGtNTGdONVRhanY0U2ZHdz09>

❖ **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.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88527818056?pwd=MFhiNDFiN3dyUDQ4cVVRNzlvZHIBUT09>

❖ **Coffee and Chat**

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85415566425?pwd=T3kwSk55UnBFTUhBV00vYjNpciNFUT09>

To join any of these meetings please click on the link. If you need the meeting ID or password separately please contact:

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

Opening the Churches

You will be aware that we now have permission to open the churches for supervised individual private prayer. We have to follow Covid-19 Guidelines set in place by the Government and the Diocese, complete a risk assessment for each church and clean thoroughly before we open again. You are able to go to any of the churches at the times they are open that suit you.

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St John's High Legh will be open on:-

Tuesdays from 13.30 to 15.00 and Saturdays from 09.30 to 11.00.

However, **this coming week**, because of work taking place in the church it will be open on **Tuesday (16th June) only**.

St Mary's Rostherne will not be open until the week beginning 21st June because of the work taking place on the Vestry roof.

St Paul's won't be open yet because of the ongoing work. There are no plans to open Holy Trinity at the moment.

Magazine

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. We would love to have some from High Legh.

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

Offering - Please continue to give if you can.

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 15th June: Psalm 30; Joshua Chapter 14; Luke 12: 1-12

Tuesday 16th June: Psalm 36; Joshua 21: 43 - 22:8; Luke 12: 13-21

Wednesday 17th June: Psalm 34; Joshua 22: 9-end; Luke 12: 22-31

Thursday 18th June: Psalm 37; Joshua Chapter 23; Luke 12: 32-40

Friday 19th June: Psalm 31; Joshua 24: 1-28; Luke 12: 41-48

Saturday 20th June: Psalm 42; Joshua 24: 29-end; Luke 12: 49-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.

Lighten 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)

ACORN

Nick Whimpany, Karen Drury 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 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

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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