

The Parishes of Adbaston, Gnosall, Knightley & High Offley, Moreton and Norbury

Weekly News and Notices

Sunday 12th March 2020 Easter Sunday

Our newsletter today has a slightly different format so that all of us, whether we have access to computers or not, can follow a form of worship on Easter Day.

With love to you all on this very special day in the life of our Church.

Rev Kathryn, Rev Cathy & Fr Richard

A short service of Spiritual Communion

You may like to light a candle before you begin.

The Lord is here. **His Spirit is with us**

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen**

The Collect

God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:1-6

'At that time,' declares the Lord, 'I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they will be my people.' This is what the Lord says: 'The people who survive the sword will find favour in the wilderness; I will come to give rest to Israel.' The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying: 'I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness. I will build you up again, and you, Virgin Israel, will be rebuilt. Again you will take up your tambourines and go out to dance with the joyful. Again you will plant vineyards on the hills of Samaria; the farmers will plant them and enjoy their fruit. There will be a day when watchmen cry out on the hills of Ephraim, "Come, let us go up to Zion, to the Lord our God."' This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL READING John 20: 1-18 The empty tomb

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. **Glory to you O Lord.**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!' So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped round Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed.

They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) Then the disciples went back to where they were staying. Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. They asked her, 'Woman, why are you crying?' They have taken my Lord away,' she said, 'and I don't know where they have put him.' At this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realise that it was Jesus. He asked her, 'Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?' Thinking he was the gardener, she said, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary.' She turned towards him and cried out in Aramaic, 'Rabboni!' (which means 'Teacher'). Jesus said, 'Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: 'I have seen the Lord!' And she told them that he had said these things to her.
This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

Our Prayers

Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Be close to us now, in the middle of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbours from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us think that we are invulnerable to a disease that has no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those families who have family and friends in hospital or in their own homes with the virus and are unable to be with them. Comfort them as they ache to be with the people they love

Be with the families of those who. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. We pray for those on our prayer list -

Audrey Downes, Janette Ibbs, Jacqueline Hunt, Michael Johnson, Bill Nunn, Michael Butler, Ted Talbot Sybil Johnson, Ann Roberts, Martin Watkins, Robert Nicholls & Brian Gregory

and we remember the families of those who have recently died

Gerald Bates, Helen Turner, Pat Kilvert, Edward Harrison and Michael Pope

In our years mind we remember -

Robert John (Bob) Edwards, Doreen J. Fraser, Nigel Russell Buckley-Robins, Peter William Thomas Arthur Edwards, Betty Patricia Tunnicliffe, Kenneth (Ken) Evans, Gwendoline (Gwen) Key & Geoffrey Robert Robotham. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who are trying so hard to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

We pray for those couples who were looking forward to being married in the coming weeks. Strengthen their relationships and bless them we pray.

We pray for those who are very worried about their financial situation and their employment. Those who are trying to work from home and teach their children. Those who are anxious about college courses and postponed exams. May this be a time for families to grow together and find new ways of sharing their time. We especially pray for those who feel even more isolated than normal and those with existing health conditions who worry about how to receive the care they need.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks.

May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

During this difficult time when we long to worship together and support one another, help us to find every way we can to care for those in need while being responsible in making sure we take every precaution to stay safe.

Jesus Christ, heal us.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

We say together

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Act of Contrition

I love you, Jesus, my love above all things, and I repent with my whole heart of having offended you.

Never permit me to separate myself from you again, grant that I may love you always, and then do with me what you will.

Act of Spiritual reception

In union, dear father, with Christian people throughout the world and across the centuries gathered to make Eucharist, hearing your holy Word and receiving the precious Body and Blood, I offer you praise and thanksgiving. Even though I am exiled from tasting the Bread of Heaven and drinking the Cup of Life I pray you will unite me with all the baptised and with your Son who gave his life for us.

Come Lord Jesus, dwell in me and send your Holy Spirit that I may be filled with your presence.

O Lord and heavenly Father, we your humble servants entirely desire your fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching you to grant, that by the merits and death of your Son, Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all your whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

Amen

EASTER BLESSING

"On this Easter morning, let us look again at the lives we have been so generously given and let us let fall away the useless baggage that we carry -- old pains, old habits, old ways of seeing and feeling -- and let us have the courage to begin again. Life is very short, and we are no sooner here than it is time to depart again, and we should use to the full the time that we still have.

We don't realize all the good we can do. A kind, encouraging word or helping hand can bring many a person through dark valleys in their lives. We weren't put here to make money or to acquire status or reputation. We were sent here to search for the light of Easter in our hearts, and when we find it we are meant to give it away generously. The dawn that is rising this Easter morning is a gift to our hearts and we are meant to celebrate it and to carry away from this holy, ancient place the gifts of healing and light and the courage of a new beginning."

John O'Donohue

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of our Lord Jesus Christ our Lord:

and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen**

A MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURERS

While our worship on Sunday in church is suspended our income will reduce considerably. Could I suggest that people may continue giving by one of the following methods -

1. Post or deliver to the Vicarage in Gnosall.
2. Make a monthly donation on line.
3. Set up a monthly standing order. (We can let you have the form)

The bank details for each parish are as follows and If you would like help in any of these procedures please contact our treasurers or Rev Kathryn

Gnosall

St Lawrence PCC sort code 30.98.00 acc no 02947405 envelopes can be left at the Vicarage johnbridgeexpert@gmail.com or 07973778914

High Offley and Knightley

PCC High Offley sort code 524110 account 11003111 contact details katharinetom@hotmail.co.uk or 302221

Norbury

Norbury PCC 54-10-36 acc no 08607540 bratton689@btinternet.com or 284714
Envelopes can be delivered to – Wentwood, High Meadow Norbury, ST20 0PD

Adbaston and Moreton

sort code

acct no

Adbaston PCC

52-41-10

11038489

PCC Moreton

30-96-02

00082996

roger.craven.t21@btinternet.com or 823332

IF YOU MAKE A PAYMENT DIRECTLY TO THE BANK ACCOUNT PLEASE GIVE YOUR NAME

Following the Prime Minister's announcement of 23rd March, the Archbishops have written to clergy in support of the measures, requiring that churches must now close both for private worship and public services.

Our church buildings are therefore now closed for public worship, private prayer and all other meetings and activities except for vital community services until further notice.

Funerals may now only happen at the Crematorium or at the graveside and not in church buildings. Only immediate family members can attend (if the crematorium allows) – that is, spouse or partner, parents and children, keeping their distance in the prescribed way. Please pray for our bereaved families during this difficult time for them.

Our buildings are closed but the church is the people and our church is still here and relevant. It is lovely to see the way people are keeping in touch and caring for one another. Let's continue to do that with phone calls, letters and prayer as well as the more technical ways. And by continuing to think of Acts of Kindness we can do for others to show that we care.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS

In the light of the restrictions placed upon parishes by the current COVID-19 epidemic, the Bishop of Lichfield has signed an Instrument that extends the time for choosing churchwardens at the Annual Meeting of Parishioners to the 31st October 2020 and PCC and Deanery Synod members at the APCM to the same date. All those currently in these posts will continue until then.

If there is anything that you would like including on next week's notice sheet please let Kathryn have it by Wednesday, either call on 01785 822820 or email: rev.kathrynh@gmail.com

PLEASE TRY TO TAKE THIS SHEET TO ANY MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY WHO AREN'T ABLE TO ACCESS IT ELECTRONICALLY.