

# *Weekly News and Notices*

*Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2020*

## **A short service of Spiritual Communion**

*You may like to light a candle before you begin.*

The light shines in the darkness,  
**and the darkness did not overcome it.**  
Alleluia, Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed, alleluia!**

We give thanks to God:  
**Loving Lord,**  
**fill us with your life-giving,**  
**joy-giving, peace-giving presence,**  
**that we may praise you now with our lips**  
**and all the day long with our lives,**  
**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

We bring our need for forgiveness:

Let's take a moment to look back over this week.  
The changes to our lives as we try to adapt to a very different world around us.  
We bring to God our whole selves, the things we find difficult and the things we regret,  
our best selves, and our worst selves, knowing that we are loved, just as we are!

God so loves the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins,  
to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Lord God, you have made us for yourself, and long for our love:  
forgive our reluctance to respond to you.

Lord, have mercy:  
**Lord, have mercy**

Lord Christ, you bring us healing and forgiveness:  
forgive our unwillingness to accept your gifts.

Christ, have mercy:  
**Christ, have mercy**

Lord Spirit, you come to us with new life:  
forgive our desire to cling onto old ways.

Lord, have mercy:  
**Lord, have mercy**

*We hear an assurance of forgiveness:*

May the God of all healing and forgiveness  
draw us to himself, and cleanse us from all our sins  
that we may behold the glory of his Son,  
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **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

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

John 20:19-31

**19** On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' **20** After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. **21** Again Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' **22** And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. **23** If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.' **24** Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. **25** So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord!' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.' **26** A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you!' **27** Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.' **28** Thomas said to him, 'My Lord and my God!' **29** Then Jesus told him, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.' **30** Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. **31** But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

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, Michael Johnson,,Bill Nunn, Michael Butler, Ted Talbot, Sybil Johnson

Ann Roberts, Martin Watkins and Robert Nicholls

and we remember the families of those who have recently died - Helen Turner, Pat Kilvert, Edward Harrison, Jacqueline Hunt, Joan Hughes, Michael Pope, Brian Thomas, Cynthia Thomas and Brian Gregory

In our years mind we remember -

Olive Bowell, Selwyn Arthur Onions, Rosemary Jones, Eileen Elizabeth Tabbenor,

Walter Frederick Barnwell, Frederick Bickley, Jeanette Ann Brown, Glyn Jones, Sylvia June Edwards and Wilfred Chesters 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**

**Blessing**

May you find in Christ Jesus, risen from the dead, a sure ground for your faith, a firm support for your hope, the  
assurance of sins forgiven, and life that is eternal; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the  
Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Alleluia, Christ is risen! **He is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

Stay at home, and stay safe to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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](mailto:johnbridgeexpert@gmail.com) or 07973778914

#### **High Offley and Knightley**

PCC High Offley sort code 524110 account 11003111 contact details [katharinetom@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:katharinetom@hotmail.co.uk) or 302221

#### **Norbury**

Norbury PCC 54-10-36 acc no 08607540 [bratton689@btinternet.com](mailto: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](mailto:roger.craven.t21@btinternet.com) or 823332

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

#### **HOUSE OF BREAD**

We are still collecting non-perishable food, clothing and toiletries for those who are homeless and in need. Items can be left in the containers at the Vicarage in Gnosall or at Jane Swinnerton's home in Norbury.

Sadly 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 and for our clergy trying to help them as best they can. 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

#### **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 31<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:rev.kathrynh@gmail.com)

As we don't have any events to advertise at the moment, it would be good to hear about all the initiatives in your parishes that are being done to look after people and connect with them. If you could send us some information about these we will add it to our weekly newsletter.

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