

PRAYING LIKE JESUS

“Try Praying”

Do you have friends, neighbours or family members who would like to try praying but don't know how to start? You can pick up a “Try Praying” booklet - a seven day journey into prayer - from a box on the fence near the gate into St Mary's churchyard. If they are online, please point them to trypraying.co.uk

“7.14 PRAYER”: Sign up now!

2 Chronicles 7.14 exhorts us to pray for our land in times of crisis. In the week leading up to Pentecost Sunday we will pray for 7 days and 14 hours each day (7am to 9pm). You can sign up to pray for one hour and there will be resources with suggestions for prayer during that hour. Sign up at tinyurl.com/714prayer or call our church office. at the usual opening hours to sign up.

Christian Aid and Tearfund

Coronavirus is spreading amongst the world's poorest communities. Last week was Christian Aid Week. To give to the special appeals of Christian Aid or our mission partner Tearfund, please visit their websites.



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

(This is a new national phone line provided by the Church of England)

A SERVICE ON YOUTUBE!

Sunday Worship at 10.30am on Youtube, followed by 'Virtual Coffee' at 11.15am: tinyurl.com/youtube-denham

A SERVICE ON YOUR TELEPHONE!

Dial **01895 714013** to listen to a weekly service from Denham Parish Church. Do give it a try!

A NEW FOOD BANK

Our local community support group have just set up a food bank, operating from the May Coles Room of the Village Memorial Hall in Denham Village. They are taking donations at the Village Hall on Mondays 9-11 and Thursdays 2-4 or any time to 17 Ashcroft Drive.

In your prayers this week, please remember anyone known to us who is suffering the pain of bereavement at this time – especially the families of **Marian Gollop, Diane Scanlon and Edith Fryer.**



PAROUSIA

Weekly News and Service Sheet

17th May 2020

6th Sunday of Easter

Welcome to this new-style Parousia! All Church of England buildings remain closed. But the life of our church is not being put on hold and God remains active in his world! This news and service sheet is one way of keeping in touch and worshipping together. You can download it from our website or ask our church office to send you a paper version. The inside pages provide you with a simple service so you can worship at home. Please check our website or Facebook page on a regular basis and do contact our church office if we can help in any way.

Christoph Lindner

Another Advocate to be with us for ever by Nnamdi Maduka

God knows that without Him we are unable to please him. In our gospel reading, Jesus is preparing his disciples for his departure. He has been telling his disciples that the time has come for him to leave them, but he is saying that they don't need to be despondent about that because He will still be with them – just in a different form: through His Holy Spirit. And that is true for us today, of course. Jesus is now with us, in us and for us and lives his life through us, healing us, comforting us, renewing us, inspiring us, equipping us.

Jesus also calls the Holy Spirit our advocate who is to come and be with us for ever – the promise of the Father, a helper, one who would plead the cause of believers. Christ's redemptive work is to be continued through the Spirit, a new way in which God continues his saving activity.

An advocate is person who puts forward a case on someone else's behalf; a person who publicly supports a cause. 1 John 2:1-2 makes it clearer: “My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice (the propitiation) for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.” Propitiation is the removal of the wrath of God against sinners by the death of Jesus. The ultimate problem that all human beings face is that God's omnipotent wrath is against them. The ultimate good news is that there is a way to have the wrath of God averted – and that God himself has made the way.

This, of course, is not a license to do whatever we like and incorporate sin into our lives as a habit.

When we as human beings make mistakes and find ourselves under fire by an angry accuser, it's comforting to know that not only do we have a good lawyer by our side, we have the support and comfort provided by a warm, loving friend!

email: office@denhamparish.church

phone: 01895 832771

STAY SAFE • STAY CONNECTED • STAY HOPEFUL

Easter Acclamation

Christ once raised from the dead
dies no more.

Death has no more dominion over him.

In dying he died to sin once for all:

In living he lives to God.

See yourselves therefore as dead to sin:

And alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Romans 6.9-11)

Hymn

Alleluia, sing to Jesus,
his the sceptre, his the throne;
alleluia, his the triumph,
his the victory alone:
hark the songs of peaceful Sion
thunder like a mighty flood:
Jesus out of ev'ry nation,
hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia, not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
alleluia, he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how;
though the cloud from sight received him
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins to God,
who forgives us in Christ.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through
weakness, through our own
deliberate fault.

We are truly sorry,
and repent of all our sins.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life to the glory of your
name. Amen.

May God who loved the world so
much that he sent his Son to be our
Saviour forgive us our sins and make
us holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bible Reading:

John 14. 15-21

'If you love me, you will keep my
commandments. And I will ask the
Father, and he will give you another
Advocate, to be with you for ever.
This is the Spirit of truth, whom the
world cannot receive, because it
neither sees him nor knows him. You
know him, because he abides with
you, and he will be in you.

'I will not leave you orphaned; I am
coming to you. In a little while the
world will no longer see me, but you
will see me; because I live, you also
will live. On that day you will know
that I am in my Father, and you in me,
and I in you. They who have my
commandments and keep them are
those who love me; and those who
love me will be loved by my Father,
and I will love them and reveal myself
to them.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Quiet Reflection or Time of Sharing
(or read page 1)

Prayers

*We pray for all aspects of the current
crisis – for those who are suffering and
grieving, for health care staff,
scientists and leaders, for those
working in critical jobs, for those who
are anxious.*

Collect for the 6th Sunday of Easter:

God our redeemer, you have
delivered us from the power of
darkness and brought us into the
kingdom of your Son:

grant, that as by his death he has
recalled us to life, so by his continual
presence in us he may raise us to
eternal joy;

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. Amen.

*Coronavirus is spreading amongst the
world's poorest communities:*

We pray for Tearfund, Christian Aid
and other aid organisations, that they
would be able to get food, financial
aid and emotional support to people
whose already fragile circumstances
have become desperate because of
the pandemic.

We pray for people living in refugee
camps, such as the half a million
Rohingya people in the world's
biggest refugee camp in Bangladesh.
Lord, give wisdom to leaders of these
camps as they prepare to respond to
the pandemic.

We pray the Lord's Prayer.
Our Father...

Hymn

Thou, whose almighty word
Chaos and darkness heard,
And took their flight:
Hear us, we humbly pray,
And where the gospel-day
Sheds not its glorious ray,
Let there be light.

Thou, who didst come to bring
On thy redeeming wing,
Healing and sight,
Health to the sick in mind,
Sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
Let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,
Life-giving, holy Dove,
Speed forth thy flight;
Move on the water's face,
Bearing the lamp of grace,
And in earth's darkest place
Let there be light.

Holy and blessed Three,
Glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
Boundless as ocean's tide
Rolling in fullest pride,
Through the earth far and wide
Let there be light.

Blessing *(based on 2 Timothy 1.7)*

The peace of God which passes all
understanding, keep our hearts and
minds in the knowledge and love of
God and of his Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord. And the blessing of God
Almighty, the Father, the Son and the
Holy Spirit, be with us all, now and
evermore. Amen.