

DIARY DATE: APCM 11 OCTOBER

Our postponed Annual Parochial Church Meeting will now take place on **Sunday, 11 October in the morning** (exact time and venue TBC).

We are updating our **Electoral Roll**. If there are any changes to your details, please complete a new form (available at the main entrance of St Mary's, from the electoral roll officer (maurl@btinternet.com) or online (denhamparish.church/apcm). Anyone who has been attending St Mary's for at least 6 months may apply to become a member of the Church which will enable you to vote at the APCM. Completed application forms should be returned by 13 September 2020.

PRAYING FOR LEBANON

The Bible Society of Lebanon asks for prayer after the blast that hit the capital Beirut, killing over 200 and injuring more than 5,000 others. UNHCR reports that the death toll includes at least 34 reported refugee victims.

Lebanon is facing an economic and political crisis. Its medical services have been overwhelmed. Beirut is facing a crisis of homelessness because so many homes have been damaged or destroyed. First UNHCR estimates indicate that up to 10,000 vulnerable households are likely to have been severely affected by the blast and are in need of urgent support..

Please pray for ...

- those on holiday and those whose holidays have been cancelled.
- those who have lost their job or are afraid of losing it.
- those who are bereaved.

email: office@denhamparish.church



The current crisis can be an opportunity for a personal "reset". Here are the next themes:

Sun 23 August: **RESET: Finishing well**

Sun 30 August: **RESET your online life**

Sun 6 September: **RESET your job**

Sun 13 September: **RESET God**

ONLINE AND ON THE PHONE

Our online and telephone services will continue in August.



Online: Sundays 10.30am

Stream any time afterwards:

tinyurl.com/youtube-denham



Telephone: Available any time for a week,

Sun to Sat: **01895 714013**

REFLECTING TOGETHER ON THE IMPACT OF COVID

Please complete our **community survey** on the impact of this current crisis on ourselves and our community. You can find it on the back pages of the current Denham Parish News or go to: tinyurl.com/denhamcovid

ONLINE DONATIONS



If you wish to make a donation to Denham Parish Church, please scan this code with the camera or QR app on your smartphone and follow instructions.



PAROUSIA

Weekly News and Service Sheet

16th August 2020

10th Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to St Mary's Church! We are so glad you are here. If you are here for the first time or visiting, please say hello to the service leader or a member of the welcome team so we can welcome you personally. If you read this at home, please find a simple service on the inside pages, which you can use to guide your prayers.

Christoph Lindner, Rector

Reset your Money: Giving is an act of worship

Having money can give us more opportunities to do good in this world, but money by itself will never make you happy or secure. When one of the world's wealthiest men died recently, a reporter asked a family member, 'How much did he leave?', the relative replied, 'ALL of it'. No matter how much you make, save, invest or keep, eventually your money will leave you or you will leave your money. In March, Portuguese billionaire Antonio Piera, president of Santander Bank In Portugal, died from coronavirus.

His daughter wrote on social media: 'We are A wealthy family, but my father passed away alone, suffocating, looking for something free, which is air ... money stayed at home.'



The widow in Mathew 12:41-44 understood that giving is an expression of worship to God. Worship may be described as an expression of awe, devotion, and love — from man, the creature, to his Creator. One aspect of this reverential disposition can entail the presentation of gifts. Almighty God, being entirely self-sufficient, requires no gift from frail humanity to sustain him in any way. He is not "served by human hands, as though he needed anything" (Acts 17.25). He is pleased, however, when we, consistent with divine revelation, exhibit the spirit of generosity.

Each Christian is to give "according to his/her ability" (Acts 11:29). This is proportional giving. Amazingly, some in the early church gave even beyond their ability just like this widow.

If you fail to give because you do not have enough, make time to go out and watch birds! Birds don't know where their next meal is coming from, yet you never see one sitting on a branch having an anxiety attack. Matthew 6:26-27 says we are far more valuable to God than they are. Even if you suffer from a poor self-image and think you're not worth taking care of, aren't you still more valuable than a bird? So look at how well your heavenly father takes care of them, and remind yourself that He will take care of you.

Nnamdi Maduka

STAY SAFE • STAY CONNECTED • STAY HOPEFUL

OPENING PRAYER (from Psalm 75)

Whom have I in heaven but you?
And there is nothing on earth
that I desire other than you.
My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart
and my portion forever.
I have made the Lord God my refuge,
to tell of all your works.

HYMN

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of Righteousness arise,
Triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
Unaccompanied by thee;
Joyless is the day's return,
Til thy mercy's beams I see,
Til they inward light impart,
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine,
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.

CONFESSION

Lord God, our maker and our redeemer,
this is your world and we are your
people: come among us and save us.
We have wilfully misused your gifts of
creation; Lord, be merciful:
forgive us our sin.

We have seen the ill-treatment of
others and have not gone to their aid;
Lord, be merciful:
forgive us our sin.

We have condoned evil and dishonesty

and failed to strive for justice;

Lord, be merciful:
forgive us our sin.

We have heard the good news of Christ,
but have failed to share it with others;
Lord, be merciful:
forgive us our sin.

We have not loved you with all our heart,
nor our neighbours as ourselves;
Lord, be merciful:
forgive us our sin.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly
repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and
deliver us from all our sins, confirm and
strengthen us in all goodness, and keep
us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ,
our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT

Jesus of heaven and earth, as Jesus
taught his disciples to be persistent in
prayer, give us patience and courage
never to lose hope, but always to bring
our prayers before you; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BIBLE READING: Mark 12. 41-44

He sat down opposite the treasury, and
watched the crowd putting money into
the treasury. Many rich people put in
large sums. A poor widow came and put
in two small copper coins, which are
worth a penny. Then he called his
disciples and said to them, 'Truly I tell
you, this poor widow has put in more
than all those who are contributing to
the treasury. For all of them have
contributed out of their abundance; but
she out of her poverty has put in
everything she had, all she had to live on.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

SONG: Way Maker

You are here, moving in our midst
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, working in this place
I worship You, I worship You

*Way Maker, Miracle Worker
Promise Keeper, Light in the darkness
My God, that is who You are*

You are here, touching ev'ry heart
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, healing ev'ry heart
I worship You, I worship You

You are here, turning lives around
I worship You, I worship You
You are here, mending ev'ry heart
I worship You, yeah I worship You Lord

PRAYERS

Lord, this is a time of huge change
We are going through a massive
transition and it is not easy. Many of us
face anxiety, fear and doubt about the
future. Thank you, Lord, that your
compassion never fails.

We pray for those who have become
unemployed, others whose jobs are
uncertain and those who are anxious
about going back to work:
May they know your faithfulness today

We pray for children on holiday now
And soon going back to school and for
those wondering about career choices:
May they know your faithfulness today

We pray for the vulnerable and the
marginalised, unsure of the support
that may be available:
May they know your faithfulness today

For politicians and community leaders
As they seek to find a way forward:
May they know your faithfulness today

For church leaders, as they seek to dis-
cern your will and offer hope and vision:
May they know your faithfulness today

Thank you Lord that while everything
changes, your love remains constant.
May we know your faithfulness today

**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.**

HYMN

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect, and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure-store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee.

THE BLESSING

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