

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**.



The current crisis can be an opportunity for a personal "reset". Our final theme next Sunday will be: **RESET God**
All the talks from this series are available on audio or video:
www.denhamparish.church/blog

Join us today for ONLINE COFFEE from 11.15am on ZOOM:

Meeting ID: 836 9097 1697

Passcode: 893444

Please pray for ...

- those affected most by this crisis through sickness, loneliness, loss of job
- pupils, parents and teachers as the new school year gets under way
- those who are bereaved, especially the families of Kerry Harrison, Jennifer Marshall and Wendy Sterry (Cynthia Sterry's daughter-in-law)

email: office@denhamparish.church

phone: 01895 832771

ST MARY'S FESTIVAL: 12 & 13 Sep

How will you take part in our Festival this year? Our plans are flexible enough to respond to the evolving situation and will be a mix of events on site and online.

SATURDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER:

A range of community activities - a 1k walk, 5k walk, 5k run, 20k cycle ride and (NEW) a car treasure hunt – all starting from St Mary's Church and finishing there.

SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER:

Celebration services in the morning, Open Garden at the White House (12 noon – 4pm) and a **concert** at 4pm.

Please take a flyer with more details and invite friends and family to join us and always check our website to FIND THE LATEST UPDATES at denhamparish.church/festival

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
Deadline: 15 September!

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

6th September 2020

13th 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. **Please take this sheet with you at the end of the service.** 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*

Resetting our job life by Nnamdi Maduka

Work in any culture, whether paid or unpaid, can sometimes be enjoyable, often hard and exhausting. When you are working with your God-given skills (and assuming you are doing work that is legal and moral), all work can be an act of worship. You might spend two hours a week at church and get the wrong message that the other 166 hours of your week are second-class compared to church stuff. Your time at church, in your bible club or fellowship is supposed to be the stimulus to launch you out into the world—you are prepared to take the hope of Jesus with you. **Your work is an act of worship, your mission field, a place of growth, and an avenue for impact.** Your workplace is your mission field where you must intentionally practice living the Christian life—in difficult situations, with challenging people, and with integrity that honours the Lord Jesus Christ.

It's worth asking ourselves how honest, ethical, and Christ-minded we are at our workplace and in all we do: Do we take office supplies that belong to our company and justify their personal use? Do we show up late every day and leave early, which over time accumulates to dozens of hours of undeserved salary? Do we gossip about others at the workplace, refuse to do quality work when we can just as easily do mediocre work? Do we serve customers or clients with a warm exterior only to badmouth and complain about them behind their backs?

But we are Jesus's ambassadors at work, we carry Jesus wherever we go—in the conference room, on the factory floor, at the lunch break, on the playground, in the kitchen and while walking our dog. So, as we do our work with integrity and intentionally build relationships with our co-workers, clients or children, Jesus is intricately involved in that, our work intersects with our faith. God grows us through the works of our hands. The Spirit of God uses our relationships, successes, failures, and experiences at work as a significant tool in our spiritual growth. He teaches us to have the mind of Christ at work, to treat people as Jesus did.

In our reading today, Dorcas served God with her dress making profession, making clothes for the widows and the poor people in Joppa. She caught the vision of how she could serve Christ with her money and her needle. Dorcas knew what it was to have a regenerated heart, and this was the source of her unselfish life and charitable acts.

What new possibilities and changes is God laying in your heart to reset in your job? Be inwardly inspired by Him whose hands were nailed to a tree.

STAY SAFE • STAY CONNECTED • STAY HOPEFUL

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER (from Psalm 149)

Praise the LORD. Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of his faithful people.

Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; let the people of Zion be glad in their King.

Let them praise his name with dancing and make music to him with timbrel and harp.

For the LORD takes delight in his people; he crowns the humble with victory.

HYMN

O God beyond all praising,
We worship you today,
And sing the love amazing
That songs cannot repay;
For we can only wonder
At ev'ry gift you send,
At blessings without number
And mercies without end:
We lift our hearts before you
And wait upon your word,
We honour and adore you,
Our great and mighty Lord.

Then hear, O gracious Saviour,
Accept the love we bring,
That we who know your favour
May serve you as our king;
And whether our tomorrows
Be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows
And rise to bless you still:
To marvel at your beauty
And glory in your ways,
And make a joyful duty
Our sacrifice of praise.

CONFESSION

Lord our God, in our sin we have avoided your call. Our love for you is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. Have mercy on us; deliver us from judgement; bind up our wounds and revive us; in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the Father forgive us by the death of his Son and strengthen us to live in the power of the Spirit all our days. Amen.

COLLECT

Almighty God, you search us and know us: may we rely on you in strength and rest on you in weakness, now and in all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

BIBLE READING

Acts 9. 36-42

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be

alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

SONG: Christ be in my waking
(Simon Brading | Stuart Townend)

Christ be in my waking as the sun is rising
In my day of working with me ev'ry hour
Christ be in my resting as the day is ending
Calming and refreshing
watching through the night

Christ be in my thinking
and my understanding
Guarding me from evil walking in the light
Christ be in my speaking,
every word a blessing
Pure and not deceiving,
grace to all who hear

*Jesus this is my devotion
All my life to know You
Every day to walk with You
Saviour You're my deepest longing
You're the One I live for
Teach me Lord to walk with You*

Christ be in my gladness
for the joy of living
Thankful for the goodness
of the Father's hand
Christ be in my sorrow,
in my day of darkness
Knowing that I follow in the steps He trod

Christ when hope has faded,
nothing left to cling to
Every pleasure jaded, every well is dry
Christ the loving Shepherd
draws me with His kindness
Leads me from the desert
to the streams of life

PRAYERS

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

We have a gospel to proclaim,
Good news for all throughout the earth;
The gospel of a Saviour's name:
We sing his glory, tell his worth.

Tell of that glorious Easter morn,
Empty tomb, for he was free:
He broke the pow'r of death and hell
That we might share his victory.

Now we rejoice to name him King:
Jesus is Lord of all the earth.
This gospel-message we proclaim:
We sing his glory, tell his worth.

THE BLESSING

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 among us and remain with us always.
Amen.