

# The Benefice of Foremark and Repton with Newton Solney

## Fourth Sunday after Trinity - 5th July 2020

### Daily Readings Sunday 5th July to Saturday 11th July

#### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity)

##### Zechariah 9: 9 - 12

The prophet foretells the coming of the messianic king, who will subdue warring nations and establish a kingdom of peace. God's people will now the joy of full deliverance and restoration.

##### Romans 7: 15 – 25a

Paul expresses his internal conflict. His decision to obey God's law is continually overthrown by his sinful nature's desires. Only the power of God, not his own effort, can set him free.

##### Matthew 11: 16 – 19, 25 - end

Jesus laments the spiritual dullness of God's people but rejoices at those willing to receive him as God's Son and the way to the Father. He invites the oppressed to draw close, promising them rest in his loving presence.

#### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July

Psalm 80, Judges 13:1-24, Luke 17:20-37

#### Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July

Psalm 89:1-18, Judges 14, Luke 18:1-14

#### Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July

Psalm 119:105-128, Judges 15:1-16:2, Luke 18:15-30

#### Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July

Psalm 92, Judges 16:4-9, 15-31, Luke 18:31-43

#### Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July

Psalm 88, Judges 17, Luke 19:1-10

#### Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July

Psalm 97, Judges 18:1-20, 27-31, Luke 19:11-27



#### **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.

### **FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

Martin and the Churchwardens as they prepare to open our churches for Sunday worship.

All providing spiritual and pastoral care to our parishes and those within the wider community during this period of COVID-19. May we all continue to pray for and support one another in love.

All our Church, Messy Church and Youth Alpha families that they may continue to find faith at home.

Those serving God, here and abroad: Nick Parish training for ordination and Sarah Attwood in Bosnia.

Those in need of long-term prayerful support: Andrew Pitchford, Lynn Wells, Ian Tennant, Samantha Taylor, Ted Weston, Alf Booth, Pat Rodgers, Kay Howard, Claire Rose, Audrey Morris, Fleur Samples, Joan Taylor, Colin Campbell, Robin Nelson, Carl Baker.

Prayer requests: Nazanin & family, Ursula Hickman, Simon Bordoli, Teresa, Steve's family following their recent unexpected loss, for all affected by the coronavirus and all seeking to contain & combat this pandemic, for all providing care and support at this time.

Those who have recently died and those known to us: May they rest in your eternal peace and may those who mourn them find comfort in you.

## **SUNDAY WORSHIP AT ST WYSTAN'S WILL NOT TAKE PLACE THIS WEEK**

Many different factors have led us to make the decision that we should not hold worship in St Wystan's this coming Sunday, July 5th. While this is very disappointing we remain committed to worshipping there at the earliest possible date.

There are many reasons for this 'U' turn, but while it was tempting to continue with our intention to hold an act of worship, after much consideration and prayer we feel it is the right thing to pull back. I apologise to everyone who had hoped to attend worship on Sunday.

Two of the areas of concern that the extra space will allow us to respond to:-

1. We are unable to get the equipment to stream services installed in time for this Sunday. I preached last Sunday on the importance of our being one community. It is important that we offer worship only when we have enabled all our community to be part of it.

2. We have yet to receive the full, up-to-date guidelines in regard to the manner worship should be conducted safely. Our worship needs to be both worthy of what God gives us but it also needs to take place in the safest possible environment and we are not 100% certain on how to achieve that.

While you may share my disappointment at not being able to physically gather in church on Sunday please remember that:

St Mary's and St Wystan's are open for prayer every day from 10.00am - 6.00pm. If being in church on Sunday is important to you please remember that you can go there in safety and pray.

We WILL be holding our ZOOM service on Sunday at 9.00 as we have done previous weeks. If you have not used this before you would be most welcome. It is very simple - either on line or over the phone. Please contact myself, Stephen Longden, Nick Parish or Ruth Attwood for details on how you join in with Zoom and a copy of the Order of Service.

**DAILY PRAYER – will continue this week** at 9.00 using a Service Order from Iona Abbey. We 'meet' on Zoom and the telephone link works for this as well. If you wish to join us, then you are most welcome. Again, please ask for a copy of the service order.

You may care to join us on the phone. This works for the Communion Service and Daily Prayers. At 8.55am call **02080806592**

You are then asked to enter a Meeting ID number and to press # - **4042286306 #**

The man then asks for another number and again to press # - **Simply press #**

### **WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT WHEN WE DO HOLD WORSHIP ON SUNDAY MORNING**

Like me I am certain you will be feeling a little anxious about returning to church. Alongside the joy at being able to worship in church once again will be some apprehension about safety measures, what the service will be like and what you will be allowed to do or not.

Even though we are not 100% certain when we will hold out first service I am letting you have sight of the following to reassure you. Some of them may change, if the Government changes their decision or the National Church guidelines are different [we are still waiting for them], but I expect most of the following will be in place.

What we can't do is cater for every individual circumstance and make the decision on whether to come to church or not for you. You must make that decision yourself. However, I along with the rest of the ministry team and the Pastoral visitors will be happy to talk things through with you if you want to give one of us a call.

*Will I be able to get to a pew without having to touch anything?*

Yes, the doors will be open and no one will get too close to you - if there is a few people waiting then as usual you are asked to keep your distance while waiting

*Will hand sanitiser be available?*

Yes, you will be asked to sanitise your hands coming in and going out.

*Is there any scientific data to support taking people's temperature?*

There is no mention of this in the Guidelines from the Government or the Church. We do not anticipate taking people's temperature.

*Am I expected to wear a facemask?*

At present there is no government requirement to wear face coverings in places where social distancing can be complied with. However, people may wish to do so, and this is a personal decision.

*Can I pick up a service order without getting near to other people?*

Single use service orders [you must take them home] will be laid out [cleanly] for you to pick up as you enter church

*When I sit in a pew, how far away will the others be?*

You will be asked to start filling places from the front of church. Unless you have mobility problems a 'one way' system will be in place moving down the main aisle and up the side aisles. 2 metres will be maintained – two pews from those in front or behind. Spaced chairs might be placed at the back of church.

*Will communion be offered?*

We think it will be allowed [to be confirmed] using the safeguards in place immediately prior to lockdown – only the priest drinks from the chalice – bread would be handled [wearing gloves] only by the sacristan and the Priest. While placing the wafer on a person's hand the priest would wear a facemask and gloves and would ensure he/she does not touch the person's hand.

*Will we be singing?*

No, this is not possible. We will have recorded hymns to hum along to and join in the words in our hearts and minds.

*Will we be able to say hello and chat briefly to people?*

If the weather is good it will be easiest for everyone to leave church and maintaining 2m distance meet with who you would like to talk to in the churchyard. Of course, you would be able to talk to those near you in the pews after the service but you would have to decide if that was appropriate for you.

*Will there be the opportunity for 'sharing' personal news/feelings during the service itself?*

This might be possible but with the guidelines being to NOT raise voices for the same reason as singing this could be difficult to do without using a microphone. We will think about this in the coming days.

*What about coffee and biscuits?*

Only churches/cathedrals with cafes can offer this.

*Will children be wandering around?*

Children are welcome to attend as are all people. However, we are not allowed to provide any facilities for them. They may bring their own [quiet please] activities and will have to remain in the pews within their 'bubble'.

*Will the toilets be open?*

Yes, they can be. Sanitiser will be available. The hand air dryers are allowed. We must avoid queuing in the area outside the kitchen/toilets so will have a way of knowing 'Toilet Occupied' in the area by the north door.

*Will I be on the live stream service?*

Although the broadcast will centre on the priest, readers and intercessor it may be that your image appears within shot and is broadcast? If you would prefer NOT to be included please speak to the Vicar before the Sunday you intend coming to worship. Please do not turn up at the door and ask then.

*What if someone is taken ill a couple of days after the service?*

We will be keeping a record of those who attend worship [keeping details for 3 weeks] so that if someone is taken ill so we can assist in tracing those who will have to self-isolate.

### **PRIVATE PRAYER, WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS AND FUNERALS**

At this time St Saviour's remains closed for Private Prayer although funerals, weddings and baptisms could take place there. St Mary's and St Wystan's are open daily from 10.00 – 6.00pm for private prayer.

**FUNERALS - PLEASE NOTE:** Now that church funerals are permissible when one is booked we will have to keep the church closed all that day. This is to allow for deep cleaning before and after the service.

**BAPTISMS AND WEDDINGS** These are now possible but with restrictions on numbers attending and clear guidelines on what is permissible. If you wish to arrange either then please contact us with your enquiry.

### **SUNDAY SERMONS**

Continue to be posted on Facebook for St Wystan's and St Mary's if you wish to catch up.

### **CHURCHYARDS**

Thank you to everyone who has been helping to keep all the churchyards in our Benefice in good condition. Without many people each doing their bit – and some doing more than their bit!! – we would not have kept on top of them.

