

The Benefice of Foremark and Repton with Newton Solney

Fifth Sunday of Easter - 10th May 2020

Readings

Sunday 10th May

Genesis 8: 1-19

The account of Noah sending out the raven and the dove to see if land had appeared sufficiently for the Ark to be unloaded.

Acts 7: 55 – end

Stephen, a good and holy man, is stoned to death by people who can't bear to hear the truth he tells them

John 14: 1 - 14

At a time of betrayal, infidelity and fear, Jesus tells the disciples not to be afraid, and together they explore what this means.



Daily Reading Sunday 10th to Saturday 16th May

Sunday 10th May (5th Sunday of Easter)

Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16, Genesis 8:1-19, Acts 7:55-60, John 14:1-14

Monday 11th May

Psalms 145, Numbers 9:15-23; 10:33-36, Luke 4:38-44

Tuesday 12th May

Psalms 19, Numbers 11:1-33, Luke 5:1-11

Wednesday 13th May

Psalms 30, Numbers 12, Luke 5:12-26

Thursday 14th May (Mathias the Apostle)

Psalms 16, 1 Samuel 2:27-35, Acts 2:37-47

Friday 15th May

Psalms 138, Numbers 14:1-25, Luke 6:1-11

Saturday 16th May

Psalms 146, Numbers 14:26-45, Luke 6:12-26

Collect

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen

Dear Everyone

As I write we await news from the Prime Minister and from the Archbishop about possible easing of lockdown and opening up of churches.

However, as far as we know at present our Sunday communion service and weekday prayer services on Zoom will continue for a while yet.

Those who have been part of those services have spoken of the benefits they have experienced. I would like to encourage many more of you to join us.

If you do not use the internet and would like to phone in then instructions are given in full below.

Online, using Zoom is very easy- you simply need to download Zoom from the internet – a very straightforward thing to do – just visit their website. Then all you need is to let me know that you want to join us and I can forward you an invite and an order of service – and if I am unavailable so can Nick Parish, Stephen Longden and Ruth Attwood. Blessings Martin

FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

We pray for 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.

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

For those serving God, here and abroad: Nick Parish training for ordination and Sarah Attwood in Bosnia - you can catch up with her news with a video and interview shared with a supporting church in Derby last week by watching their service here:

<https://www.facebook.com/WoodlandsEvangelicalChurch/videos/1646778142163417/> If you just want to see Sarah's bit, you can skip forward to 15 minutes in.

Those in need of long & short-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, Mary & Ben Bassett, Ben Swoyer.

Prayer requests: Nazanin & family, Robin Nelson, Carl Baker, 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: Robert Hartwright, Sue Watkinson, Edward Hickman (a relative of Hazel Cook), Mary Binns and their families and friends who mourn them.

OUR COMMUNION SERVICE – IS WEEKLY If you would like to join myself [the Vicar] the staff team and some others from our congregations for a communion service on Sundays at 9.00am – then David Fergus will be celebrating Communion in his home [I am not allowed to as I do not have anyone else in the Vicarage and there has to be another person present]. We will be linking up just before 9.00 so that we can start the service on time. Do remember to ask for a copy of the Order of Service as well.

DAILY PRAYER - I and others are committed to saying Daily Prayer on weekday mornings 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.

We will not be saying prayers on Saturday mornings as that is my day 'off' for the foreseeable future. Martin

NOT ONLINE? YOU CAN STILL WORSHIP WITH US.

If you do not use a computer or smart phone **then please know** that we are praying each day for you, for the Benefice, for the world.

FAR BETTER STILL 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 #**

A DEEP THOUGHT

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a German evangelical pastor, theologian, anti-Nazi dissident. His writings on Christianity's role in the secular world have become widely influential. Bonhoeffer was known for his staunch resistance to Nazi dictatorship, including vocal opposition to Hitler's persecution of the Jews. He was arrested by the Gestapo and imprisoned eventually being hanged in Flossenbürg concentration camp just 3 weeks before the end of the war. Here is something he wrote that speaks to many of us at this time of lockdown and separation:

Nothing can fill the gap when we are away from those we love, and it would be wrong to try and find anything. We must simply hold out and win through. That sounds very hard at first, but at the same time it is a great consolation, since leaving the gap unfilled preserves the bonds between us. It is nonsense to say that God fills the gap; He does not fill it, but keeps it empty so that our communion with another may be kept alive, even at the cost of pain.

A PRAYER FROM CHRISTIAN AID FOR THE CHURCH

May your love that never fails
strengthen the weak,
encourage the fearful,
calm the anxious,
heal the sick
through your church –
your washed hands and feet on earth –
distant but still present,
virtual but still connected,
apart but still helping.
God in your mercy,
hear our prayer. Amen

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK GOES DIGITAL

This year, Christian Aid Week takes place from 10 - 16 May. Since 1957, the week has brought communities together in action and prayer. Whilst the coronavirus pandemic means that Christian Aid Week 2020 will be different, churches across the diocese are being invited to stand in solidarity with the world's most vulnerable people in new and innovative ways.

With daily quizzes and live-streamed worship, supporters can be involved from their own homes and could also take part in the 300,000 steps in May challenge which will be run through Facebook or send an electronic donation envelope - an 'e-envelope' – to friends and family.

>> [Visit the Christian Aid Week website for more info, resources and to get involved](#)

Our way of saying Thank You to the NHS



Volunteers from The Maple Tree and Repton Community have put together a Lockdown Cookbook - a selection of delicious bakes and tasty recipes that can easily be made during Lockdown, including a 'Lush No Flour Chocolate Cake' courtesy of the celebrity cook, Tom Kerridge.

The book has been beautifully illustrated by Amy Gaunt of The Repton Design Company and is now on sale. You can buy it at Repton Post Office also from 9 Main Street, Repton by dropping your name and address with cash through the letterbox or online at <https://lifeafterforty.wixsite.com/repton-community/community-cookbook>

It makes a lovely gift to send to family and friends to let them know you are thinking of them.

If you order online there is a Post and Packing facility.

WE HOPE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE TO HELP
ALL THOSE IN THE NHS WHO ARE WORKING SO TIRELESSLY ON OUR BEHALF
THANK YOU!

THE VICAR'S SUNDAY SERMONS

These are now posted on Facebook for St Wystan's and St Mary's if you wish to catch up.

THE VILLAGE NEWS MAGAZINE – DO YOU WANT/NEED A HARD COPY

As you will be aware The Village News is now online www.thevillagenews.org.uk . If you want the Magazine emailed to you each month there is a subscribe button at the bottom of the page where all you have to do is enter your email address?

If you need or prefer a hard copy then please let the Vicar know. We have managed to distribute 160 copies of the May Magazine and have the capacity to do more – so please contact Martin if you would like a back issue of May or to be ready for the June issue.

REPTON OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND

The Open Gardens Committee has decided to cancel this year's Open Gardens event which was due to take place over the weekend of 13th and 14th June 2020. We had hoped to rearrange it for the end of August but under the circumstances have decided it would not be possible so with regret we must cancel for this year. The gardens are looking spectacular as we all have more time to be in them so we are sorry not to be able to share them with others. We look forward to arranging next year's programme.

Repton Open Gardens Committee

YOUR FUNERAL

At the risk of getting morbid, Covid19 has made us more aware of our vulnerability and the possibility that we could die. Even if we do not at this time it is inevitable that we will one day. We are encouraged to write wills to make things easier for our loved ones when we have gone. A similar thing we can do is to share our wishes for our funerals. From my experience I know how much more meaningful [and easier] it is for families if they know, for instance, what hymns you want sung. To help you in this I have acquired some leaflets published by the Church of England. These are easy to follow guides to encourage you to write down your wishes. Written for more 'normal' times we would not necessarily be able to fulfil all your wishes if your funeral is during this pandemic – but they would help guide us both at that service and at a memorial service in the future. If you would like a copy of the leaflet or a link for the online resource please let me know. Vicar Martin.

THE DEATH OF LOVED ONES – A 'HOME' FUNERAL

A couple of weeks ago we printed in the newsletter a short act of remembering and reflection to be used at home at the time of a funeral. Please remember you have access to this if you are talking to family or friends who have lost loved ones – they may not be aware of the possibility of using this at the time of a funeral they are not allowed to attend – and you could help them a lot by suggesting it. The link for the Document is:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-03/Funerals%20liturgy%20at%20home%20public.pdf>

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A PHONECALL MAKES

All of us are isolated in one way or another, some more than others. It is amazing what a difference a phone call can make. May I encourage you to phone other members of the congregation as well as family and friends – it will brighten up their day no end.

NEW DEAN FOR DERBY CATHEDRAL ANNOUNCED

In case you haven't seen, Derby Cathedral has announced The Venerable Peter Robinson as the next Dean of Derby. Peter has been the Archdeacon of Lindisfarne in the Diocese of Newcastle since 2008 and is very much looking forward to an exciting new chapter in his ministry in what will be an equally exciting, though challenging, time for Derby Cathedral.