

The Benefice of Foremark and Repton with Newton Solney

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity - 30th August 2020

Daily Readings Sunday 30th August to Saturday 5th September

Sunday 30th August (12th Sunday after Trinity)

Jeremiah 15: 15 - 21

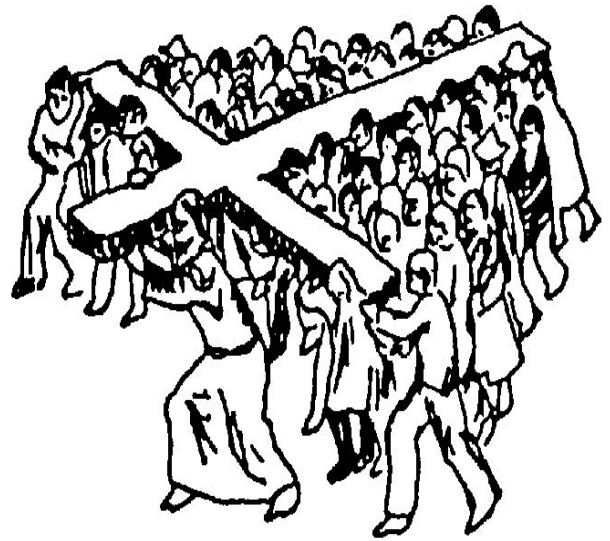
The prophet Jeremiah is suffering and asks the Lord to come near. The Lord promises to deliver him from wickedness.

Romans 12: 9 – end

Paul urges his readers to live a truly Christian lifestyle, blessing their persecutors, feeding their enemies and overcoming evil with good.

Matthew 16: 21 – end

Jesus has tough words for his disciples concerning his own fate. When Peter objects, Jesus responds that his followers must follow in his steps and take up their cross.



Monday 31st August

Psalm 101, 2 Samuel 11, Acts 8:26-40

Tuesday 1st September

Psalm 103, 2 Samuel 12:1-25, Acts 9:1-19a

Wednesday 2nd September

Psalm 112, 2 Samuel 15:1-12, Acts 9:19b-31

Thursday 3rd September

Psalm 113, 2 Samuel 15:13-37, Acts 9:32-43

Friday 4th September

Psalm 139, 2 Samuel 16:1-14, Acts 10:1-16

Saturday 5th September

Psalm 120, 2 Samuel 17:1-23, Acts 10:17-33

Collect

Almighty God,
in whose service lies perfect freedom:
teach us to obey you
with loving hearts and steadfast wills;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

FOR OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

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, Joan Taylor, Colin Campbell, Robin Nelson, Carl Baker.

Prayer requests: Nazanin & family, Alex Murchie, George Paley, 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, R.I.P.: Marie Cleland (Sarah Attwood's friend in Bosnia) and her family and friends who mourn her.

WE NEED HELP – ESPECIALLY with cleaning the church at 3.00pm on Saturdays.
Sidespeople will clean after the service on Sunday. There will be some general cleaning but will primarily involve wiping the pews and touch points etc with special wipes.
If you can help please contact Virginia Davis 702762 or virginiardavis@yahoo.co.uk

If we do not get more offers of help to clean we will have to close the Church all Friday and Saturday before our service. Without enough sidespeople who are essential to our safely holding worship we may have to cancel a service.

The Vicar and Church Wardens

**BENEFICE SUNDAY WORSHIP AT ST WYSTAN'S
10.00am on SUNDAY August 30TH**

IF YOU CAN'T ATTEND ON THE 30TH OR CHOOSE NOT TO

We have Wifi installed in church. This means everyone can join in via Zoom – either with video via your computer/ipad/iphone – or by telephone as some have done with our existing services.

To use Zoom via computer or telephone you need to:

Ask Rebecca our Administrator 07817997419 or de656fh@gmail.com for a copy of the Order of Service and the invite to Zoom you require to log in via internet or phone.

You can also listen to previous sermons on YouTube by searching for St Wystan's Church Repton.

IF YOU WISH TO COME TO WORSHIP ON THE 30TH

There is no need to let us know you intend coming this week.

[Please do not assume this is the case each week but check the announcement here.]

It is now mandatory that people wear masks all the time in church.

Leaders of worship, including readers and intercessors may remove their masks when appropriately distanced from people.

The informative document '**WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT WHEN YOU COME TO WORSHIP ON SUNDAY MORNING**' is available - if you need a copy ask the Vicar or Rebecca.

Our **Risk Assessment for Worship** - available from Virginia Davis on 702762 or virginiardavis@yahoo.co.uk

ST MARY'S [EVERY DAY] & ST WYSTAN'S [WEEK DAYS] ARE OPEN FOR PRAYER 10.00 – 6.00PM.

St Wystan's is open on saturdays 10.00AM – 3.00pm the church will be cleaned and set up ready for Sunday Worship.

On **Sundays** it will be closed after the service to allow for cleaning and then be open for prayer from **12.00 until 6.00pm.**

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 Rebecca for a copy of the service order and a Zoom link.

SUNDAY SERMONS

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

FROM BISHOP LIBBY

In the midst of our own Covid – 19 turmoil, it is all too easy to become insular and self-concerned individually and as a society. That can be true of the Church as an institution, and our own local churches, too.

So, I've tried not to become too absorbed with the internal pressures of the Church that I've become blind and deaf to the terrible additional suffering some face in this pandemic. I've been very troubled to see and read, over the past couple of weeks, about the rise in deaths among those trying to reach the UK across the English Channel. You may recall the heart-breaking recent story of the teenage boy from Sudan who was washed up on the French coast after the makeshift boat he was in capsized.

The Children's Society (you will recall that I am Vice-Chair of Trustees) works with many of the refugee and asylum-seeking children who do reach our shores. We are aware that the immense additional financial and social pressure during this pandemic make generous humane response to such children and their families more difficult, as services are disrupted and reduced for everyone.

There are others facing additional suffering, of course, in all sorts of circumstances. My prayer is that we do not harden our hearts, but risk being open to the merciful and just work of the Holy Spirit: that our response and engagement, therefore, stretches our hearts to include all within the love of Christ – and, no matter how tough our own situation, we do not close ourselves off from the suffering of others. +Libby

A prayer for refugees

Almighty and merciful God,

whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own;

look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger,
homeless and hungry.

Bless those who work to bring them relief;

inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts;

and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SINGING IN CHURCH UPDATE - Cof E and RSCM await results of study into singing safety

The CofE and RSCM will await updated guidance on singing in places of worship after findings of a Government-backed study were published. The research project, known as "PERFORM", published its findings on Thursday, having set out to measure aerosol production from humans.

It measured singing, speaking and breathing in a zero-background environment which linked aerosol production to specific vocalisations. Researchers reported a steep rise in aerosol mass with increase in the loudness of the singing and speaking, rising by as much as a factor of 20-30. However, it was also found that singing does not produce substantially more aerosol than speaking at a similar volume.

In June, the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, who leads the CofE Recovery group, called for a proactive approach to the safe resumption of singing in churches and cathedrals.

Since last week, it has been permissible for choirs to resume singing with appropriate distancing, although congregational singing is not yet allowed. It is not yet known how Government guidance will be amended in light of the study.

WHAT BECAME OF THE APOSTLES

In Sunday's sermon I mention the Apostles mostly dying for their faith. Here is an account:

Peter and Paul Both martyred in Rome about 66 AD, during the persecution under Emperor Nero. Paul was beheaded. Peter was crucified, upside down at his request, since he did not feel he was worthy to die in the same manner as his Lord.

Andrew went to the "land of the man-eaters," in what is now the Soviet Union. Christians there claim him as the first to bring the gospel to their land. He also preached in Asia Minor, modern-day Turkey, and in Greece, where he is said to have been crucified.

Thomas was probably most active in the area east of Syria. Tradition has him preaching as far east as India, where the ancient Marthoma Christians revere him as their founder. They claim that he died there when pierced through with the spears of four soldiers.

Philip possibly had a powerful ministry in Carthage in North Africa and then in Asia Minor, where he converted the wife of a Roman proconsul. In retaliation he had Philip arrested and cruelly put to death.

Matthew the tax collector and writer of a Gospel ministered in Persia and Ethiopia. Some of the oldest reports say he was not martyred, while others say he was stabbed to death in Ethiopia.

Bartholomew had widespread missionary travels attributed to him by tradition: to India with Thomas, back to Armenia, and also to Ethiopia and Southern Arabia. There are various accounts of how he met his death as a martyr for the gospel.

James the son of Alphaeus is one of at least three James referred to in the New Testament. There is some confusion as to which is which, but this James is reckoned to have ministered in Syria. The Jewish historian Josephus reported that he was stoned and then clubbed to death.

Simon the Zealot appears to have ministered in Persia and was killed for refusing to sacrifice to a sun god.

Matthias The apostle who replaced Judas. Tradition has him in Syria with Andrew and to death by burning.

John The only one of the apostles generally thought to have died a natural death from old age. He was the leader of the church in the Ephesus area and is said to have taken care of Mary the mother of Jesus in his home. During Domitian's persecution in the middle '90s, he was exiled to the island of Patmos. There he is credited with writing the last book of the New Testament--the Revelation. An early Latin tradition has him escaping unhurt after being cast into boiling oil at Rome.

ECUMENICAL COVID PRAYERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

We bear witness to our faith, knowing that we are called to lives of courage, love, and reconciliation.

In the ordinary and extraordinary moments of each day, may we be courageous today. May we learn today. May we love today. Amen.

Corymeela Community, Northern Ireland

GOOD NEWS/INSPIRATIONS

SAMRAGI HAS WRITTEN

I have just completed the 'Couch to 5k Challenge'. I started this challenge as lockdown began and it has kept me going. I can now run 30 mins (5k in distance) without breaks. I never imagined I could do this, running 60 seconds was hard not so long ago. Last year I walked well over my target of 100 miles and this year the aim is to run 100 miles. Just wanted to share this with you!

A VERY GENEROUS DONATION

May I on behalf of us all at St Wistan's, offer a heart felt thank you to Meri Braziel for a donation towards our mission and ministry of £10,000. It truly was an answer to prayer as this timely donation made it possible for us to install the wifi and streaming equipment so badly needed in Church. The remaining amount will fund other initiatives yet to be decided on. Thank you Meri and God bless you.

IT IS GOOD.....

It is good that we can keep St Mary's and Wistan's open. Cathy and David Fergus returned this week and wrote to me in an email.... *We have just returned from Devon and we were surprised that the vast majority of Churches down there are still firmly shut - no visitors and no services.* We should continue to pray for all churches that are not in such a fortunate position as we ourselves.

COVID19 GROUP

Some of the monies donated to the Community Covid19 Group have been spent on providing the opportunity for primary school children to have a 'boost' before returning to school. On Tuesday and Thursday morning this week the Village Hall saw volunteer teachers working with 2/3 children getting them engaging and learning in a more formal setting. For some of the children this was their first such activity since lockdown – and they all seemed to enjoy it.