

Thoughts and Prayers for the Week

Sunday 5th June 2022

Day of Pentecost, Whit Sunday

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father,
ignite in us your fire;
strengthen your children
with the gift of faith,
revive your Church with
the breath of love,
and renew the face of the earth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Readings for the Jubilee:
Psalm 121
Readings for the Pentecost:
Genesis 11:1-9
Acts 1: 1-21
John 14: 17 [25-27]



Reflection

Last Thursday was Ascension Day when we thought about Jesus ascending into heaven, physically leaving this world. In our reading in John Chapter 17 Jesus is praying for his disciples. He knows he is going away soon to be arrested and crucified, but it is his friends he is praying for not himself. His prayers are not just for his friends and disciples but for us as well and all who have come to believe through their witness.

Our reading in Revelations Chapter 22 is not about leaving but the exact opposite. In verse 12, Jesus says "Listen I am coming soon, I am the first and the last, the beginning and the end". We are told we will not know the time when Jesus will return. It could be tomorrow or a hundred years away but we are told to be ready. I suppose most of us don't give much thought to the Second Coming. We are too busy with life but we do need to be ready.

There are many things in our everyday lives that we have to be prepared for. Different preparations are needed to fit different occasions. If you are preparing for a holiday you may need to buy tickets or get the car serviced but certainly you will need to pack a case or a bag.

If you are sitting an exam you will need to study. If you are having visitors you might give the house an extra clean and bake a cake. But how do you prepare for the coming of Jesus? "Be ready," he said, "the Son of man will come at an hour when you are not expecting him" But how can we be ready? What do we need to do? What will Jesus expect of us, what will he hope to find when he returns?

I thought back to one Easter when my husband David was still alive and we lived at Melton Constable. It was



Good Friday and we had been to two services. When we arrived home we changed into our old clothes and went outside to stack wood in the barn. We had decided not to shop but to manage with what was in the house, no fresh bread no fresh meat. As we worked the phone rang and our daughter-in-law asked "Can we come and stay." I said "of course, when?" "Now" she said. "Are you at home?" I asked (they lived in Edinburgh). "Oh no" she said, "we are just outside Norwich."

We stood there in our old clothes covered in sawdust, with a half-empty fridge. But we were thrilled, we loved them so much and they were coming to stay. The spare room was always kept ready with the bed was made-up. Within the hour they had arrived bringing Pizza, Fresh Bread, Salad and a Bottle of wine. I am sure any of you who have children who live far away will understand the joy of seeing them so unexpectedly.

Jesus will not come with a clip board and a list of forms to fill in. My friends, I think that this is what we need to have ready when he comes – a welcome in our hearts – room in our lives - and he will bring the blessing.

~June Cutting~

Let us continue to support and strengthen each other

- ◇ Daily, by saying The Lord’s Prayer together, morning and evening
- ◇ Lighting a candle at home 10.00am on Sunday if we are unable to come to church

Our Services:

Sunday 5th Jun 2022 Pentecost Whit Sunday	9:30am Queen’s Jubilee Celebration Service	Hardwick Church
	10:00am Queen’s Jubilee Celebration Service	Bedingham Church
	11:00am Queen’s Jubilee Celebration Service	Topcroft Church
	11:00am Queen’s Jubilee Celebration Service	Hempnall Church
	11:15am Queen’s Jubilee Celebration Service	Morningthorpe Church
	4:00pm Family Praise	Hempnall Church
Sunday 12th Jun 2022 Trinity Sunday	9:30am Morning Prayer in the Methodist Tradition	Hempnall Church
	11:00am Eucharist	Fritton Church

This week we pray for:

- ◇ In the morning: the day and its tasks; the world and its needs; the Church and her life
- ◇ God’s royal priesthood, for empowerment by the Spirit
- ◇ Those who wait on God, that they may find renewal
- ◇ All people, that they may acknowledge the kingdom of the ascended Christ
- ◇ The earth, for productivity and for fruitful harvests
- ◇ All who are struggling with broken relationships
- ◇ In the evening: peace; individuals and their needs

WE REMEMBER:

Martin, Molly, Dennis, Ian, Vievenne, Pauline

Hempnall: Lesley and family,
Phillip, Sophie

Bedingham/Woodton:
Sheila, Hilary, Peter, Liz, Anne, Chris,

Topcroft: Gerald, Jane

LONG TERM CARE:

Bedingham /Woodton:
Dennis, Shirley, Jacob, Myrtle, Rudolph
Fritton/Morningthorpe: Beryl



RECENTLY DIED:

Lawrence Taylor, April Wright

Food Bank

Items for our Food Bank are still needed; we are very grateful to all who continue to contribute during this difficult time.

Our next collections will be on:

Sunday 5th June 2022. Any items can be left at Hempnall Church Office Mon-Thu, 9am-12:30pm.

Please phone before arrival – 498157

URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS

UHT MILK, MEAT SPREAD, SMALL COFFEE,
FRUIT JUICE, PASTA SAUCE, SAUCE FOR
RICE, TINNED FRUIT, SUGAR, CUSTARD,
BISCUITS

NO PEANUT BUTTER PLEASE

HYGIENE—MALE & FEMALE DEODORANT
ANIMALS—DOG, RABBIT & GUINEA PIG
FOOD (NOT CAT)

Please ring us if you need:

Liz Billett –Team Vicar 07891 854219

Group Office: Mon-Thurs 9am-12.30pm

01508 498157

Email: hempnallgroup.office@btinternet.com

