

# Thoughts and Prayers for the Week

## Sunday 12th June 2022



### Trinity Sunday

Holy God,  
faithful and unchanging:  
enlarge our minds with the  
knowledge of your truth,  
and draw us more deeply into  
the mystery of your love,  
that we may truly worship you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
One God, now and for ever.  
Amen.



### Readings for the Week:

Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31

Psalm 8

Romans 5: 1-5

John 16: 12-15

### Thought for the week

If any good can emerge from the nightmare in Ukraine, it is that humanity's love is more powerful than weapons of destruction. Remember Enniskillen, N Ireland conflict, 1987? Gordon Wilson and daughter Marie were at a Remembrance Day service when a terrorist bomb killed Marie and nine others. Gordon forgave the terrorists. He said he'd pray for them and also begged that no-one avenge her death. "That", he said, "will not bring her back." He insisted that the terrorists be punished, but in the midst of utter devastation, when a normal reaction might have been to seek revenge, he forgave and prayed for them. For the rest of his life, he campaigned tirelessly for peace.

The Gospel reading Luke Ch.7:36-50, Ch.8: 1-3 is a similar illustration of Christian love. The strict Pharisees of the time couldn't understand Christ's "Love one another, as I love you." They'd known nothing other than obedience to God's law because in return they knew that God would be good to them. So, forgiving one another as equals?.... even those you don't like?.... or inviting another off the street to share your hospitality? Jesus knew he was justified when those judged by Jewish society as outcasts showed faith in him.

Luke tells of a prostitute who walks directly off the street into Simon the Pharisee's house. His guests are respectable and, of course, all male, Jesus amongst them. Suddenly a woman bursts in, not respectable, and so not welcome. Simon, full of himself and knowing who she is, can find no compassion or forgiveness. The possibility doesn't enter his head. Contrast his behaviour with the woman's. The tears with which she bathes Jesus's feet are tears, not of sorrow, but of repentance and overwhelming relief. She's heard of Jesus, may have heard him preach, and she knows that God is offering her a chance to start again. Her actions outrage the guests, but for her it's simply gratitude for the forgiveness she knew he would grant. Her faith was



enough to say sorry, and God gave her the courage to walk in, defying public scorn, and give thanks. God gives us, not tests or trials, but love. When we accept that love, as children of God we commit to share it with our neighbours, known and unknown.

~Michael Pennington~

### Prayer for the week

*Set our hearts on fire with love for you, O Christ,  
that in its flame we may love you,  
with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our  
soul, and with all our strength,  
and our neighbours as ourselves,  
so that, keeping your commandments,  
we may glorify you,  
the giver of all good gifts.*

**(Eastern Orthodox Church)**

**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:**

<b>Sunday 12th Jun 2022</b> <b>Trinity Sunday</b>	<b>9:30am   Morning Prayer in the Methodist Tradition</b>	<b>Hempnall Church</b>
	<b>11:00am   Eucharist</b>	<b>Fritton Church</b>
<b>Sunday 19th Jun 2022</b> <b>1st Sunday after Trinity</b> <b>Proper 7</b>	<b>9:30am   Eucharist</b>	<b>Bedingham Church</b>
	<b>11:00am   Morning Prayer in the Iona Tradition</b>	<b>Shelton Church</b>

**This week we pray for:**

- ◇ In the morning: the day and its tasks; the world and its needs; the Church and her life
- ◇ The universal Church
- ◇ Bishops, synods and all who lead the Church
- ◇ The leaders of the nations
- ◇ The natural world and the resources of the earth
- ◇ All who are in any kind of need
- ◇ In the evening: peace; individuals and their needs

**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 2nd July 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)

**WE REMEMBER:**

Martin, Molly, Dennis, Ian, Vienne, 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



If you would like to support this charity there are plenty of virtual or real things to buy. Below are just three examples:



Helpful Hoe



Marvellous Mud



Little Donkey

Or if you prefer you could help us reach our Group Target of 8 gardens (£480) by making a donation.

Please send cheques (payable to the Hempnall Group of Churches) to:

Group Office, The Rectory, The Street, Hempnall, NR15 2AD  
or if you prefer you can pay by Bacs to the Group fund to:

Account Name: Hempnall Group of Churches  
Account No.: 00346438  
Sort Code: 12-09-25  
Reference: Garden TWINNING

For more information please see the Send a Cow website:  
<https://sendacow.org/how-it-works>

**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](mailto:hempnallgroup.office@btinternet.com)**