

Thoughts and Prayers for the Week

Sunday 26th June 2022

2nd Sunday after Trinity

Faithful Creator,
whose mercy never fails:
deepen our faithfulness to you
and to your living Word,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Readings for the Week:

1 Kings 19: 5-16, 19-21

Psalm 16

Galatians 5: 1, 13-25

Luke 9: 51-62



Thought for the week

'I'm still standing...'

Last week – along with over 20,000 others – I was at Carrow Road to see Elton John on the first British leg of his long-running, worldwide Farewell Tour. It was a great evening. The crowd was multi-generational: I was far from the oldest and some entire families had come along together, from grandparents to grandkids. People dressed up: there were sequins and swan feathers in abundance, along with lots of outsize specs! All were invited and encouraged to dance in front of our seats – ‘just keep out of the aisles’ – and nearly everyone did. Elton and his band were ‘joyful’, ‘majestic’, ‘triumphant’, to quote The Guardian review. As, together, we celebrated the tremendous back-catalogue of hits, so were we all.

And yet, while we enjoyed the nostalgia, we were also aware of some changes, mostly wrought by the passage of time. The stamina involved in delivering a non-stop show of 2.5 hours was considerable but Elton’s days of jumping around on stage are long gone. His voice remains strong but he can no longer ‘go high’. So, instead, he goes low, sometimes dropping an octave for contrast; or the original musical score is modified to let instruments (eg slide guitars) crescendo as once his voice would have done. It’s different – but it works.

In short, he and his band have adjusted. They perform – very impressively – in the spirit of the original, rather than in its exact form because that is no longer practicable. They have gone for ‘what works’ and they have made it fresh.



'I'm still standing' (written by Elton John and Bernie Taupin, 1983). Photo – Ben Gibson for media. 'Have no fear' by Father Felix Just at <<https://catholic-resources.org/Bible/HaveNoFear.htm>>

We all do that to some extent as circumstances change. Sometimes consciously and sometimes not – and with varying degrees of enthusiasm – we find ‘work arounds’, we make alterations and try out some new things.

And that’s what we’re going to be doing here in the Hempnall Group after Liz’s coming retirement, seeking to retain the essence of our community of faith in this place while knowing that some things will be different and that we cannot replicate exactly what has gone before. Liz has prepared us well to move into a new phase. Let’s retain and build on the confidence she has given us.

And as we pray, asking for God’s guidance and support, let’s also remember that the most commonly repeated phrase in the Bible, in both the Old Testament and the New Testament, is ‘Fear not!’ or ‘Have no fear!’ or ‘Do not be afraid!’ May that inspire us.

~Liam Pilgrim~

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 26th Jun 2022 2nd Sunday after Trinity | 9:30am Eucharist | Woodton Church |
| | 11:00am Morning Prayer | Topcroft Church |
| | 6:00pm Evening Prayer | Via Zoom |
| Sunday 3rd Jul 2022 3rd Sunday after Trinity | 11:00 am Group Eucharist | Hempnall Church |
| | 4:00pm Family Praise | Hempnall Church |

This week we pray for:

- ◇ In the morning: the day and its tasks; the world and its needs; the Church and her life
- ◇ All who are sick in body, mind or spirit
- ◇ Those in the midst of famine or disaster
- ◇ Victims of abuse and violence, intolerance and prejudice
- ◇ Those who are bereaved
- ◇ All who work in the medical and healing professions
- ◇ 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 3rd 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 DEODRANT
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

WE REMEMBER:

Martin, Molly, Dennis, Ian, 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:

April Wright, Robert Gray, Vieviene Miller

