

# Thoughts and Prayers for the Week

## Sunday 2nd October 2022



### Collect

Animals, birds, reptiles,  
humankind, all creatures,  
we are called and loved by  
God the Father,  
and kept safe by Jesus Christ.  
Love and peace and  
joy be ours in abundance,  
from God the Father,  
Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen

### Psalm 104: Verse 26

Oh Lord, how manifold  
are your works!  
In wisdom you have  
made them all;  
the earth is full  
of your creatures.

## Our daily bread.....

We all seem to like bread - to such an extent that it is said, 'If you want to sell your house, make sure a loaf of bread is just coming out of the oven when the viewer arrives.'

It is not surprising that we read so much about it in the Bible, where it is mentioned 360 times. New Testament references include a little boy's lunch, the parable of the man going to his neighbour for bread and, right in the middle of the Lord's Prayer, 'Give us this day our daily bread.' Most importantly, we have the breaking of bread at The Lord's Supper.

Bread was the staple food in Palestine, so basic that everyone would have known what Jesus was talking about. When Jesus said, 'I am the bread of life', he could not have found a more powerful way to explain that he was the source and sustainer of spiritual life. Material bread sustains physical life. Jesus is saying that we shall never find true satisfaction if we focus on that. Jesus is the true bread that comes from heaven. In him we have everything we need in this life and in the life to come.

What a blessing when we can share bread together in communion. I remember some time ago, at a conference, the joy of making bread in the morning and sharing it together in the evening. What a privilege.

We should pay more attention to bread in our everyday lives as this lovely verse suggests:

*Be gentle when you touch bread,  
Let it not lie uncared for, unwanted.  
So often bread is taken for granted.  
There is so much beauty in bread,  
Beauty of sun and soil, beauty of patient toil.  
Winds and rain have caressed it,  
Christ so often blessed it;  
Be gentle when you touch bread.*

*(Verse attributed to Rev David Adam (1936-2020), a former miner, Rector of Lindisfarne and Canon of York Minster.)*



Rev Nigel Collinson, a Methodist Minister, tells a moving story of receiving a gift at the end of a service in a prison chapel - a small model, beautifully crafted and painted, of a woodland scene, about the size of a paperback. The young man who made it explained that it was made of bread: 'We have five rounds a day and I do not eat them all. So I have made the model out of the bread I did not eat, baked it hard on the pipes that run through my cell, stuck the pieces together, painted them...and it's for you.' Nigel says, 'The model sits on my bookshelves. It is a reminder of daily bread, not thrown away, but changed in strange circumstances by the hidden grace of God.'

~Trixie Dye~

*(abstracted from her reflection at Hempnall Group Zoom service on 25th September 2022)*

**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 2nd Oct 2022</b> <b>Celebrating with all the Animals</b>	<b>10:00am   Group Service ‘Celebrating with the Animals’</b>	<b>Bedingham Church</b>
	<b>4:00pm   Family Praise</b>	<b>Hempnall Church</b>
<b>Sunday 9th Oct 2022</b> <b>17th Sun after Trinity</b>	<b>10:00am   Group Eucharist</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 October 2022. Any items can be left at Hempnall Church Office Mon-Thu, 9am-12:30pm.**

**Please phone before arrival – 01508 498157**

**URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS**

SUGAR, UHT FRUIT JUICE, INSTANT MASH

NO PEANUT BUTTER PLEASE

HYGIENE—MALE & FEMALE DEODORANT

ANIMALS—DOG, RABBIT & GUINEA PIG FOOD (NOT CAT)

**WE REMEMBER:**

Martin, Molly, Dennis, Ian

**Hempnall:** Lesley and family,  
Phillip, Sophie

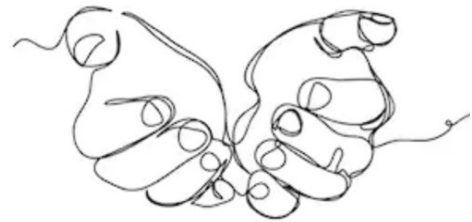
**Bedingham/Woodton:**  
Sheila, Hilary, Peter, Liz, Anne, Chris, Barrie

**Topcroft:** Gerald

**LONG TERM CARE:**

**Bedingham /Woodton:**  
Dennis, Shirley, Jacob, Myrtle, Rudolph

**Fritton/Morningthorpe:** Beryl



**Please ring us if you need:**

**Group Office: Mon-Thurs 9am-12.30pm**

**01508 498157**

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



"When we lose an animal species to extinction, we lose part of our family."

Anthony Douglas Williams – Inside the Divine Pattern

