

Thoughts and Prayers for the Week

Sunday 12th February 2023



2nd Sunday before Lent

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



Readings this week:

Genesis 1: 1-31

& Genesis 2: 1-3

Psalms 136: 1-9, [10-22], 23-26

Romans 8: 18-25

Matthew 6: 25-34

Thought for the week...

Genesis 1: 1-3

'In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light", and there was light.'

Light! Now is the time of year when Spring is coming, and the days are getting longer and the nights shorter. With all the unrest and strikes that we are suffering from at the moment it made me think back to the 1970's when we had no electricity on certain days and had to manage with oil lamps and candles. The following year when light was restored my three-year-old said, "Mummy, when are the lights going out?" He had grown accustomed to managing without light.

Light is wonderful! However, as in most things there is another side to it. I am sure that Spring cleaning began because when the light grew stronger the windows looked grubbier and the dust thicker. When you are driving a low sun in the sky can make it difficult to see. But at night we all feel safer with a light.

When I lived at Rackheath I ran the women's group and one day we had a very nice young policeman called Sergeant Hulse who came and talked to us. The first thing he said was, "to stay safe keep to where the street lights are". Everybody burst out



laughing. He looked at me and said, "You don't have any, do you"? No, we didn't but now after many years of dark country lanes I have a streetlight opposite my house.

Of course, you don't want light if you are doing something you shouldn't. I hope that all of us will lead our lives so that we would not be ashamed, because even if the world cannot see what we are doing the most important person can; our Lord Jesus Christ.

In John 8:12 Jesus tells us, "I am the light of the world. He who follows me will not walk in darkness but have the light of life".

~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 12th Feb 2023 2nd Sunday before Lent	10:00am Group Eucharist Revd Sue Hemsley Halls, Diocesan AWA Co-ordinator	Hardwick Church
Sunday 19th Feb 2023 Sunday next before Lent	10:00am Group Eucharist Bishop David Gillett, Retired Bishop of Bolton; Honorary Assistant Bishop, Diocese of Norwich	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
- ◇ The media and the arts
- ◇ Farming and fishing
- ◇ Commerce and industry
- ◇ Those whose work is unfulfilling, stressful or fraught with danger
- ◇ All who are unemployed
- ◇ In the evening: peace; individuals and their needs

PANCAKE PARTY | TUESDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2023

You are warmly invited to keep Shrove Tuesday by join us for a Pancake Party on **Tuesday 21st February at 7pm at Brooke Vicarage (NR15 1JU)**. There is no charge but donations to the Bishop's Lent Appeal will be welcomed. Please let us know you are coming by contacting Frances in the Hempnall Group Office (please see contact details below).

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 MARCH 2023 Any items can be left at Hempnall Church Office Mon-Thu, 9am-12:30pm. Please phone before arrival - 01508 498157

TURKEY AND SYRIA EARTHQUAKES: EMERGENCY APPEAL FOR HUMANITARIAN AID

In light of the terrible earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, there will be 'bucket' collections this Sunday (12th) and next (19th), at Hardwick and Hempnall churches respectively, for a Group contribution towards humanitarian aid through the Disasters Emergency Committee. Donations may also be passed on via Churchwardens/Designated Persons throughout the Group or at the Group Office or paid directly to the Group Bank account by BACS as follows:

Acc. Name: Hempnall Group of Churches
Acc. No.: 00346438
Sort Code: 12 09 25
Reference: EARTHQUAKE

WE REMEMBER:

Martin, Molly, Ian

Hempnall: Lesley and family,

Phillip, Sophie, Ross

Bedingham/Woodton:

Sheila, Hilary, Peter, Liz, Anne, Chris, Barrie, Carolyn, Kath, Bruce, Pat, Basil, Anthea

Topcroft: Gerald

LONG TERM CARE:

Bedingham /Woodton:

Dennis, Shirley, Jacob, Myrtle, Rudolph

Fritton/Morningthorpe: Beryl



RECENTLY DIED:

Sheila Burroughs

Please ring us if you need:

Group Office: Mon-Thurs 9am-12.30pm

01508 498157

Email: hempnallgroup.office@btinternet.com

