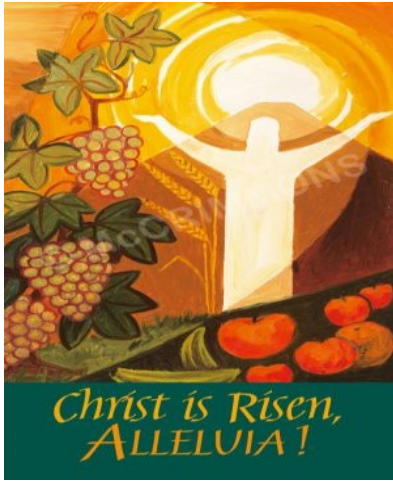


Thoughts and Prayers for the Week

Sunday 7th 2023



5th Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare
your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen



Readings this week:

Acts 7: 55-60
Psalm 31: 1-5, [15-16]
1 Peter 2: 2-10
John 14: 1-14

The Coronation

The Church of England has published a collection of daily prayers for use as we approach the Coronation of King Charles III and celebrate that event.

Here is a small selection, along with extracts from their accompanying reflections. The first two prayers are suggested for, respectively, the morning and afternoon of Coronation Day on Saturday. The third is for The King.



Praying for God's help

'We are always in need of God's help, whatever our endeavour. As we pray with the King on Coronation Day, let us also remember that all that we have, and all that we are, comes from the love of God. We pray that we may always hear and strive to take up God's invitation to be with him in our lives, and that we, together with the King, may receive grace to carry out what we are called to do.'

*Remember, O Lord,
what you have wrought in us
and not what we deserve,
and as you have called us to your service,
so make us worthy of our calling,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Celebrating Community

'Being part of a community is essential to human life. We find community in our friendships, families, colleagues and classmates, the places we live, and in our churches. Living in community helps shape our character and behaviours, and as a community of God we find our identity in how we grow in our faith together. Being a community of God is also about being a community of love, belonging and togetherness.'

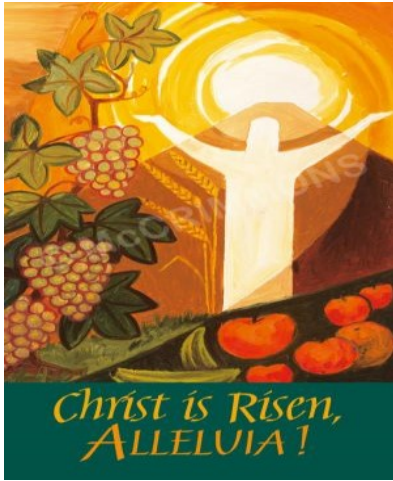
*Living God,
you bring us together in community
and teach us to love one another
as you have loved us.
May we become beacons of your light
in the communities in which we are set,
that through truth, justice and action
we may see your kingdom come upon earth,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

A Prayer for The King

*Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness,
bless our Sovereign Lord, King Charles,
and all who are in authority under him;
that they may order all things
in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace,
to the honour of your name,
and the good of your Church and people;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Thoughts and Prayers for the Week

Sunday 14th 2023



6th Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
by the lakeside you renewed
your call to your disciples:
help your Church to
obey your command
and draw the nations to
the fire of your love,
to the glory of God the Father
Amen



Readings this week:

Acts 17: 22-31

Psalms 66: 7-18

1 Peter 3: 13-22

John 14: 15-21

Thought for the week.....

There are many ways to read the bible. Cover to cover, book by book, chapter by chapter or just sitting with a particular passage that seems to resonate and connect with your experience.

One way of reading, is to do so slowly, thoughtfully, reading the passage again and seeing what phrase or verse stands out, then, staying with that verse or phrase, ask God what he may be saying and then just wait for his response.

This way of praying the bible has a long tradition first established by Benedict of Nursia in the 6th century. It is called Lectio Divina:

Try reading these verses this way:

Listening

During the first reading, gently look and listen for a word or phrase that attracts or draws your attention.

Pondering

During the second reading, ask yourself how or why does this word or phrase has touched your heart, why it is speaking to you at this moment in your life.

Praying

As you read the passage for the last time, ask God what he may be asking of you. What is it you may need to consider as a result of what God is saying to you in the word or phrase you noticed?

Waiting

In the quiet that follows the reading allow God to speak to you and plant this word in your heart.

Psalm 66:7-18

*⁷ He rules forever by his power,
his eyes watch the nations—
let not the rebellious rise up against him.*

*⁸ Praise our God, all peoples,
let the sound of his praise be heard;*

*⁹ he has preserved our lives
and kept our feet from slipping.*

*¹⁰ For you, God, tested us;
you refined us like silver.*

*¹¹ You brought us into prison
and laid burdens on our backs.*

*¹² You let people ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water,
but you brought us to a place of abundance.*

*¹³ I will come to your temple with burnt offerings
and fulfill my vows to you—*

*¹⁴ vows my lips promised and my mouth spoke
when I was in trouble.*

*¹⁵ I will sacrifice fat animals to you
and an offering of rams;
I will offer bulls and goats.*

*¹⁶ Come and hear, all you who fear God;
let me tell you what he has done for me.*

*¹⁷ I cried out to him with my mouth;
his praise was on my tongue.*

*¹⁸ If I had cherished sin in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened;*

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:

Friday 5 th May 2023	7:00pm Celebrate the Coronation	Hardwick Church
5 th Sunday of Easter 7 th May 2023	10:00am Group Eucharist Revd Charles Read (Diocesan Co-ordinator of Licensed Lay Ministry Training)	Woodton Church
	11:00am A Service of Thanksgiving and Celebration	Brooke Church
6 th Sunday of Easter 14 th May 2023	10:00am Book of Common Prayer Matins	Fritton Church
Thursday 18 th May 2023 Ascension Day	7:00pm Holy Communion A shared service with the Brooke Benefice to be held in Brooke Church	Brooke Church
7 th Sunday of Easter 21 st May 2023 Sunday after Ascension Day	10:00am Group Eucharist Revd Canon Barbara Bilston (Retired Clergy)	Topcroft Church
	4:00pm Book of Common Prayer Evensong (in place of normal monthly Zoom Service)	Shelton Church

WE REMEMBER:

Martin, Molly, Ian

Hempnall: Lesley and family,
Phillip, Sophie, Ross, Claire, David

Bedingham/Woodton:

Sheila, Hilary, Peter, Liz, Anne, Chris, Barrie,
Carolyn, Bruce, Pat, Anthea, Harry, Sally, Kath,
Richard, Susan

Topcroft: Gerald

LONG TERM CARE:

Bedingham /Woodton:

Dennis, Shirley, Jacob

Fritton/Morningthorpe: Beryl



RECENTLY DIED:

Paul Trudgill, Jessie Whiteley

This week we pray for:

- ◇ In the morning: the day and its tasks; the world and its needs; the Church and her life
- ◇ The people of God, that they may proclaim the risen Lord
- ◇ God’s creation, that the peoples of the earth may meet their responsibility to care
- ◇ Those in despair and darkness, that they may find the hope and light of Christ
- ◇ Those in fear of death, that they may find faith through the resurrection
- ◇ Prisoners and captives
- ◇ In the evening: peace; individuals and their needs

Please ring us if you need:

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01508 558479

chapman.lynn@btinternet.com

Group Office: Mon-Thurs 9am-12.30pm
01508 498157

Email: hempnallgroup.office@btinternet.com

