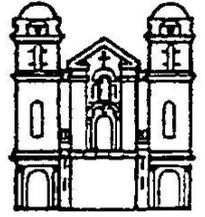


21/20



This week at the Church of
St James the Greater
Leicester

www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk
office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk



24 MAY 2020 – 7TH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

Prayer for the Week

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Our Prayers are asked for:

All prevented from worshipping with us, remembering this week

George Daley : Gwen Leather : Marilyn Dorum

Unwell

Ann Blanchard : Anthony & Barbara Green : Owen Shepherd

Hilary Simpson : Josephine Chizema (Tony's mother)

and those with Coronavirus symptoms from our community and beyond.

Rest in Peace

Brenda Stephenson-Smith : Jean Bilney

Wendi Stevens, wife of Bishop Tim, former Bishop of Leicester

Pat Beardsmore (90) Caroline's mother, Tereza's mother in law

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Readings for the week

Acts 1.6-14

The Ascension of Jesus

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. ¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

John 17.1-11

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

17 After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people,^[a] to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸ for the words that you

gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

The Vicar Writes ...

Apologies for another Star Wars reference! In the original Star Wars film (Episode IV for those keeping count) the Jedi knight Obi Wan Kenobi (played by the wonderful Alec Guinness) faces the evil Darth Vader, and says, "If you strike me down I will become more powerful than you can possibly imagine." He then seemingly surrenders to death and is indeed struck down, but leaves nothing but the empty robes where his body once was. Clearly there are certain parallels with the Christian story, not least Good Friday and the Easter story of the empty tomb. But for a long time I pondered how Kenobi's words could be true. Of course he is not exactly gone, but how is his disembodied, spiritual presence really "more powerful than you can possibly imagine"? Similarly, on this Sunday after Ascension I have previously pondered how Jesus bodily departure helped. Surely if the resurrected Jesus had just stayed around ever more people would have been convinced of the truth of his word and the reality of his identity? Sure more people could have been cured, and taught, and helped? But by leaving that one particular place, focussed on one physical body, Christ opened the potential to be in every place, in every heart, and his body became that of all of us who hear his call and follow. Certainly in this way, where he is nowhere, he is able to be everywhere, in and for everyone, and is more powerful than we can possibly imagine."

Andrew Quigley

BIBLE STUDY On Thursday 28th May at 10.30 am the vicar would like to invite you to a virtual house group/bible study. We will be discussing Acts 2.1.21. This will be via "zoom", an online video conferencing programme. To join you can use a computer, phone or tablet with a camera and microphone plus internet connection or can use a normal phone audio only. Please email the vicar to receive an invitation to the virtual meeting. ***If you need help downloading software to your phone or computer please call or email Annabel (07749 227109) who will try to help.***

ALL CHURCHES ARE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

We will reopen as soon as permitted by the Government – details will be posted on our website, Facebook page and on the porch noticeboard once this occurs.

CONTACTING THE TEAM You may not be physically seeing us but we are still working! Andrew can be contacted by email revdaquigley@gmail.com or 0116 254 4113. Annabel in the Church Office can be contacted by email office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk or 07749 227109 (weekdays only please unless an emergency) Further details are on our website www.stjamesthegreater.org.uk

KEEPING IN TOUCH This bulletin will be emailed every week if possible - if you do not have access to the internet please ask a relative or friend to contact the Church Office to be included. ***We are unable to print until Government restrictions are eased, if you are able to share news with those who do not have internet, they will be most grateful.***

Resources for Home Worship

Broadcast Media

Daily Service	Mon-Fri at 9.45am	Radio 4 LW
Choral Evensong	Wed at 3.30pm & Sun at 3pm	Radio 3
Sunday Worship	Sun at 8.10am	Radio 4
Morning Worship	Sun – check schedule for time	BBC I
Songs of Praise	Sun – check schedule for time	BBC I

Online

www.churchofengland.org
www.leicestercathedral.org

Hymn Singing

If you are missing singing hymns, then do check out Saturday morning hymn practice provided by William Saunders (of St. Edmundsbury Cathedral) at 10 am each week. A words sheet can be downloaded from his website (<http://william-saunders.info/2020/03/24/hymn-practice-congo-live-on-saturday-mornings/>) and the event is broadcast live from his home via his Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/musicianwilliam?epa=SEARCH_BOX) or can be watched there later, if 10 am on a Saturday is too early for you. You can even make requests for a hymn to be included.

ARTICLES If you would like to share what you are doing, perhaps a recipe to use those tins we have all stockpiled or a poem/joke to brighten our day, please email to office@stjamesthegreater.org.uk by Wednesday midday for inclusion.

DAILY HOPE TELEPHONE SERVICE

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind. This is a freephone number.

Options available include materials also available digitally by the Church of England's Communications team such as Prayer during the Day and Night Prayer updated daily, from Common Worship, and a recording of the Church of England weekly national online service. A section called Hymn Line offers callers a small selection of hymns, updated daily. An option entitled 'Hymns We Love', provides a hymn and reflection and is based on an initiative by the Connections group.

The options are detailed below:

1. Hymns we love - one each day with a spoken reflection based on it
2. Hymn line - favourite hymns on a repeating loop
3. Prayer line - prayers for the coronavirus crisis
4. Access to more options (5-7)
5. Weekly service from C of E
6. Morning and Evening Prayer from Common Worship
7. Latest Government advice on Coronavirus

It is helpful to have the telephone on speakerphone to avoid having to hold the handset for a long time.

Vicky Roe
Pastoral Assistant

HELP FOR PEOPLE SELF-ISOLATING We have volunteers who have offered to help members with shopping or other essentials who have nobody else to help them and are not able to get online shopping. ***Please contact the Church Office for further details of this and other neighbourhood schemes being established.***

A guide to isolation and social distancing from those who know

These online resources are offered to help people live through the coronavirus pandemic. Their special quality is that they don't come from theories; they all come from those with experience of social distancing or isolation, people who have lived this reality either intentionally like monks and nuns or against their will like hostages or the housebound. This is a new and difficult journey for most people but experienced guides give us hope along the way.

<https://www.alonetogether.org.uk/>

GIVING TO ST JAMES We know that many of you will see your income reduced and other hardships so we are most grateful to all those who have already pledged to continue their giving through this difficult time. ***If you normally give through gift aid envelopes, stewardship envelopes or cash on the plate, please contact the Church Office if you are able to switch to a standing order, we also can accept cheques through the post.***

QUIZ TIME

This week the quiz was set by the Jackson's

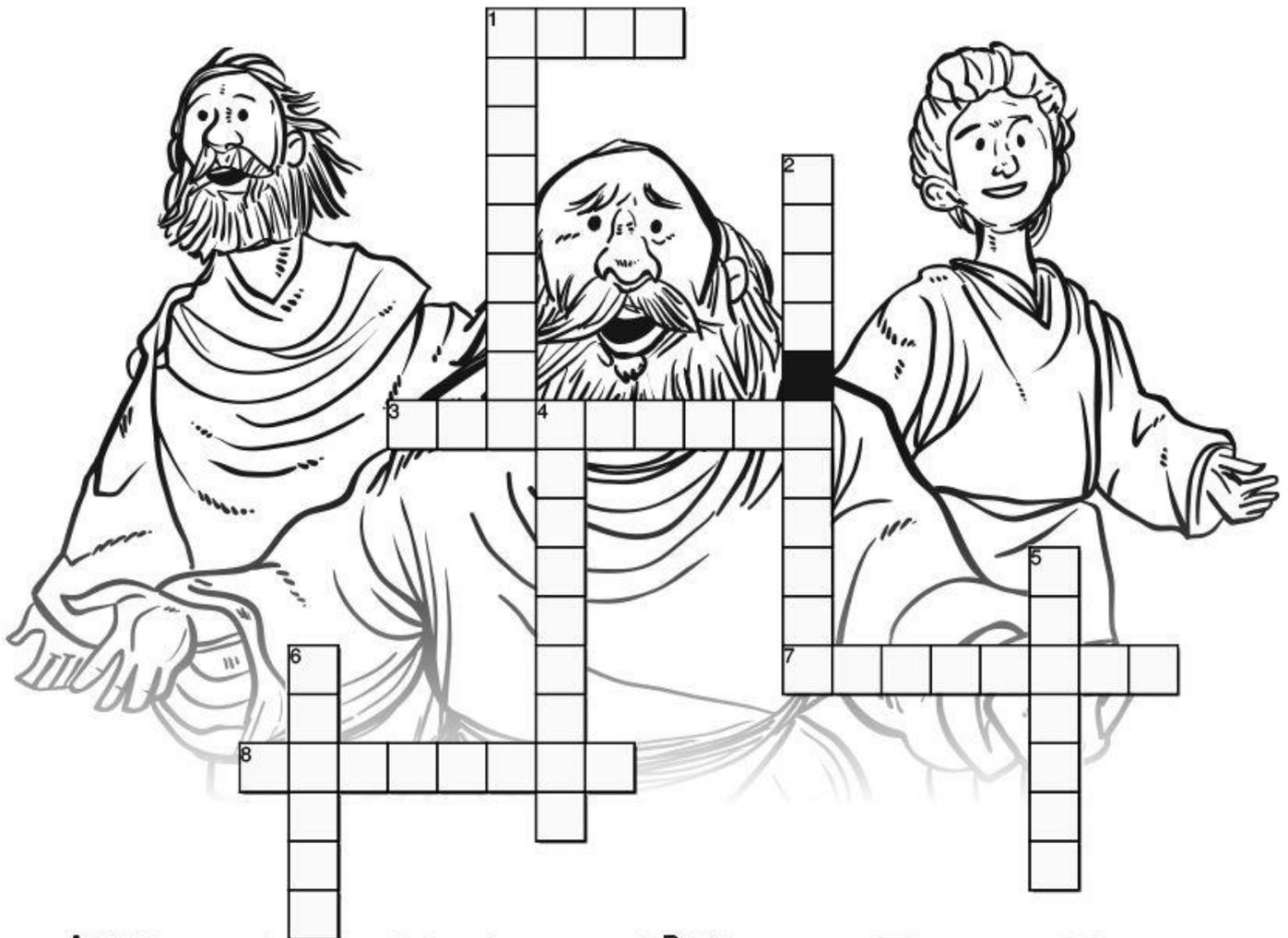
1. In which year did ABBA win the Eurovision Song Contest?
2. Where is Strictly Come Dancing filmed?
3. What is the major mountain system of South America?
4. What flavour is the icing on a Whitby bun?
5. Which is taller, the Eiffel tower or the Blackpool tower?
6. What gets wet while drying?
7. In tennis, what fruit is on the top of the men's singles trophy?
8. What is bright orange, with green on top and sounds like a parrot?
9. What is the Chinese art of flower arranging called?
10. What is the capital of South Australia

Answers to last week's Easter Bible Quiz

1. Nicodemus
2. Emmaus
3. False. It was about 7 miles (Luke 24:13)
4. A centurion
5. Who would roll the stone away from the tomb for them.
6. Jonah
7. That Jesus would destroy the Temple of God and rebuild it in 3 days.
8. Isaiah
9. Friend
10. They wanted a guard put on the tomb in case the disciples stole the body.
11. True (Mark 16:2)
12. John
13. Peter
14. John
15. Pilate and Herod Antipas

THE ASCENSION AND PENTECOST

Luke 24:50-53, Acts 1-2



Across

1. The disciples had the big job of spreading the good news of Jesus's _____, death and resurrection to the world.
3. Jesus said, "Go and make _____ of all nations."
7. That day, three _____ people were brought into God's family.
8. Peter ran out into the crowded streets and told everyone in their own language to "Repent and be _____!"

Down

1. When the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples, they could speak new _____.
2. Who did Jesus say was coming after he left?
4. What was another name Jesus gave to the Holy Spirit?
5. After a final lesson, the _____ opened and Jesus rose up into the sky.
6. What appeared on the disciples' heads?

