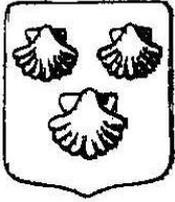
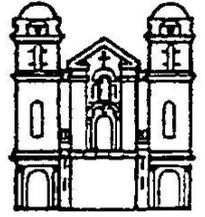


29/20



This week at the Church of
St James the Greater
Leicester

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



17 JULY 2020 – 6TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Prayer for the Week

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
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

Barbara Penrose – awaiting cataracts surgery

Ann Blanchard : Anthony & Barbara Green : Owen Shepherd

Elizabeth Bentley : Josephine Chizema (Tony's mother)

and those with Coronavirus symptoms from our community and beyond.

Rest in Peace

Ray Wood (Doris Makepeace's Brother 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.

Reopening St James the Greater

Unfortunately whilst Leicester remains in lockdown it is unlikely we will be able to open the building for either private prayer or public worship. Currently we await updated guidance from the diocese, but sadly it seems almost certain that our planned opening for the patronal next week will not take place. We will of course update you as and when we have further information.

Andrew

Readings for the week

Wisdom of Solomon 12. 13, 16-19

¹³ For neither is there any god besides you, whose care is for all people,^[a] to whom you should prove that you have not judged unjustly;

¹⁶ For your strength is the source of righteousness, and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all.

¹⁷ For you show your strength when people doubt the completeness of your power,

and you rebuke any insolence among those who know it.^[a]

¹⁸ Although you are sovereign in strength, you judge with mildness, and with great forbearance you govern us; for you have power to act whenever you choose.

God's Lessons for Israel

¹⁹ Through such works you have taught your people that the righteous must be kind, and you have filled your children with good hope, because you give repentance for sins.

Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43

The Parable of Weeds among the Wheat

²⁴ He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us

to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'

Jesus Explains the Parable of the Weeds

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

The Vicar Writes ...

This week we have a parable about patience. The relevance of this to those of us stuck in lockdown, and for all of us waiting for the hundreds of things to return to something more closely approaching normality, hardly needs stating. I've preached previously about how impatient we have become as a culture - we can hardly wait for good things to happen at the best of times, so waiting in adversity is an even greater challenge. Waiting while tares of suffering grow among us is something all of us are experiencing at the moment. Whether those tares are assaults on our own physical or mental health, the growing economic and racial divisions of our city and nation, tares of worry, uncertainty, frustration or fear, our instinct is to try and do something, to try and root them out. Knowing that as individuals we lack the power to do so only makes the draining sense of powerlessness worse. I cordially detest the platitude "This too shall pass" (which is Persian, rather than Biblical), as it seems singularly unhelpful to someone in the midst of suffering. Yes, it may pass, but present pain is still real. The parable Jesus tells is more than "Put up with bad things at the moment, because God will sort it out in the end." Rather, using the lurid imagery of angels, devils and furnaces, it reminds us that God's justice and love is not thwarted, and that while and times we may see nothing but tares thriving around us, God always sees the good harvest, and will gather us in.

Andrew Quigley

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. Please don't hesitate to get in touch, 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.***

ARTICLES If you would like to share what you are doing during your isolation, 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.

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

Many churches and cathedrals have put services online – let us know your favourites so we can share next week.

BIBLE STUDY The vicar would like to invite you to an online video discussion of Sunday's readings. We do this via "zoom", an online video conferencing programme. To join you'll need a computer, phone or tablet with a camera and microphone, a reasonably good internet connection, and to download the zoom software (which is free). Please then email the vicar and you'll receive an invitation to the virtual meeting. ***If you need help downloading to your phone or computer please call or email Annabel who will try to help.***

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.***

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

Pressing 0 returns you to the top menu (1-4) and * gives access to the full text of the Archbishop of Canterbury's introduction.

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 and 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.***

DEC CORONAVIRUS APPEAL from Christian Aid

As part of the DEC (Disasters Emergency Committee), Christian Aid is asking you to support its appeal for those at greatest risk around the world.

The coronavirus pandemic has hit the world's most vulnerable communities and refugee camps. Millions are living in cramped conditions, in tents and makeshift shelters with no running water. In these conditions it is impossible to social distance. Many have little food and are already malnourished. Limited access to soap and water makes regular handwashing almost impossible. They are all extremely vulnerable to the virus. Their need is great and urgent.

You can give online at dec.org.uk. You can also give by phone (0370 60 60 900) or send a cheque payable to DEC Coronavirus Appeal to PO Box 999, London, EC3A 3AA.

THE SHELL It's that time again! Once again the editor is beginning to put together the Autumn edition of *The Shell* which he hopes to publish on or about Thursday, 20 August. There must be a lot to talk about in this issue. What have you been doing during the lockdown, for example. How have you been coping? It is at times like this when sharing what we have all been up to might be particularly helpful to one another. There will, of course, be the usual fun items, but don't be dissuaded from writing something on the basis that there might not be space to print it. What gets submitted, gets printed (subject to the usual constraints of public decency, of course!). Please let Graham have your contributions as soon as possible, and in any event by Monday, 17 August.

editor@stjamesthegreater.org.uk

JOE GURMAN During lockdown, former chorister Joe Gurman passed out of Dartmouth Naval College as a Navy technical officer. The Congratulations to him!

