



St John's,
Tipton

Weekly Newsheet

16th August 2020

'Ronarag 22'

Dear Church Family,

The new normal seems to bring with it plenty of new challenges. If you have been out and about, you will know that even just popping into a shop now requires you to queue, wear a mask, possibly follow a one way system, sanitise your hands on entry and exit, and even pay in a different way to that which you were used to. All to grab a newspaper! No wonder we are all feeling exhausting and bewildered when even the most mundane and simplest of tasks feel like planning a holiday abroad.

It's easy to feel frustrated and disheartened but I guess in the big scheme of things these are minor irritations. I think instead of those living in Beirut, not only coping with COVID19 but now facing multiple problems of sourcing food, finding accommodation and further reduced health care with the loss of 3 of their hospitals due to the recent explosion. I think too of the 1 in 8 Christians around the world who suffer persecution and the daily hardships they face because they have chosen to follow Jesus.

Jesus never promised an easy life for those who believe in Him. He warned that being a disciple of His would bring suffering and heartache. We too easily fall into the trap of expecting that as Christians we should have an easy and comfortable life. Instead Jesus promises us strength for today and hope for tomorrow. He promises peace and forgiveness. He promises us the wonderful gift of eternal life with Him. He promises to be with us during the challenges of living with coronavirus.

Whatever our frustrations are during this time, let us remember to give thanks to the Lord for our homes, family, friends, our security and for our salvation.

With my prayers for you all,

Lynn.

Vicar's contact details: Tel: 01773 872293

Mobile: 07963 396821

Notices

Sunday 23rd August – 9.30am Communion

Please remember to book in with Mark or Katherine (01246 853901 or Kratcliffe52@icloud.com).

We are fewer in number than we had expected so if you would like to come every week please do. If more want to come than we can accommodate we may ask you to delay coming for a week. Thank you for your understanding.

Please remember to wear a mask.

Church open for Private Prayer – Wednesdays 2-4pm

Throughout August church will be open for private prayer on Wednesday's 2-4pm. If you would like to take the opportunity for some quiet reflection and to meet with God, you are welcome to come into church. Please continue to adhere to the guidance of social distancing, good hand hygiene and wearing masks.

Readings for Week beginning 17th August:

Monday: Psalm 71; 1 Samuel 24; Acts 3:11-end

Tuesday: Psalm 73; 1 Samuel 26; Acts 4:1-12

Weds: Psalm 77; 1 Samuel 28; 3-end; Acts 4:13-31

Thursday Psalm 78: 1-39; 1 Samuel 31; Acts 4:32- 5:11

Friday: Psalm 55; 2 Samuel 1; Acts 5:12-26

Collect for 10th Sunday After Trinity

Lord of heaven and earth,
as Jesus taught his disciples in prayer,
give us patience and courage never to lose hope
but always to bring our prayers before you:
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

What's on this week

Sunday – 9.30am – Holy Communion – St Mary's Church

Please contact Katherine or Mark Ratcliffe on 01246 853901 or Kratcliffe52@icloud.com to book your place. (We only have limited spaces so please don't be disappointed if you are not able to get a seat for this week – you will be put at the top of the list for the following week)

Please wear a mask

Sunday - 11am - Coffee after Church

Join Zoom Meeting [here](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86854205991?pwd=YXVUQis4LzkxbHY2UitJWVEzMGpMdz09>

Meeting ID: 868 5420 5991

Password: 408468

Sunday 6pm – Praying together

Join Zoom Meeting [here](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83764610729?pwd=TXo5UzhMRXUwN2tPbEFwTWJlbXYvdz09>

Meeting ID: 837 6461 0729

Password: 703237

Tuesday 9am – Morning Prayer

Join Zoom Meeting [here](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89624129307?pwd=cjFjK21VV3FLem1iTGtKOUtEK1JBdz09>

Meeting ID: 896 2412 9307

Password: 681530

Wednesday 2-4pm Church open for Private Prayer.

Please wear a mask.

Thursday 10am – Pop-In for coffee

Join Zoom Meeting [here](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86210249687?pwd=ejAvUTNETGRneTBYVUhXeGh1L1lZQT09>

Meeting ID: 862 1024 9687

Password: 046923

Prayers

Lord God, during this time of upheaval as we experience huge transition, many of us face anxiety, fear and doubt about the future. Thank you Lord that your compassion never fails.

We pray for those around the world where Governments are weak, health systems are poor and economies already damaged. Be merciful to them as they face added pressure from coronavirus. We particularly remember this week, Beirut and the Lebanon, Yemen, Brazil and Syria.

We pray for the vulnerable and marginalised, unsure of support available and those seeking to provide support. May there be sufficient funding to continue necessary provision

We pray for all seeking refuge – taking risks in crossing the English Channel in desperation for a better life. May we be generous and gracious in helping those who are in most need. We pray for politicians making difficult decisions – for compassionate hearts and wisdom.

Thank you Lord that while everything changes you remain constant. We trust in your faithful love and provision. Amen