

## YOUR GIVING TO ST. JOHN'S TO SUPPORT ITS MISSION IN OUR COMMUNITY

At St John's we are very grateful to all our congregation and visitors for their kind and generous donations to the church. These donations are crucial in ensuring we can continue to operate (we don't receive any funding from the diocese to cover the cost of running the church), and the suspension of services is likely to have a very significant impact on church finances. Further details on how you can support St. John's provided on previous pew sheets or from Caroline Gulliver ([gulliverjc@aol.com](mailto:gulliverjc@aol.com)).

### EASY FUNDRAISING.

Another easy way to raise fund is to use the Easy Fundraising initiative. This allows you to do your online shopping as normal, whilst helping to raise funds for St John's Church. All you need to do is register as a user (for free) at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and nominate St John's Church Lacey Green as your nominated beneficiary. Retailers include M&S, Vodafone, Amazon, John Lewis, Sports Direct, Boots and many more (4,000+). Easy to use. More details from Caroline Gulliver ([gulliverjc@aol.com](mailto:gulliverjc@aol.com)).

### HELP FOR FAMILIES IN THE PRINCES RISBOROUGH AREA

St. Mary's, Princes Risborough, in joint venture with the CTR and the Town Council, is setting up a temporary food bank in Princes Risborough. Initially this will operate from St Mary's Parish Hall. The Food Bank will open from 10am to 2pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. At this stage, they anticipate needing three volunteers on each day to help sort through food donations, make up food parcels, and coordinate logistics. Some people may be able to pick up their own packages, whereas others are self-isolating and will need their package delivering to the doorstep. Initially they are looking for volunteers, food donations, gifts of money and most of all prayer support. Help and suggestions for running the Food Bank are most surely appreciated. Further details to follow.

## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

As indicated above the Church of England guidance remains the same the church building being closed to Sunday worship. Although our usual pattern of Sunday Services and mid-week gatherings must be put on hold, this does not mean that the Church of England has shut up shop. We may not be able to worship together and pray for people in the ways that we are used to, but we can certainly pray for people from our homes. Where we are able, we can certainly offer practical care and support. Keep safe and please continue to pray for one another. *Canon Tony, The Churchwardens & The PCC*

### Key Contacts:

Vicar:	Rev. Canon Tony Bundock	01844 347741
Team Rector:	Rev. David Williams	01844 346984
Licensed Lay Minister:	Mr Graham King	01844 343910
Churchwardens:	Mrs Pat Rushmere	01844 345452
	Mrs Margaret Gray	01844 347094
PCC Secretary	Mr Mark Roberts	01296 437345

## PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing  
SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2020  
**7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**(SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION)**

### FOCUS ON .... A MOMENT IN TIME

Many people have a sense of the hand of destiny upon them at some point in their lives. Very probably more than once; or, perhaps, many times. Certainly all of us can recognize that there have been, and almost certainly will be again, what we might call "crossroads" moments in our lives when a decision we take, or a direction we follow, profoundly alters the shape and course of our lives once and for all. A defining moment, we might say. The New Testament Greek word for this is *kairos* which means time in the sense that the "hour" has come; whereas the Greek word *kronos* means time in the sense of the passing of time as measured by a watch or a clock.

Evidently, Winston Churchill was a 16-year-old schoolboy at Harrow when he first spoke of a sense of destiny that he was to lead the country through dark times. As we well know, Churchill's schoolboy prophecy was fulfilled; he is recorded as having felt that he was "walking with destiny", and that the whole of his past life, to quote his words, "had been but a preparation for this hour".

Throughout his Gospel narrative, St. John portrays Jesus as one who is constantly and intently aware of his destiny. The recurring image St. John uses to signify it is that of the "hour". The Greek word used to describe this critical moment is *kairos*. And the paradox, the mystery, which St. John's Gospel proclaims is that the cross, an instrument of shame and inglorious death in the ancient world of the Roman Empire, was the glorious means by which Jesus rose from death and re-entered the glory that is the Father's gift to him from all eternity.

We are all of us God's children and we do know what it means – at least in fleeting moments - to have a sense of the hand of fate, the hand of destiny, upon us. For the heart that is open to God and set upon him, every moment is potentially a *kairos* moment: whether in public worship, in times of prayer and silent waiting upon God, or in the rich and wide variety of life's experiences; in all of the joyful, the painful, or even the mundane, events, that make up our daily lives. And so, may God give us grace to recognize the *kairos* moments he offers to us in the course of our lives, and also the strength of will to choose the path of faithful discipleship in all that we say and do.

*Tony Bundock*

*Pew sheet editor – mark.roberts975@btinternet.com*

## COLLECT FOR 7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER AND THE FOLLOWING 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, *Amen*.

### READINGS FOR 7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts. Ch. 1 V. 6 – 14  
1 Peter Ch. 4 VV. 12 – 14 & Ch. 5  
VV. 6 – 11  
John Ch. 17 VV. 1 – 11



### PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

*(Mark Roberts)*

God of all understanding, you have promised to give wisdom to anyone who asks. As I walk through life, give me wisdom and understanding in every decision I make. Guide my thoughts and direct my steps. When I experience uncertainty and confusion, may I lean on your limitless wisdom. May your divine Holy Spirit be at work in me like a lamp to my feet and a shield to my mind. Help me to think clearly and calmly. Help me to act with confidence and wisdom. Help me to glorify you in everything I do. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us evermore. Amen.



## Prayer Notes

- We pray for all parts of the world affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19), those who are ill with the virus and the souls of those who have died. We pray for those working in the NHS, Care Homes and Social Services who are working with the sick, the elderly and the disabled.
- We pray for those in our parish who are isolating themselves due to age or infirmity and those supporting them.
- For those in the parish and further afield who are sick or in need that they receive peace and healing, including: Irene Foord, Mary Mines, Helena Oecken, Ian Wilson, Ron Goodearl, Phillipa King and Barnaby Woods.
- For the recently departed. May their souls rest in peace.
- For Peace and Resolution for the peoples of those countries where there is conflict or tension including countries in the Middle East, Ukraine, Nigeria, Venezuela, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sri Lanka and Hong Kong.
- For Comfort and mercy for the peoples of those countries, where there have been natural disasters, and for the aid agencies bringing relief.
- For our Government and Parliament at this time of uncertainty, that that MP's of all parties will come together in the National Interest.
- For migrants that they may receive justice and mercy.
- Safety for Christians and peoples of all faiths in danger that there may be a spirit of peace and understanding.
- For our mission and ministry in this community.
- For our Linked Parish of St. Mary's Kuruman.
- Thanks for our church community and our shared faith
- Thanks for all who help, in any way, in our Church.
- For our successful fundraising events, this year.

### THE FEAST OF PENTECOST

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May is **PENTECOST**. During the past week, Tony and a few others trialled holding a service on Zoom. Tony is planning to lead a service on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 on Zoom to celebrate Pentecost. This would be a broadcast of a Simple Office for Pentecost.

Further details of the service including the Zoom link details, a copy of the Simple Office for Pentecost and a hymn list will be emailed out next week to on the pew sheet distribution list.

