

We pray for all staff and pupils in our local schools as they return after an extended break. Give reassurance to them that they are in a safe, caring and supportive environment for learning and spiritual development.

We bring to you the needs of the world. We pray in particular at this time for the sick and vulnerable; the victims of violence or racial unrest, the homeless and bereaved and those in the caring community who risk their own safety to help them. May your Spirit of healing reach out to them and offer hope and comfort in their time of need.

We pray now for our brothers and sisters in Kuruman and all their special needs at this time. May your Spirit be with them.

And finally, we pray for those known to us who are in need at this time. Bless them, we pray, and shine the light of your countenance upon them.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be upon us this day and for evermore.

## Weekly Prayer Notes



- 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, Ian Goodearl, Phillipa King and Barnaby Woods.
- We pray at this time for the country of South Africa, for the people of Cape Town and Diocese of Kimberly and Kuruman, which have been badly affected by Covid-19. For our Linked Parish of St. Mary's Kuruman.
- For the people of the parish of St. Peters, Kampala in Uganda following the destruction of the church they had built.
- For Peace and Resolution for the peoples of those countries where there is conflict or tension and for the peacekeeping and aid agencies bringing relief. We pray for Lebanon and the City of Beirut following the recent devastating explosion at the port.
- For our Government and Parliament at this time of uncertainty.
- For migrants that they may receive justice and mercy.
- Safety for Christians and peoples of all faiths in danger.
- For our church family and our mission and ministry in this community.

### Key Contacts:

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# PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, LACEY GREEN



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing  
SUNDAY 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020  
**12<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

## WELCOME TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

You are warmly welcomed to St. John's Church, particularly if you are new to our congregation or are a visitor. St. John's is a member Church of the Risborough Team Ministry, serving the parish of Lacey Green, Loosely Row and Speen.

Today both our 10:00 service in church at St. John's and the 11:00 am service on Zoom will be led by Canon Tony Bundock with Graham King (Lay Minister) assisting during the Zoom service.

## UPDATE – WORSHIP IN ST JOHN'S CHURCH

After over three months of not having services at St. John's, limited services have resumed at St. John's, with the Said Communion services being held on Tuesdays at 9:30 am and on Sundays at 10:00 am (BST) only for those wishing to attend. The regular Sunday on-line service on Zoom will now be held at 11:00 am (BST). Unfortunately, 8:00 am Services on Sundays remain suspended for the present.

As you may have seen in the press, currently singing in Church or playing wind instruments is not allowed. Holy Communion will be in one kind only and the 2-metre social distancing requirement will apply. Contact details of those attending will need to be recorded in a suitable notebook and details kept for 3 weeks. A guidance sheet of "Do's and Don'ts" based on information from the Diocese of Oxford is available. Current guidance is that wearing a face mask within the church building is mandatory apart from the celebrant, those reading lessons / leading intercessions and during receipt of Holy Communion.

### Weekly Services:

SUNDAY	
10:00 am	Said Communion (Common Worship)
11:00 am	On-line Morning Worship on Zoom
TUESDAY	
9:30 am	Said Communion (Common Worship)

## FOCUS ON... THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

In the City of Rome it is possible to visit the infamous Mamertine Prison. It was built in the 7<sup>th</sup> Century BC and, according to popular belief, is said to be the place where the Apostle Peter was detained prior to being executed. Whether or not this prison was his place of incarceration, few doubt that Peter was held captive somewhere in Rome and that he died for the sake of his faith.



Despite all he suffered, however, he is not said to have been an instinctively brave person. The Gospel testimony famously describes him denying Christ repeatedly because he was afraid that he would be arrested like his Lord. In addition, Church tradition has it that he fled from Rome to avoid the persecution of Christians at the hands of Emperor Nero. But it is claimed that

Peter found the courage to turn back and face death when he saw a vision of Christ heading the opposite way into Rome and asking Peter “Quo Vadis?” – “Where are you going” or, more poetically, “Whither goest thou?”

The Gospel testimony is that Peter often struggled to grasp the connection between following Christ and the costly suffering that this may require of us as his followers. “If any want to become my followers”, said Jesus, “let them take up their cross and follow me”. This teaching makes it very plain that, far from promising a problem-free life, there is a cost to following Jesus. Discipleship involves making difficult and often costly life choices. Whenever we are worried that we are not up to this huge challenge, we can look to the example of Saint Peter. He failed frequently and he lacked courage all too often, yet despite his human frailties and weaknesses, Peter went on to be a great church leader - the first Bishop of Rome and in Roman Catholic tradition the first Pope. Whatever our own human frailties, what matters is our willingness to serve the Lord. For, as Peter’s life and example shows us, God will indeed help us with the rest.

Tony Bundock

## COLLECT FOR 12<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve:  
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of 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, *Amen.*

## ZOOM SERVICE FOR THE 12<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

This Sunday’s Online Morning Worship service on Zoom will be led by Canon Tony with assistance from Graham King and start at 11:00 am BST. The hymns will be led by Cher and Gavin Mole. Other members of the congregation will be taking part. Details are being supplied in the email sending out this Pew sheet, and are as follows:

Topic: Morning Prayer  
Time: Aug 30, 2020 11:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77933886127?pwd=enBPTXg4cEw3SDRtVXlja0pSNkZSZz09>

Meeting ID: 779 3388 6127

Passcode: P2K1jS

*(if copying the above into your internet browser window, you need to type in all of the text in blue as a single entry without a space – it has been split into two for formatting purposes.)*



## READINGS FOR 12<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY (Proper 17)

Jeremiah Ch. 15 VV. 15 – 21

Romans Ch. 12 VV. 9 – 21

Matthew Ch. 16 VV. 21 – 28

## PRAYER CHAIN PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

*(Intercessions during the services will be led by Graham King)*

We pray for our church community as it seeks to find new ways to worship. We pray for its mission and outreach among those entrusted to its care; for Tony and all in leadership roles throughout the church. May they be inspired by your Spirit and true to your word.

We pray for our local community; those who are struggling at this time with mental or emotional concerns; those in financial difficulties or worried as to their jobs. Give comfort to them in their time of need.