

St Mary's Church, Arnold

Welcome to St Mary's.

We hope that you are finding our weekly notice sheet helpful in these difficult times. We include the weekly readings for your bible study.



Sunday 15th November 2020 : 2nd Sunday before Advent

Morning Readings: 1 Thess. 5: 1-11	Matthew 25: 14-30
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10.30 am	Church Morning Gathering via Zoom
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Sylvia writes from Scripture with a thought and a prayer:

'Do not be in a hurry to leave the king's presence.' Ecclesiastes 8:2

In my teenage years, I took part in the Duke of Edinburgh's gold award. So the day came when I was invited to Buckingham Palace, along with some 200 other young people, to receive my certificate. We were all ushered into a large, ornate room and divided into groups of about 20. Prince Philip then came to each group in turn, talking to one or two. I was fortunate enough to be the one he spoke to from our group. I still remember every word of that conversation! How I had wished it had gone on longer! How I wished I could have asked him more about himself or told him more of my story, but sadly it was over all too soon.

The God we follow is not just a member of the royal family, not even the king or queen, but the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, the Creator and our Saviour. We do not have to earn the right to come into his presence, nor don our best clothes, nor face the possibility that he just might choose to speak to others above us. He is always willing to give us all the time in the world to speak to him.

There is a sense in which we are always in God's presence. The Bible assures us that 'he will never leave us, nor forsake us.' or that 'our names are engraved on the palms of his hands' or that 'when we pass through the waters, he will be with us,' But there are times when we come into his presence in a special way through prayer, Bible reading and worship. How much time do we choose to spend with him in prayer - or read the Bible really believing that God might have something to say to us? How often is worship our top priority?

Our Bible verse encourages us 'not to be in a hurry to leave the King's presence.' I suspect that few of us would turn down an invitation to Buckingham Palace or say that we had to leave to go elsewhere in the middle of a conversation with the

Queen! But do we do that with God? Do we rush through our prayer time because we have more pressing things to do - or is it something we just want to cross off the list as 'done' so we can get on with the rest of our day? Are we always clock-watching?

John Wesley once said, 'I have a busy day today so I must spend an extra 3 hours in prayer.' Three hours may be unrealistic for most of us, but perhaps this week we may make a decision to linger a bit longer in God's presence and to listen more attentively to what God might want to say to us.

You might like to use this song as you begin your prayer:
To be in your presence - to sit at your feet,
where your love surrounds me and makes me complete.
This is my desire, O Lord, this is my desire.
This is my desire, O lord, this is my desire.

Lockdown Worship

Sunday Services: 10:30 a.m.

Online via Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82326995588?pwd=cXdWUWRTEcTfcW9SSUJMR295VHlBXdz09>

Meeting ID: 823 2699 5588 Password: 690975

You can also join the service by phone. Dial: 0131 460 1196 and follow the instructions when to input the Meeting ID and Password.

Wednesday: Private Prayer: 2 pm to 3 pm.

Prayers for the Nation

Loving God,
at this time of crisis
when so many are suffering,
we pray for our nation and our
world.

Give our leaders wisdom,
our Health Service strength,
our people hope.
Lead us through these parched
and difficult days
to the fresh springs of joy and
comfort that we find in Jesus
Christ our Lord.

Amen

Prayers for the Nation (continued)

Please follow the Archbishops of Canterbury and York's invitation to pray at 6pm every day during the new lock-down period. We sent out a "Prayer for the Nation" leaflet, which will assist you in a choice of prayer. You may also wish to follow the "Prayer for the Nation Fasting and Prayer" initiative on Thursdays.

Evening Prayer - Light a Candle

Don't forget to light a candle every evening at 7.00 pm and spend some time in prayer. Margaret has produced a Prayer Sheet, which can be downloaded from the website.

Teams4U shoeboxes - A message from Andrea Sands

Thank you so much for all your shoeboxes and very generous donations to fill and send more boxes. We have already sent 170 shoeboxes on their way and the rest will be going early next week.

Another 33 have come in and I have enough money to make up some more. That makes 203 very happy children receiving a very special gift this Christmas.

Thank you for all your amazing support this year. Andrea

From Alan Langton

Thank you to everyone who has returned the Leprosy Mission collection boxes. I am pleased to report that I have sent a cheque for over £500 to the organisation.

Dorothy Conner has moved to the Manor Nursing Home

Remembrance

As the church was closed for our Remembrance service, we thought it would be nice to share with you the cross and poppy wreath that Margaret has erected in front of the altar. It looks quite beautiful and poignant in front of the wonderful stained-glass windows.



Weekly Readings		Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
Sunday	15 th Nov	98	Dan. 10. 19-end	Rev. ch. 4
Monday	16 th Nov	47	Dan. 8. 1-14	Rev. ch. 10
Tuesday	17 th Nov	52	Dan. 8. 15-end	Rev. 11. 1-14
Wednesday	18 th Nov	56	Dan. 9. 1-19	Rev. 11. 15-end
Thursday	19 th Nov	62	Dan. 9. 20-end	Rev. ch. 12
Friday	20 th Nov	63	Dan. 10.1 - 11.1	Rev. 13. 1-10
Saturday	21 st Nov	78	Dan. ch. 12	Rev. 13. 11-end
Sunday	22 nd Nov	29	Isa. 4.2 - 5.7	Luke 19. 29-38

Monthly Prayer sheet - Please keep on praying! Please contact Chris Baker on baker-christopher1@sky.com with requests and outcomes and these can then be circulated by email.

Contacts

Contact your GP by telephone if you have symptoms of Covid-19. If you are diagnosed with Covid-19 and have attended church, please contact the vicar or the church office or David Rodgers.

Daily Hope a free phone line of hymns : 0800 804 8044

NEW EMERGENCY HELP LINE ISSUED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS 0300 500 8080
This is NOT for medical emergencies the number for that remains the same 111

The current lockdown situation is very difficult for those living in abusive relationships.

For those suffering with Domestic abuse and sexual violence in the home there is a Nottingham 24 hr Freephone helpline for Women 0808 800 0340 and Helpline for Men call 0115 960 5556.

Vicar: Rev Margaret Caunt 0115 967 3805

margaret.caunt@outlook.com

Church Wardens:

David Rodgers 0115 953 1654

dave.rodgers3@ntworld.com

Liz Turley 07425145282

elizabethturley2@gmail.com

Safeguarding & Domestic Abuse Officer :

Larrie Thompson 0115 967 333

larrie73@gmail.com

Parish Office: 0115 920 9848

admin@stmarysarnold.org.uk

If you have a favourite faith item that you think others would appreciate, please send to Ed Sands : ejrsands@gmail.com for inclusion in the next issue.

