

## Collect for Today

Almighty Father,  
who in your great mercy gladdened the  
disciples with the sight of the risen Lord:  
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,  
that we may be strengthened and sustained  
by his risen life and serve you continually  
in righteousness and truth;  
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.  
**Amen.**

## Readings for This Week

*Monday:* Genesis 7

*Tuesday:* Acts 2:42-end

*Wednesday:* 1 Peter 2:19-end

*Thursday:* John 10:1-10

*Friday:* Psalm 23

*Saturday:* Ephesians 2:11-end

## Verse for the Week

“Repent and be baptised every one of you in the name  
of Jesus Christ so that your sins will be forgiven; and  
you will receive the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to  
you and your children, and for all who are far away,  
everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.”

**Acts 2:38-39**

## Prayer Diary

### Monday

God of all hope we call on you today.  
We pray for those who are living in fear:  
Fear of illness, fear for loved ones, fear of other’s  
reactions to them.  
May your Spirit give us a sense of calmness  
and peace.  
Holy God, we remember that you have promised  
That nothing will separate us from your love –  
demonstrated to us in Jesus Christ.  
Help us turn our eyes, hearts and minds to you.  
Amen.

### Tuesday

Loving God,  
If we are ill, strengthen us.  
If we are tired, fortify our spirits.  
If we are anxious, help us to consider the lillies of the  
field and the birds of the air.  
Don’t let fear cause us to overlook the needs of others  
more vulnerable than ourselves.  
Fix our eyes on your story and our hearts on your  
grace. For Jesus’ sake.  
Amen

### Wednesday

Dear Lord,  
Help us always to hold fast to the good,  
See the good in others,  
And remember there is just one world, one hope,  
One everlasting love, with baskets of bread for  
everyone.  
In Jesus we make our prayer,  
The one who suffered, died and was raised  
to new life,  
In whom we trust these days and all days.  
Amen

## Prayer Diary

### Thursday

You call us to speak to you in prayer– even when the  
places we would usually go to are not available. Help  
us to know you Spirit’s presence wherever we pray.  
Today we especially pray for those who are living in  
fear – give them your strength.  
For those who have not yet realised the urgency of the  
situation – protect them, and all of us from harm.  
Today I especially want to pray for ... In the name of  
Jesus.  
Amen

### Friday

Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind  
me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win  
me, Christ to comfort and restore me. Christ beneath  
me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,  
Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of  
friend and stranger. (from St Patrick’s Breastplate)  
Amen

### Saturday

Lord of all power and might, guide those who have to  
make difficult decisions in this time of crisis. We  
pray for government ministers and their advisors, for  
health officials, for senior doctors, for those who  
allocate resources. Grant them wisdom, clarity of  
thought and the ability to see a way through the tangle  
of competing demands. Help them to see power as a  
responsibility not a privilege and to use it for the good  
of all. In Jesus’ name.  
Amen

## Notices:



- The church buildings are currently closed to the public, not just for services but also for private prayer. You can hear a justification for this by The Archbishop of Canterbury here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QY44A6FlhkI> We hope that when restrictions begin to lift this will be one of the first things to change.

- We very much want to remain connected during this time when we cannot be together. We know how easy it is for people to fall through the gap so if you become aware of anyone who is feeling lonely, or afraid or neglected PLEASE tell us so that we can make contact.

- There are various initiatives around the team to enable people to continue to pray for each other and for the community. If you are not part of one and would like to be please contact one of the clergy or Maurie Webber and we will see to it that you are directed to the best one for you.

- Thank you to those who have volunteered their help in various ways. At the moment most people seem to be managing remarkably well via their own support networks but it may well be that as time goes on there will be needs that come to the surface. Please be aware that these volunteers exist and don't be afraid to tell us of any practical needs we may be able to help with.

- An email discussion has taken place between treasurers in the team because we are concerned that this crisis will hit church finances hard. The general feeling was that this is not a good time to be asking for money but please remember the matter in your prayers. In due course individual churches will have to consider how best to meet the challenge we will undoubtedly face. Some help has already been given to parishes from team funds.



## Church Services:

*Please note all Church services are currently cancelled.*

## On-line Sunday Services:

These have been well received. You can access them by just clicking on the links that will be circulated later in the week or by visiting the team website or by going to last week's service and following the link to the next one. ***The plan this week is to offer a service on Sunday from 9:00 am.***

Leigh is also putting things on line which you can see by going on Facebook and searching for the "Hatherleigh Building Community" page.



## Grapevine Plus:

Thank you to all those who have contributed to Grapevine Plus. Please keep your contributions coming in, no matter how mundane. Share what you have been doing, things you have found helpful, little acts of kindness you have come across. Let's stay connected!

## Contact Details

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# Grapevine

Northmoor Churches Weekly News

Third Sunday of Easter

26<sup>th</sup> April 2020



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Today's Gospel reading is the "Road to Emmaus" story. Two disciples are walking home, they are joined by a stranger who explains the scriptures to them, they invite him in and when he takes the bread and breaks it they recognise that it is the risen Lord Jesus. They rush back to Jerusalem only to find that the other disciples have seen him too.

So this story is about recognition. When the penny drops the disciples say to each other "Did not our hearts burn within us when he was talking to us on the road?" In retrospect it was obvious, but it had taken that particular action; the breaking of bread, to open their eyes.

Where have you met Jesus this week? My social encounters have shrunk to the three other people I live with and those who try to give me a wide berth as I walk the dogs, but I have talked to lots of people on the phone, I have exchanged lots of emails; I have even had the odd video conference. Somewhere in all that Jesus has been my constant companion; it is just that I am so slow to recognise him; so fixed on my own ideas and agenda, so deaf to what he may be saying. My task is to listen to my heart, so that I am aware when it is burning and that way I will know when it is Jesus who is speaking to me on the road.

*Stephen*