

Collect for Today

Almighty and everlasting God,
you have given us your servants grace,
by the confession of a true faith,
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity
and in the power of the divine majesty
to worship the Unity:
keep us steadfast in this faith,
that we may evermore be defended from all
adversities;
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: Isaiah 40.12-17, 27-31

Tuesday: Psalm 8

Wednesday: 2 Corinthians 13.11-13

Thursday: Matthew 28.16-20

Friday: Isaiah 6.1-8

Saturday: John 16.5-15

Verse for the Week

“Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.”

2 Corinthians 13:11

Prayer Diary

Monday

On this Trinity Sunday we think of God our Father who created us, His Son, Jesus Christ who died for us so that we could have everlasting life, and the Holy Spirit who sustains and strengthens us in this life. We ask that the blessings of the Trinity be poured out on the church throughout the world, especially at this time when our physical buildings are not accessible, and we are not able to worship in the same space. May we grow in faith and love, confident that God is with each one of us wherever we are.
Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Tuesday

This week we celebrated the feast day of St Petros who, with others, brought the Good News to our county. As we remember him we give thanks for all those down the ages who have worshipped in our churches, through times of persecution, famine, and pestilence, maintaining the faith and leaving a legacy for future generations.
Lord, help us to look beyond our present fears and anxieties, sure in the knowledge that You are with us even in the darkest times.
Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Wednesday

As some of our children return to schools and nurseries we pray for all young people whose lives have been disrupted: those whose plans for college or university are now in confusion, those uncertain about future job prospects and those little children who are bewildered by the changes in their school environment. We remember those children who have been deprived of the safety and security of school, and we pray for all teaching and other staff who have difficult decisions to make each day.
Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Prayer Diary

Thursday

We give thanks for all those who are working so that our lives can continue with minimum disruption: shop and warehouse workers, delivery drivers, refuse collectors and those maintaining our utilities. We give thanks for our farmers and growers who enable us to have fresh food in season. We remember the workers at our food banks and volunteer shoppers and those supporting the vulnerable.
Lord, bless all those who daily put the welfare of others first and keep them safe.
Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Friday

We pray for all health and care workers and those who support them and give thanks for those who had the vision to institute our National Health Service. We remember those who are sick, especially any known to us.....
We pray for those who mourn, thinking of those who have been unable to be with their loved ones. Comfort all who are sad, lonely, or afraid and help them to feel your loving presence with them.
Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Saturday

Keep us good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful and lift up all who are brought low: that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer

Notices:



• Stephen would like one of the Sunday videos in the next few weeks to include pictures of peoples' faces! If you possibly can could you please take a "selfie" of you and any other family members who are willing to take part and email it to him (scook9673@aol.com) Please put "selfie" as the subject line. They will only be used when he has enough to make a decent collage. Go on, do it: it will only take a few moments and will help us feel connected.

• It seems certain that we are still a long way from a time when anything like normal services can resume. Please be assured that we are keeping a close eye on government announcements and central church advice and will be as creative as possible in enabling collective worship to begin again in some form. It may be that the first services will be out doors or in small groups. It may be that in the early days we will not be allowed to sing and that services will have to be quieter and more reflective. It may even do us good to be forced to think creatively about how we do things. If you have ideas, or if you hear of good things happening elsewhere, we are keen to hear about them. Email me or any of the clergy. Stephen

• Church finances have taken a severe knock over the last few months. We have lost all income from collections, fundraising events, rentals, weddings and baptisms. There have been some small reductions in expenditure but the main demands remain the same. This is not at this stage an appeal for money, but please be aware that one will have to be made as we begin to emerge from lockdown and are in a position to assess the damage that has been done. Please begin to think about what you may be able to do to help.



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!

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Grapevine

Northmoor Churches Weekly News

Trinity Sunday

7th June 2020



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It is very common for Christian services or meetings to end with "The Grace": I expect most of you can recite it. "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore". It comes from the end of 2 Corinthians 13 and is one of the readings set for Trinity Sunday because it has this three part structure. I am guilty of just rattling it off, but thinking about writing this has made me look deeper.

Grace in this sense means free and undeserved: it is in the nature of Jesus to give himself freely for us. Love of this kind is not sentimental: it is the aspect of the Father that was at the forefront of the teachings of Jesus: God relates to us as a parent to an adult child. Fellowship can also be translated "communion": what makes us one in Christ is that we share the one Spirit; that is how we are part of the one family.

Churches work hard to come up with mission statements and it is recognised that mottoes often work best when they are expressed in three words of equal weight, well, here's one: "Grace, love, fellowship" could be the tripartite motto of the church based on the tripartite nature of God. This is what we stand for because this is who God is, as uniquely revealed in Christian Scripture. May that grace, love and fellowship be with us all, evermore. Amen.

Stephen