

ST PETER & ST JOHNS CHURCH

Our Aim is to grow closer to God,
to grow closer to each other,
and to grow closer to the community

CHURCH SERVICES

As our services are slowly moving back to being in Church,
please see below details of the services this week:

SUNDAY 2ND AUGUST

9:00 am - Family Service [ON FACEBOOK](#)

10:00am - Diocesan Summer Service
[ON FACEBOOK](#) AND [YOUTUBE](#)



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WEEKLY READINGS

MARK 6: 31 NLT

1 How joyful are those who fear the Lord—all who follow his ways! 2 You will enjoy the fruit of your labor. How joyful and prosperous you will be! 3 Your wife will be like a fruitful grapevine, flourishing within your home. Your children will be like vigorous young olive trees as they sit around your table. 4 That is the Lord's blessing for those who fear him. 5 May the Lord continually bless you from Zion. May you see Jerusalem prosper as long as you live. 6 May you live to enjoy your grandchildren. May Israel have peace!

SERMON SUMMARY REVD SHEILA BRIDGE

For many of us the idea of Sunday being a special day of rest has been swept away. The sabbath was a Jewish institution adopted by Christianity which created a moment of calm to reflect on our lives under the light of eternity. It helped define much of Western public life for centuries but in the last couple of decades we have ceased to enjoy a day to buffer us from the noise and work of the every day, a day to cultivate our relationship to God and to other people. We lost more than just a day of rest, we lost a day to open our souls up to God.

Some questions to reflect on: what does Sunday mean to you? how can you take a 'sabbath' even if that's not on a Sunday? What practises help you 'rest'? Switching off devices? Taking exercise? Seeing friends? The answer will not be the same for all of us but the aim is the same - to allow ourselves some time to be 're-created', 're-stored' and 're-freshed', something we need to do over and over.

*Your word is a lamp to my feet,
and a light to my path.*

Psalm 119: 105

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY FROM SARAH EDMONDS MAGUIRE

"I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

John 10:10

On Sunday, John Lewis crossed the Pettus Bridge in Selma for the last time. Lewis, the civil rights campaigner, marched across the same bridge 55 years ago on Bloody Sunday – a landmark event in the fight for voting rights for African Americans. His funeral will be later this week.

Barack Obama said of Lewis, "I stood on his shoulders".

Many of us enjoy privileges and rights because of others on whose shoulders we stand. I vote because of the campaigning of the suffragettes. I am educated because of the great social reformers of the past centuries. I am a priest because of the women and men who went before me to allow that to happen.

Above all, I am a follower of Christ because of generations of others – some famous and others whose names are now lost to us – who, having encountered Christ for themselves, stopped at nothing to allow others to do the same.

I am inspired by their stories, their struggles and their witness. And I am left with an abiding question – whose struggles today am I prepared to make my own? For whom is Christ calling me?

Sarah Edmonds Maguire is the Area Dean Shipston

PRAYERS

God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.

In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



Lord Jesus Christ,
you taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need
as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,
and to assure the isolated
of our love, and your love,
for your name's sake.

Amen

Before the ending of the day, Creator of the world, we pray that you, with steadfast love, would keep your watch around us while we sleep.

Tonight we pray especially for (family or friends) and the people of (country or place). Please give skill and wisdom to all who are caring for them.

Amen.

Be with us, Lord, in all our prayers,
and direct our way toward the attainment of salvation, that among the changes and chances of this mortal life, we may always be defended by your gracious help, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

*"We are most effective as
believers when we join together in
love and prayer "*

VERSE OF THE WEEK

I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

Philippians 3:14 (NLT)

We are not people of fear:
we are people of courage.
We are not people who protect our own safety:
we are people who protect our neighbours' safety.
We are not people of greed:
we are people of generosity.
We are your people God,
giving and loving,
wherever we are,
whatever it costs
For as long as it takes
wherever you call us

Amen

O God, the protector of all who trust in you,
without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy:
increase and multiply upon us your mercy;
that with you as our ruler and guide,
we may so pass through things temporal
that we lose not our hold on things eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THOSE IN NEED OF PRAYERS

Louise Bradshaw, Kenneth Timson, Brian Copperwheat, Kay Grocock, Edwina Goodwin, Rachael Coysh, Claire Boulton, Claire Worster, Roy Jackson, Ida Price

NEWS AND NOTICES

CHURCH OPENING TIMES

This Sunday 2nd August will be slightly different as we will be having a short family service streamed on **Facebook at 9 am**. Following on from this **Coventry Cathedral** will be streaming a **Summer Service** (theme Sabbath Rest) **from 10 am**, again on facebook or alternatively this can be viewed on youtube.

Sunday 9th August, there will be a **service at 10:30 am** on Zoom. Please note, there will be different sign in details for this, so please look out for this either in the newsletter or email on the morning of the service.

DAILY PRAYERS

As of Monday 3rd August daily prayers will be reducing. From this date we will only be streaming live prayers on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

DAILY HOPE - 0800 804 8044

If you are not able to get to church via the Internet in any way, why not listen in to this every day? You could even agree with a friend or two that you will all listen in on a particular day and then give each other a call to discuss what you've heard.

PARISH GIVING

During the current pandemic giving to our church is more important than ever. The practical impact of not holding services and not having anyone hire the hall is immense.

We still have bills to pay (eg insurance, standing charge for gas, parish share, building maintenance) we are losing on average £1,700 a month through no hall rentals and no giving through weekly donations on the plate.

Therefore we need to find other ways of giving and there are many ways this can be done. To find out more information about giving please [click here](#)

**** Please note that we are no longer able to cash cheques made out to the PCC. If you are donating/making payments to the Church using a cheque book please ensure the payee name is ST PETER & ST JOHNS CHURCH****