

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 26TH JULY

4.00 pm - Outdoor service in CHURCH GARDEN
(bring a chair and picnic)

** please note there will be no 10:30am service and no
5pm Breathe service on this day**



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St Peter & St John Church, Clifton Road, Rugby, CV21 3QP

WEEKLY READINGS

PSALM 128 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!

MATTHEW 13: 31-33 & 44-52 NLT

Parable of the Mustard Seed

31 Here is another illustration Jesus used: "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed planted in a field. 32 It is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes the largest of garden plants; it grows into a tree, and birds come and make nests in its branches."

Parable of the Yeast

33 Jesus also used this illustration: "The Kingdom of Heaven is like the yeast a woman used in making bread. Even though she put only a little yeast in three measures of flour, it permeated every part of the dough."

Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl

44 "The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field. 45 "Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant on the lookout for choice pearls. 46 When he discovered a pearl of great value, he sold everything he owned and bought it!

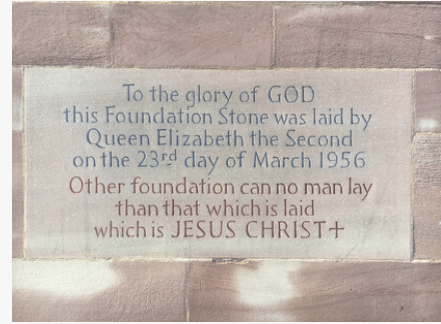
Parable of the Fishing Net

47 "Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a fishing net that was thrown into the water and caught fish of every kind. 48 When the net was full, they dragged it up onto the shore, sat down, and sorted the good fish into crates, but threw the bad ones away. 49 That is the way it will be at the end of the world. The angels will come and separate the wicked people from the righteous, 50 throwing the wicked into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 51 Do you understand all these things?" "Yes," they said, "we do." 52 Then he added, "Every teacher of religious law who becomes a disciple in the Kingdom of Heaven is like a homeowner who brings from his storeroom new gems of truth as well as old."

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

Psalms 119: 105

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY FROM JOHN WITCOMBE



"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone." (Luke 20.17) This text is from today's reading for Morning Prayer. Jesus challenges us to look at things in a new way – a way that recognises that God may do things in a way that is quite different to our natural inclination. During these past months, we have learned to see things differently – we have had time, forced upon us perhaps – to notice our immediate surroundings. And we will have discovered what's really important to us: some things we have been able to easily live without; other things which seemed trivial, or which we took for granted, have become suddenly significant. Their loss has hit us hard.

We have often sung,

Christ alone, Cornerstone

Weak made strong in the Saviour's love

Through the storm

He is Lord - Lord of all.

These words may have been overtaken by the beautiful 'Blessing', but we might want to return to them – they speak directly into our situation, which has the weeks draw on remains immensely challenging as we move into a new stage of learning, hesitantly, to go out again, and in responding to the deepening cuts of economic hardship. Our lives are built, like our Cathedral, on the foundation of Jesus Christ, and our hope is found in Him.

*John Witcombe is the Dean of Coventry and a member of the
Bishop's Core Staff Team*

PRAYERS

Merciful God, we entrust to your tender care those who are ill or in pain, knowing that whenever danger threatens your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe. Comfort and heal them, and restore them to health and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



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

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.

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

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

VERSE OF THE WEEK

When you obey my commandments, you remain in my love, just as I obey my Father's commandments and remain in his love.

John 15:10 NLT

I am giving you worship with all my life,
I am giving you obedience with all my power,
I am giving you praise with all my strength,
I am giving you honour with all my speech.
I am giving you love with all my heart,
I am giving you affection with all my sense,
I am giving you my being with all my mind,
I am giving you my soul,
O most high and holy God.

Praise to the Father,
Praise to the Son,
Praise to the Spirit,
The Three in One.

*adapted from Alexander Carmichael,
Carmina Gadelica (1900)*

Lord God, you are always with me.
You are with me in the day and in the night.
You are with me when I'm happy
and when I'm sad.
You are with me when I'm healthy
and when I am ill.
You are with me when I am peaceful
and when I am worried.
Today I am feeling (name how you are feeling)
because (reasons you are feeling this way).
Help me to remember that you love me
and are with me in everything today.

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

Common Worship

NEWS AND NOTICES

CHURCH OPENING TIMES

This Sunday (26th July), the church will be open for private prayer between 3 pm and 4 pm and if the weather is good we will have an outside service in the front garden. You are invited to bring your own chair if you can manage to do so, or you can collect a lightweight folding chair from inside the church hall. You are also welcome to bring your own refreshments/picnic. The short service 30-40 mins long will involve listening to familiar hymns 'Songs of Praise' style, a short family friendly reading/reflection and some prayers. We will have to maintain social distancing, therefore numbers will also be limited for this service. Please watch the website, the Facebook page and your email in case this is cancelled at the last moment due to the weather.

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****

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.