

PRAYING TODAY

Prayer resources for when we are unable to meet together.



**St Peter's
HIGHFIELDS**

facebook.com/stpetershighfields
www.stpetershighfields.co.uk



St Philip's Church
Leicester

facebook.com/stphilipsleicester
www.stphilipsleicester.co.uk

Because of the Pandemic, the churches have had to close. These resources are to help maintain and strengthen our prayers for this time, and for when we fall ill ourselves.

At the time of publication we hope to keep the churches open for private prayer (this is NOT worship). Please check the facebook pages and web sites for details, but you can pray at home – or wherever you are.

Our hope is that we will make some services available on the Facebook pages and also available as an audio feed that we can dial into and listen to on the phone. But even if you can not join us, you can say the prayers, and you can use the prayers at other time even when we are joined together.

SCHEDULE (check facebook for latest details)

**Sunday, 9.30 am: St Philip's Communion
on Facebook and audio**

**Sunday, 11am: St Peter's Communion
on Facebook and Audio**

**Wednesday, 10am: Benefice Communion
on Facebook and Audio**

Daily Prayer:

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 9.30:

Compline/Evening Prayer: Tues-Fri, 7.00pm

Maybe live streamed, but audio available

How to join

Services that are on Facebook will start automatically. If you want to join by telephone

Dial: 033 3113 3173

Room number: 50319296 #

Guest PIN: 2627 #

This is a national rate call and is included in any bundle minutes on landline and mobile phones. Otherwise, standard call charges apply.

A note from the Vicar

These are indeed testing times for all of us. Whatever adversity we may have faced previously, this is new and unknown, but I hope that our faith will see us through. It is a rock, a solid ground, on which we face this adversity as we have faced challenges before.

I hope that this booklet will also help us remain a community, joined with each other, brothers and sisters in faith, and the wider church and community.

I hope that I or others will be able to livestream many services on our Facebook pages, and I am pleased we have secured a low cost option to dial in via conference calls for those who are unfamiliar with computers. But things are changing, and so whilst we have published a schedule we hope we will be able to keep, take confidence in your faith, and in your Lord, and use these, or other prayers, each and every day. Look to the radio and tv as well.

Do keep in touch, with the church, your neighbours and your family whilst following Government guidance.

The number to store in your phone is

07419 759741

If I become ill, I will seek someone else to look after this number.

There will be discomfort, and we will also suffer in one way or another. Trust in the Lord as we journey through this together.

God bless you and your family.

Jonathan

Daily Prayer

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear to my cry;

hold not your peace at my tears.

Praise

Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you;
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.

Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness;
through your gentleness we find comfort in fear.

Your love gives hope to the world,
your touch makes sinners righteous.

Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us;
in your love and tenderness remake us.

In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness,
for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us

The Word of God

You may like to use these readings, or pick one yourself.

Sunday Morning

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.

Isaiah 43.1-3a

Monday Morning

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'

John 14.1-6

Tuesday Morning

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there

is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.
Philippians 4.8-9

Wednesday Morning

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.
Colossians 3.16,17

Thursday Morning

You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.
Ephesians 2.19-22

Friday Morning

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.
Romans 19.9-12

Saturday Morning

He said to his disciples, 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.
Luke 12.22-31

Response

A short period of silence, followed by

**Blessed are the merciful,
for they will receive mercy.**

Matthew 5.7

Prayers

A time of silence as we prayer for our needs, the concerns of the community and the world.

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.

Gracious God,
give skill, sympathy and resilience
to all who are caring for the sick,
and your wisdom to those searching for a cure.
Strengthen them with your Spirit,
that through their work many will be restored to health;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Additional prayers are listed at the end of this booklet.

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.**

Amen.

The Conclusion

May God bless us and show us compassion and mercy.

Amen.

An order for the office of Compline (Night Prayer)

The office of Compline (Night prayer) comes from an ancient practice of daily prayers by Christian monastic communities. It is a good way to end the day in quiet contemplation and reflection upon the past day before commending oneself to God and a peaceful night's sleep.

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.
Amen.

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

A period of silence for reflection on the past day may follow.

Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep may rest in peace.

The following or another suitable hymn may be said or sung.

**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.**

**From evil dreams defend our sight,
From fears and terrors of the night;
Tread underfoot our deadly foe
That we no sinful thought may know.**

**O Father, that we ask be done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son;
And Holy Spirit, by whose breath
Our souls are raised to life from death.**

The Psalm

1. Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, •
you that by night, stand in the house of the Lord.
2. Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary •
and bless the Lord.
3. The Lord who made heaven and earth •
Give you blessing out of Zion.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

The following short lesson or another suitable passage is read:

Jesus said, 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Matthew 11.28-end

Prayers

*Prayers of intercession and thanksgivings may be offered here.
Silence may be kept.*

Merciful God, we entrust to your unfailing and tender care this night those who are ill or in pain, knowing that whenever danger threatens your everlasting arms are there to hold us safe.

Comfort and heal them, and restore them to health and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world, may rest upon your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray,
and drive far from it the snares of the enemy;
may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace,
and may your blessing be always upon us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

In peace we will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,
for the night is at hand and the day is now past.

As the night watch looks for the morning,
so do we look for you, O Christ.

The Lord bless us and watch over us;
the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us;
the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace.
Amen.

A service of holy communion

Will be used when the communion service is live streamed.

Welcome

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

From Easter Day to Pentecost this acclamation follows

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Prayers of Penitence

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

**Most merciful God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon *us*, pardon and deliver *us* from all *our* sins,

confirm and strengthen *us* in all goodness,
and keep *us* in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Collect

Let us pray
The Collect is said.
Amen.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*
Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon or Homily

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father, from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers conclude with

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of
heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you, and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Most merciful Lord, your love compels us to come in.
Our hands were unclean our hearts were unprepared;
we were not fit even to eat the crumbs from under your table.
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation, and share your bread
with sinners.
So cleanse us and feed us, that He may live in us and we in him;
and that we, with the whole company of Christ, may sit and eat in
your kingdom.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
who, in your tender mercy, gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus
Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption;
who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered
a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the
sins of the whole world;
he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue,
a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.
Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray,
and grant that we who desire to receive these gifts of your creation,
this bread and this wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus
Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion,
may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup;
and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

The president takes and broken bread and outpoured wine on behalf of the whole church, the community and the world.

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you.
The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you.

Prayer after Communion

**You have opened to us the Scriptures, O Christ,
and you have made yourself known in the breaking of the bread.
Abide with us, we pray
that blessed by your royal presence
we may walk with you
all the days of our life
and at its end behold you
in the glory of the eternal Trinity
one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

The Dismissal

The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Prayer on rising:

We give you hearty thanks for the rest of the past night and for the gift of a new day, with its opportunities for pleasing you. Grant that we may so pass its hours in the perfect freedom of your service, that at eventide we may again give thanks unto you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer before bed:

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray, and drive far from it all the snares of the enemy; may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace, and may your blessing be always upon us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Grace before a meal:

Bless, O Lord, this food for our use and us in your service and keep us ever mindful of the needs of others; for Christ's sake. Amen

For when you are unable to attend the communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament, I love you above all things and I desire you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you now sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my soul. As though you were already there I embrace you and unite myself wholly to you; permit not that I should ever be separated from you. Amen

Television programmes

) Songs of Praise Sundays at 1.15pm on BBC 1

Radio programmes

) Prayer for the Day daily at 5.43am on Radio 4

) Sunday Worship Sundays at 8.10am on Radio 4

) Daily Service Monday to Friday at 9.45am on Radio 4 Longwave and DAB

) Choral evensong- Wednesdays at 3.30pm and the same service is repeated Sundays at 3pm on BBC Radio 3

STAY SAFE

During the Corona Virus outbreak, the most important thing is to stay safe and follow the instructions from the Government and local councils.

If you need to contact us, either because you feel ill, or need to let us know something, please use

07419 759741

Text or leave a message if it goes to answer machine.

Updates from the church will be posted on the Facebook pages, updated via the email delivery system or sent out via text messages. If you want to receive updates, please ensure we have your latest details.

To join the LIVE STREAM:

Simply go to our facebook pages

facebook.com/stpetershighfields facebook.com/stphilipsleicester

To join an audio stream using your phone

Normal charges apply, but many phone contracts can call this number within your available minutes

Dial: 033 3113 3173

Room number: 50319296 #

Guest PIN: 2627 #

Services inside are © Arch Bishop's Council, and are an amalgamation of services used within the churches, so as to include as many people as possible.