**THE PARISHES OF ST ANNE GREENLANDS AND**

**ST PAUL NORTH SHORE**

**30TH AUGUST 2020**

**TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

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.

Amen.

**FINANCIAL OFFERINGS DURING THIS TIME**

Thank you to all those who have continued to pay via standing order or direct debit, and all who have continued to fill your weekly envelopes or saved your weekly offerings during the time church was closed. Bills still have to be paid and your contributions are gratefully received.

**IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

Remember the parishes of St Anne and St Paul, and in particular the homes and families of

Sidney Avenue Egerton Road; Clevedon Road;

St Michaels Road Chesterfield Road; Cheltenham Rd;

Stopford Avenue Claremont Road; Clifford Road.

The staff and patients of

TRINITY HOSPICE, BRIAN HOUSE and BLACKPOOL VICTORIA HOSPITAL

Prayers are requested for: Michael Key; Vilma Richardson; Angela and Ken Kershaw; Marian and Michael Johns;

George Limbrick; George McLoughlin; Gilly Cook.

**IN MEMORIUM**: remembering this week:

Rosetta Edith Newell; Diana Princess of Wales; Terry Buckley; Nellie White; Mary Ann Snell; Marianne Dirdal; Wilfred Ernest Copp; Thomas William Ashcroft; Francis Albert James Parry; Thomas Millward.

**BISHOP’S BIBLE CHALLENGE**

This week’s verse is **Growing Leaders – Matthew 9.37**

**Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few.’**

**Diocesan Vision Prayer**

Heavenly Father, we embrace Your call for us to make disciples, to be witnesses and to grow leaders. Give us the eyes to see Your vision, ears to hear the prompting of Your Spirit and courage to follow in the footsteps of Your Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

**100 CLUB AT ST ANNE’S**

The 100 Club is starting again in September. Please will you put your money in an envelope with your name on and put it on the collection plate on Sunday morning. Thanks.

**Available resources for Worship**

Daily Prayer app for morning and evening prayer

Diocesan YouTube channel

St James’ YouTube channel

St Laurence’s You Tube channel

Songs of Praise BBC1 1.15pm

Choral Evensong Radio 3 3.00pm

Sunday Worship Radio 4 8.10am



Not choosing hymns that relate to our Sunday readings seems to have left me feeling a little bereft, so when I sat down to write this short reflection, all that came into my mind were the words to hymns. Look at the hymn ‘Lift high the Cross’. It starts by proclaiming the love of Christ and asks that all the world adore our Saviour, but its lyrics show that this was to be attained through what appears to be military victory. The conquering ranks are triumphantly following in the steps of their victorious king. ‘Stand up, stand up for Jesus’ has the same feel to it. The ‘soldiers of the Cross’ are to go into battle to ensure that the Cross is victorious. It has the same idea that Peter had in today’s gospel: that we go through life defeating our enemies, one by one, with victory following victory, until we receive the crown of glory.

That doesn’t sound much like what Jesus said to his disciples. This idea of continuous victory can too easily seep into our consciousness: to believe that ‘through him we have the victory’. But that victory comes, as Jesus tells us, when we take up our cross and follow him. Perhaps the more faithful hymn, more faithful to Our Lord’s words at least, is ‘take up thy cross and follow me’. Yes, the tune isn’t as joyful, suffering and death rarely is, but its words are beautiful, not least because they echo those of Jesus. The Cross will be heavy, it is to be borne, not waved aloft, but you can bear it in His strength. As we do so, we will gain strength and conviction in our journey, following Him through our life, until at the end, we reach not a glorious victory, but our home, with a ‘heavenly life that knows no end’.

What a wonderful thought in these troubled times.

Deborah

**Worship this week**

**Sunday 30th August 2020**

**Eucharist at 9.30am at St Anne’s**

**Eucharist at 11.15am at St Paul’s**

**Evening Prayer on Zoom at 4.00pm**

**Tuesday 1st September 2020**

**Ecumenical Prayer Group at St Paul’s at 9.30am**

**Wednesday 2nd September 2020**

**Morning Prayer on Zoom at 10.00am**

**Worship next Sunday**

**6th September 2020**

**13th Sunday after Trinity**

**Eucharist at 9.30am at St Anne’s**

**Eucharist at 11.15am at St Paul’s**

**Evening Prayer on Zoom at 4.00pm**