

Sunday 17th January 2021
2nd Sunday of Epiphany



10.30am Service of the Word

Welcome to everyone as we once again share our worship via Zoom or You tube.

To follow the service please find the service sheet with hymns here:

https://www.brindlestjames.co.uk/Groups/355120/Service_Sheets_and.aspx

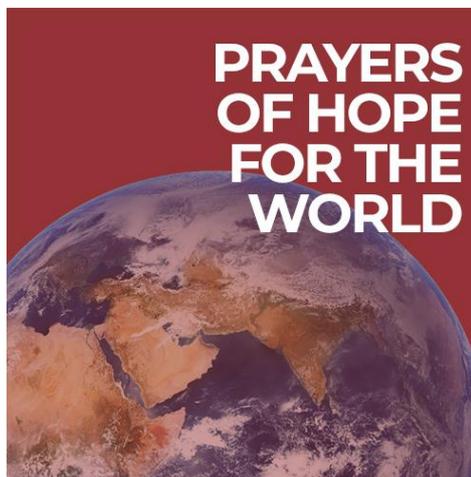
Reading: John Ch 1 v 43-end
Jesus calls Philip and Nathaniel

Collect

Almighty God,
in Christ you make all things new:
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,
and in the renewal of our lives
make known your heavenly glory;
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.

From The Word - Psalm 139:1-6 and 13-14

1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me. 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. 3 You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. 4 Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. 13 For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.



The Lambeth Conference began on 10th January with a prayer of hope and brings prayers with videos from around the worldwide Anglican Communion.

Find out more at www.lambethconference.org

A prayer from Bishop Puspallalitha Eggoni, Nandyal, South India:

Almighty God, we are praying that the world is seeking your presence and loving touch because of COVID-19. In this situation, you are the only hope of salvation. Help them to receive your power of healing through the care of doctors, nurses and others. Take away the fear, anxiety, feelings of isolation from people who are under treatment. Protect everyone and establish peace in the world.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God".
Philippians 4:6

We are continuously praying for your guidance, gracious healing to face the new realities. Help us to speak words of kindness and encouragement to each other in the family, community and society at large. Gracious Lord, grant your wisdom to understand and find your creative ways to experience the beauty of your love, concern and care towards creation and humanity.
In Jesus name We pray. Amen

Don't forget you can talk to us!



During this period of national lockdown if you need any help please do contact David, the churchwardens or Lynn 01772

323267 on behalf of the Pastoral Care team. If we can't help you ourselves we can point you in the right direction.

Food Bank donations 2021

Thank you for all the donations and gifts you have given already.

Please continue to collect your gifts of food which is urgently needed. A single tin makes a difference. When it is possible I will make sure they get to the food bank. My number is 07894110928 or email me on Sam.nicol@connectdisruptchange.me



As an alternative then a donation via an Asda gift card is fantastic too. Your kindness and

generosity is reciprocated in the love and joy I see every time I go to Over Darwen. It is both humbling and amazing to see the connection between two congregations that have never met but are joined through the body of Christ. Thank you, Sam.



All diocese clergy can refer parishioners in need of free goods and services. People on the breadline, families, elderly, the homeless and all those in need, can access bedding, clothes, furniture, kitchen equipment, preloved gifts, food, toiletries and other essentials. More information is online at www.rummagerescuers.org.uk and you can donate via their website: <https://rummage-rescuers.square.site/donations>



Answers to the Baptism quiz last week

- 1 John the Baptist
- 2 He knew Jesus was perfect
- 3 the Jordan river
- 4 a dove
- 5 God, Jesus' Father
- 6 a shell
- 7 a tap
- 8 at any age
- 9 the font
- 10 oil of chrim

Money matters

Thank you to everyone who is supporting Brindle St James by their financial donations.



Our only source of income is the money that you, our parishioners give each week. With God's grace and your generosity we seem always to

manage to pay the bills.

Thank you to everyone who is giving by standing order. It means the money is immediately available to help us pay the bills as we experience a shortfall between



expenditure and income every year.

If you are able to do this please use these details

Payee: St James Church Brindle
Sort code: 40-37-25
Account Number: 71898175

Gift aid It would be of great benefit to us for



anyone who has not already done so, and is able, to please consider

completing a Gift Aid form which increases your offering by 25%. You need only do this once. You can find a gift aid form here:

https://media.acny.uk/media/venues/page/attachment/2020/03/BankDetailsAndGiftAidForm2020Version3_page1.pdf



Brindle St James contact details

Home page: <https://www.brindlestjames.co.uk/>

Worship recordings:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/brindlestjameschurch/videos>

Twitter: www.twitter.com/BrindleStJames

Get in touch page:

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11478/get-in-touch/>

Latest news and notices:

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/11478/news/>

An excerpt from the weekly sermon which relates to our reading today
by Bishop Philip North

Imagine this.

One morning the doorbell goes and you answer your front door to find a strange looking man staring at you. He says, 'I want you to leave behind your house, your family, your job, your friends and all your possessions to come and follow me.' How would you react to an invitation like that? Most probably you'd slam the door in his face. Or even if you listened you'd have endless questions. Why should I follow you? Where to? What's in it for me?

Yet in this reading from the very end of the extraordinary first chapter of St John's Gospel, this is exactly what happens. Jesus says, 'Follow me' to Philip. And Philip does exactly that. What's more he becomes a recruiting officer for other disciples who also become followers of Jesus. How were these first disciples able to make such a sacrifice with so little thought or reflection?

The answer comes in the extraordinary promise that Jesus makes to Nathaniel at the end of the passage. 'You will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.' Jesus offers his disciples a vision of the future. And on the strength of that promise they can let go of everything.

We are living through very dark times in our nation at the moment. Coronavirus infection rates are increasing at terrifying speed, hospitals are barely coping with demand, we're shut up in our homes, we have lost so many of the freedoms that make life worth living, many of churches have felt the need to close and the news is all doom and gloom. People are desperately looking for a vision of a brighter future.

And that is exactly what the Gospel offers. A vision of the future is what we are given in relationship with Jesus Christ. In him we too can see heaven thrown open and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man. In fact that's just what we do see every time we gather for worship.

If you are unsure of your future, that uncertainty crawls its way back to fill your present with anxiety and stress. But if you know the future, and if you believe with all your heart that your future is a good and glorious one, then even in hard times you can live in hope.

We know that Jesus has won the victory. We know that in him the darkness will be dispelled. We know that love will triumph. And in that hope, even in the darkest times, we can be a people of joy.

Bishop Philip North