

Morning Service – Sunday, 14th June 2020
St Michael's Blundellsands

You may wish to light a candle and have some reflective music playing in the background. Or you can start by listening to (and joining in with). Don't forget to skip the ads.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w1YBYrJ8Hzg> *The Churches one foundation*

This week you can follow the whole service on YOUTUBE. Print off this service sheet then click on the next link and join in with the responses.

<https://youtu.be/r1OmrMUqMYI>

Opening Responses

The world belongs to the Lord,
the earth and all its people.

How good and lovely it is
to live together in unity.

Love and faith come together,
justice and peace join hands.

If the Lord's disciples keep silent,
these stones would shout aloud.

Lord open our lips,
and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

Confession

Holy God, maker of us all,
have mercy on us.

Jesus Christ, Son of Mary
have mercy on us.

Holy Spirit, breath of life,
have mercy on us.

**In the community of Christ's Church
and in the presence of all God's people
I confess to God that I have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
I have not loved God, cared for God's world,
or respected God's people as I should.
I own my responsibility and pray for God's pardon.**

May God forgive us,
Christ befriend us,
and the Spirit renew and change our lives.

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the mountains—
where does my help come from?

² My help comes from the LORD,
the Maker of heaven and earth.

³ He will not let your foot slip—
he who watches over you will not slumber;

⁴ indeed, he who watches over Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

⁵ The LORD watches over you—
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

⁶ the sun will not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night.

⁷ The LORD will keep you from all harm—
he will watch over your life;

⁸ the LORD will watch over your coming and going
both now and forevermore.



Thought for the day from Neil

When it comes to church some people think it's wrong to count. Somehow, they think it's unspiritual to count the numbers attending. Others say, "I'm not interested in numbers, I am more interested in people". But the fact is every number is a person, and God is very interested in every one of them.

In the parable of the lost sheep, which Jesus told, how did the shepherd know that one of his sheep was missing? Because he had counted.

God loves people to return to him, that's clear from the parable of the lost son. So happy is the father that he throws a party.

I love the last verse of the story when Jesus met Zacchaeus. Jesus says, 'For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost.'

Reading - Acts 2v46-47

⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Talk by Neil

Prayers

St Michael's Prayer for Growth

God of Mission
Who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
Joy to our worship
And power to our witness.
Help our church, St Michael's, to grow in numbers,
In spiritual commitment to you,
And in service to our local community of Blundellsands,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The 13th century prayer of Richard the Bishop of Chichester

May I know Thee more clearly,
Love Thee more dearly,
Follow Thee more nearly.
Amen.

A General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all people; We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we shew forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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 Blessing

The LORD bless you and keep you;

the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;

the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.

And the blessing of God Almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,

be with you for evermore. Amen.



On-line Bible Tips

Each Wednesday, I am uploading two-minute talks about 'how to read the Bible'. Many people find reading the Bible difficult, so in these videos I give a few bits of advice. To access the second video, click the link below.

<https://youtu.be/KNNMnVf4aY8>