**Church of St. Peter, Milton Bryan**

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**NONES**

**3rd Sunday after Easter**

**Sunday 25th April 2021 at 3pm**

**Introduction:** Some of you may recall joining with us as we marked 900 years of History at St. Peter's, Milton Bryan in 2017. The Bishop of Bedford and Her Grace the Duchess of Bedford were in attendance along with the leadership of our very own Revd Steve Nuth and Benefice Lay Reader Malcolm Curtis. Archie and Maddie Russell (Trustees) from the Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust along with some readers representing the Milton Bryan Congregation and PCC. Organist Roger Lander and some of the Woburn Choir seated with the congregation. A faithful Christian presence of all of these people joining together to make a most memorable evening service for all at St. Peter's, Milton Bryan on the 3rd of May 2017, as we observed and celebrated the 900th Anniversary of the consecration and founding of Merton Priory, Surrey and the historical links with Milton Bryan. After a delightful talk, Bishop Richard lit a candle and prayed with us in memory of the Augustinian Canons of Merton Priory who were once charged with the care of our Church, Grange Farm and land of Milton Bryan as it once stood. We had some poetry, bible readings, a "History Makers" talk and some wonderful Worship as we drew close to the presence of God with Steve leading us into prayer. The Diocesan Living God's Love prayer was used and referenced to in parts of the service which so wonderfully linked everything, as we worshipped and prayed together. All of this was finished off with some wonderful celebratory refreshments made by Stacey White and Barbara Wickens. With encouraging attendance from our own parish, around the Benefice and beyond, a truly wonderful, uplifting and blessed service was had. Since May 2017 we have continued to maintain our important historical links, joining with a Nones service each year and held occasional ‘Open Church History’ initiatives in connection with this. The Nones services are growing in number each year across the UK and overseas too.

Please join with us as we worship ‘Apart but Together’ in this year’s Nones Service from the comfort of our homes and lighting a candle in memory of the Augustinian Canons of Merton Priory who once cared for our Church and community.

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*This is the 235th Nones since the Dissolution said (formerly in the Chapter House ruins) in memory of the Canons of Merton Priory. 3pm Sunday 25 April 2021. This Nones will be said at “daughter” priories, churches dedicated to St Thomas a Becket, Augustinian foundations and many of the churches originally cared for by Merton Priory, St. Peter’s Milton Bryan being one of them.*

**Reasons for saying Nones**

* Nones is one of the seven prayers which used to be said every day by all those who had taken on the Religious life.
* Merton Priory was the most significant of all the Augustinian foundations in this country, it produced Holyrood Abbey, Nicholas Breakspear, The Statutes of Merton, Merton College, Oxford, and the martyr, Thomas a Becket.
* St Thomas a Becket trained at Merton Augustinian Priory and wore their habit as Archbishop.
* The Nones we say is an authentic Augustinian Nones, given to us by a practising Augustinian. Each year we are given the Scripture readings by Roman Catholic and Anglican Augustinians. The Bible Readings are encouraged in the King James Version.

It is our hope that by setting time aside at 3pm on Sunday 25th April to say Nones wherever you are, that this may be a blessing to everyone, a prayer for the wider community and a reminder of everything God has done for us since The Cross.



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**Within this sheet are some worship hymns online via YouTube. These links are not produced or owned by St. Peter’s, Milton Bryan. We simply share for all to enjoy some online worship at home.**

Please start, by finding some time to be still and peaceful.

We suggest this hymn: **Be still for the presence of the Lord** [**https://youtu.be/ZugvUQ4m90U**](https://youtu.be/ZugvUQ4m90U)

Please light a candle in memory of the Augustinian Canons of Merton Priory who once cared for Milton Bryan, if you are able and safe to do so.

On this day, we celebrate with other churches throughout the UK steeped in History, the Augustinian Canons of Merton Priory and their foundation which stretch back 904 years. We remember the work of the Augustinian Canons of Merton Priory and their understanding of the doctrine of grace, to which we all in this country, owe so much.

A moment of Silence

Main Reader: “This is God's Court, the place of peace and rest.”

**All: “The poor with Solomon's own wealth are blest.”**

Main Reader: “Our hearts were made for God and they are restless until they rest in Him. [St. Augustine of Hippo] Oh God come to our aid.”

**All: “Oh Lord make haste to help us.”**

Main Reader: “Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.”

**All: “As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.”**

**Hymn: We Love the Place, O God -** [**https://youtu.be/JU-tCzxbBPc**](https://youtu.be/JU-tCzxbBPc)

**All: ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA**.

**All sit**

**Isaiah 62:6-12**

6 I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the Lord, keep not silence, 7 And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth. 8 The Lord hath sworn by his right hand, and by the arm of his strength, Surely I will no more give thy corn to be meat for thine enemies; and the sons of the stranger shall not drink thy wine, for the which thou hast laboured: 9 But they that have gathered it shall eat it, and praise the Lord; and they that have brought it together shall drink it in the courts of my holiness. 10 Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people. 11 Behold, the Lord hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. 12 And they shall call them, The holy people, The redeemed of the Lord: and thou shalt be called, Sought out, A city not forsaken.

**All stand**

(These following Psalms (126,127) were said at the first Nones, May 1998, and thereafter always repeated.)

Main Reader: “Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it.”

**All: “Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.”**

Main Reader: “When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream.”

**All: “Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing:”**

Main Reader: “Then said they among the heathen, the Lord hath done great things for them.”

**All: “The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad.”**

Main Reader: “Turn again our captivity, O Lord, as the streams in the south.”

**All: “They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.”**

Main Reader: “Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it.”

**All: “Except the Lord keep the city the watchman waketh but in vain.”**

**All: ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA.**

**Hymn: The Head that Once Was Crowned with Thorns -** [**https://youtu.be/33wI9m5WN\_8**](https://youtu.be/33wI9m5WN_8)

All sit

**Acts 4:8-12**

8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, 9 If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; 10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. 11 This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. 12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

**All stand**

Main Reader: “ The Lord is my portion and cup, it is Thou who mark out my lot. Lord God who called our forefathers to the admirable light of the Gospel through the preaching of the founder, Gilbert the Norman, and Canons of St. Mary's Priory, Merton, grant that by their intercession we may grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ Thy Son, who lives and reigns with Thee and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.”

**All: “God of power and love, look kindly on the tasks we have begun, and at this afternoon hour renew Thy grace within us, make good our defects and bring our work to that fulfilment which accords with Thy will; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**All sit**

Psalm 125

1 They that trust in the Lord shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever. 2 As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people from henceforth even for ever. 3 For the rod of the wicked shall not rest upon the lot of the righteous; lest the righteous put forth their hands unto iniquity. 4 Do good, O Lord, unto those that be good, and to them that are upright in their hearts. 5 As for such as turn aside unto their crooked ways, the Lord shall lead them forth with the workers of iniquity: but peace shall be upon Israel.

**Hymn: How sweet the name of Jesus sounds -** [**https://youtu.be/KmlMau0WtSE**](https://youtu.be/KmlMau0WtSE)\*There would usually be an Offertory Collection during this hymn and part of the service if we were together in Church. If you are able to give and are happy to do so, you can continue to give offerings in a number of ways, please contact our Churchwarden or Treasurer to discuss and arrange this. You can also give through our website ‘Give Now’ button here at: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7658/> If writing cheques, please make these out to ‘Milton Bryan PCC’. Gift Aid envelopes are available on request.\*

All stand

**John 15: 1-11**

15 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. 2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. 3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. 5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. 6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. 8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. 9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. 10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. 11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.

**Hymn: Come down, O Love divine -** [**https://youtu.be/Gi78bnzMyws**](https://youtu.be/Gi78bnzMyws)

**The Blessing**

Main Reader: “Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. **Amen**.” [Hebrews 13 v. 20-21.]

**Enjoy this hymn as a final extra! SALVE FESTA DIES-HAIL THEE, FESTIVAL DAY**

[**https://youtu.be/uzk-2RManE8**](https://youtu.be/uzk-2RManE8)

**We invite you to raise a tea, coffee or whatever suits you for refreshments after.**

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Remembering Lionel Green, Sr Mary Kitchingham ( Sister of the Holy Family), Rev. Ernest Chapman (Church of Scotland), Tom Newman (St. Leonard’s, Sherfield-on-Loddon) and Robert Millar. All were supporters of this service.

N.B. “Salve festa dies” was sung at the first Nones, 3rd May 1117.

This verse is also remembered at every Nones: Micah 6 v.8 “He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God.”

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WhatsApp group for St. Peter's, Milton Bryan: ***'Apart but Together'***. The 'Apart but Together' group is for the community of St. Peter's Church, Milton Bryan and beyond. The purpose of this group is to maintain contact, including sharing, caring, support and prayer during the difficult times and the separation we face during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation. However, looking forward to a post-covid world we will be maintaining and renaming this group platform as means for keeping in touch whenever we wish as know this has become a valuable platform for sharing and supporting each other. If you would like to know more and consider joining this WhatsApp group please contact Stacey or Kelvin.

**https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/7658/ https://www.facebook.com/stpetersmb/ https://www.instagram.com/st.peters.mb/**

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