



Sunday, 9th May 2021

Dear Friends,

I hope everyone had a wonderful week. The weather is a bit wild just now. Thankfully last year when extreme restrictions were imposed the sun shone. Recent elections added a bit to the feel of normality and forward thinking. As May 17th approaches the house is definitely in need of a declutter. The latest cake request from a nearly six year old to Nanna is, a 'unicorn jumping over a rainbow'. Life gets increasingly challenging!

Much of the news this week has been about renewal, about moving towards a new and exciting future. The success of the COVID vaccination program has led to forecasts for jobs and the economy being upgraded. The elections have given us all an opportunity to share in choosing how we want to go forwards. Our church annual meetings are at the end of the month. We are working on a COVID recovery plan for our churches.

PRAYER

Dear Lord Jesus,

Renew our lives and our love for you.

Bless our families and friends and
help us to pray that they may learn to love you too.

Amen

This coming Thursday, 'Thy Kingdom Come' begins. It's a global prayer movement, which the Archbishop of Canterbury has invited people from all around the world to

join. Since it started in May 2016, Christians from 172 countries have taken part, praying 'Come Holy Spirit', so that friends and family, neighbours and colleagues might come to know Jesus Christ. It runs between Ascension day and Pentecost.

VERSE FROM "THY KINGDOM COME" HYMN
Thy Kingdom Come – Lord teach us how to pray
For all to know your joy, your peace and love
And know your friendship each and every day
The breath of Christ, the Father's gentle dove



Ascension day, when we remember Jesus returning to be with his father in heaven is this Thursday, May 13th. On Pentecost, the Sunday after next, we remember God sending his Holy Spirit so that Jesus can be real to us today and so that we can know God's joy, peace and love. It's a time of renewal – to renew our own relationship with Jesus and to pray, "Come Holy Spirit", so that others might come to faith in Jesus Christ.

VERSES FROM PSALM 98
Sing to the Lord a new song
for he has done marvelous things.
The Lord has made known his salvation;
He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness.

Do take part in 'Thy Kingdom Come' if you are able. Either simply by praying, "Come Holy Spirit" when you wake up in the morning and before you go to sleep at night or join us when you can on Zoom - mornings at 9:30 am for Morning Prayer and evenings at 6 pm for either Evening Prayer or Compline, from Ascension Day until Pentecost. We start at 6 pm on Ascension day.

This Sunday, 9th May, we are in Church at St Michael's, Foulridge, for Parish Communion at 9:30am and on Zoom at 11:00am. Do let Judy or me know if you would like a zoom invites. You will feel most welcome

The regular online Diocesan Sunday Service this week comes from the Church of the Ascension in Torrisholme and is led by Fr Damian Porter. It will be livestreamed at 9 am on their Facebook site. The service will also be mirrored live to the Diocesan YouTube channel and will remain on the channel as a recording after the live broadcast to watch later if you prefer.

Blackburn Cathedral broadcasts an act of worship every Sunday. This can be seen on the Cathedral website.

Thinking and praying for folk. If there is anything you need please call. If you have special prayer requests please let me know. I love to pray each day and if you are happy for us to do so, we pray for folk each week at Compline.

With love and Easter blessings,
Rev John
Mobile: 07845 790421
john.knott51@iCloud.com





PRAYER

Risen Christ,

by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples:

help your Church to obey your command
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen

THY KINGDOM COME HYMN

Thy Kingdom Come – Lord teach us how to pray
For all to know your joy, your peace and love
And know your friendship each and every day
The breath of Christ, the Father's gentle dove

Thy Kingdom Come – Christ's prayer to make us one
That all may know the Father sent the Son
To celebrate the victory He has won
In love and grace we pray: 'thy will be done'

Thy Kingdom Come – we pray for those we know
To turn and follow you for all their days
and in your love find peace and service grow
Our one desire and hope your highest praise

Thy Kingdom Come – transform our human ways
Our lives laid down in mercy, truth and care
Nations renewed, in giving thanks and praise
To see God's Kingdom come: this is our prayer

Thy Kingdom Come – we praise your Holy name
Your sacrifice and rising sets us free
That by our words and lives we may proclaim
By Jesus' risen life, God's victory!

