

PARISH NOTES

Welcome to
St John the Divine
The Parish Church of
Menston with Woodhead



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT MOTHERING SUNDAY

22 March 2020

We are sorry to announce that all public worship at St John's Parish Church, Menston must now be stopped until further notice because of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

During this time we will produce an alternative version of the Parish Notes. Please visit our website for regular updates from St John's.

READING 1 (OLD TESTAMENT): 1 SAMUEL 1:20—END

In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, "I have asked him of the LORD."

The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, "As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the LORD, and remain there forever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time."

Her husband Elkanah said to her, "Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the LORD establish his word." So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. When she had

weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine.

She brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli.

She said, "Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. For this child I prayed; and the LORD has granted me the petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he is given to the LORD." She left him there for the LORD.

READING 2 (NEW TESTAMENT) : LUKE 2: 33—35

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

*Vicar: Revd Steve Proudlove, 12 Fairfax Gardens, Menston, LS29 6ET
Tel: 877739 Email: vicar@stjohnmenston.org.uk*

*Associate Priest: Revd Andrew Howorth
Email: associate@stjohnmenston.org.uk*

*Parish Office: Burley Lane, Menston, LS29 6EU
Tel: 872433 Email: office@stjohnmenston.org.uk*

www.stjohnmenston.org.uk  *@MenstonStJohn*

Registered charity no. 1129823



We pray for



The Sick:

Ken Parker, Pauline Blake, Sylvia Bradley, Eva Pinthus, Marjorie Thompson, Madge & Eric Wilkinson, Dorothy Westwell, Rosemary Midgley

The Deceased:

Jack Smith

Memorial Book:

Annie Thomas, Alan Smethurst, Laurence Johnson, Joan Heaton, Bob Sharp, Eva Rogers

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'Count Your Blessings' - today is World Water Day

In Kenya, sand dams are providing an innovative solution to climate change. Sand dams are natural storage solutions, letting communities harvest water near their homes. When the rain does come, they catch every drop enabling a community to grow and sell crops. Let us give thanks for the variety and bounty of our diets.

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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.

CORONAVIRUS

The church building is still open during the day should you need a quiet space. All users of the space should use good hygiene practice and social distancing. Please see our website for further details.

CHURCHWARDENS NEEDED

We are blessed at St John's to have two amazing churchwardens. Unfortunately they are approaching the end of their term of service and so we are looking for others to take up this important position in the life and worship at St John's. Wardens keep the church running in a safe and healthy fashion, support the vicar and other office holders and oversee aspects of buildings, services and churchyard. Wardens work closely with the vicar planning, supporting and implementing the growth and development of the

church. Ongoing advice will always be available. Further information is available informally from either a churchwarden (Roger and Jonathan) or the vicar (Steve).

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is a fantastic way of affirming the promises made at your baptism and being commissioned into God's service for the next chapter of your life. A confirmation service will take place in church on Sunday 27 September with Bishop Toby. If this is something you might like to explore, please speak to the vicar.

Q & A SESSION

There is a questions box at the back of church where, if you have a question about faith, belief, etc., you can put the question in and when we have enough we will organise a Q+A session.

A PRAYER FOR MOTHERS DAY:

Thank you God for the love of our mothers:
thank you God for their care and concern;
thank you God for the joys they have shared with us;
thank you God for the pains they have borne for us;
thank you God for all that they give us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.