

PARISH NOTES

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



THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

3 MAY 2020

We are sorry to announce that all public worship at St John's Parish Church, Menston has stopped until further notice because of the Coronavirus.

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): ISAIAH 43: 1—21

Restoration and Protection Promised

But now thus says the Lord,

he who created you, O Jacob,

he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,

and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.

I give Egypt as your ransom,

Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight,
and honoured, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.

Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."
Bring forth the people who are blind, yet have eyes,
who are deaf, yet have ears!
Let all the nations gather together,
and let the peoples assemble.

Who among them declared this,
and foretold to us the former things?
Let them bring their witnesses to justify them,
and let them hear and say, "It is true."
You are my witnesses, says the Lord,
and my servant whom I have chosen,
so that you may know and believe me
and understand that I am he.

Before me no god was formed,
nor shall there be any after me.
I, I am the Lord,
and besides me there is no saviour.
I declared and saved and proclaimed,
when there was no strange god among you;
and you are my witnesses, says the Lord.
I am God, and also henceforth I am He;
there is no one who can deliver from my hand;
I work and who can hinder it?
Thus says the Lord,
your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:
For your sake I will send to Babylon
and break down all the bars,
and the shouting of the Chaldeans will be turned to lamentation.

I am the Lord, your Holy One,
the Creator of Israel, your King.
Thus says the Lord,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honour me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

READING 2 (NEW TESTAMENT): JOHN 20: 11—18

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

WE PRAY FOR



The Sick: Ken Parker, Pauline Blake, Sylvia Bradley, Marjorie Thompson, Eric Wilkinson, Rosemary Midgley

The Deceased: Eva Pinthus

Memorial Book: Barbara Wright, Chris Hicks, Florence Agar, Leonard Richardson, John Exley, Sheila Sheppard, Cyril Elkington, William Watmough, James Storr

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- * All who are sick in body, mind or spirit
- * Those in the midst of famine or disaster
- * Victims of abuse and violence, intolerance and prejudice
- * Those who are bereaved
- * All who work in the medical and healing professions

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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.

DAILY HOPE

The Archbishop of Canterbury has launched a free phone line as a new way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes while church buildings are closed. Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 and free to call – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during restrictions.

PARISH MAGAZINE

May's Parish Magazine is now available to read online by visiting www.stjohnmenston.org.uk/magazine

MENSTON HELPLINE

There is now a coronavirus helpline number for anyone who may need it in Menston, do not hesitate to call: 874335.

ST JOHN'S WEBSITE

Don't forget to check out our website to find service resources, including a weekly craft, sermon and reflection video, as well as prayer resources, Andrew's reading of David Kossoff's retelling of Bible stories, an Ephesians series of reflections, and much

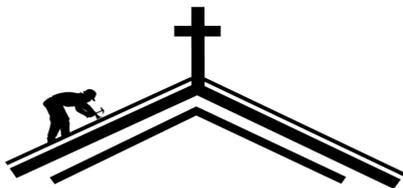
more! If you have an idea of something you would like to see on the website, or something you would find helpful, please email Steve! vicar@stjohnmenston.org.uk

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 contact the Vicar (Steve).

A NOTE FROM STEVE

No-one knows how long it will be until we are able to meet again in person. However, as vicar, I encourage you to make it part of your daily lock-down routine to pray for each other. I know many of you are already doing this, but if you all committed to praying for 5 people from the congregation each day, I'm sure that would be a massive help to both the prayer and those who are prayed for. As the church, the body of Christ, we are never fully alone, but it is our responsibility to pray for each other in this time of lockdown. So if you aren't doing it already, please pick 5 people and pray for them each day. Thanks.



ST JOHN'S ROOF APPEAL UPDATE

Donations are continuing to come in and now total

£21,254 which, with Gift Aid, amounts to £25,829.

Many thanks to those who have responded so generously.

We have not yet 'hit our target' so please consider making
a donation if you have not already done so.

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