

PARISH NOTES

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



THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

16 AUGUST 2020

There is a short, simple service of the word today at 4pm. This is a first step back towards normality, and the church leadership will keep reviewing the situation and making changes as appropriate over the summer months. This service will be limited to 30 people within the church building, maintaining physical distancing measures, and any overflow will be directed to the parish room where the speaker system will be used to enable people there to take part in the service. The church building will be open for private prayer from 10am on Sunday as normal, but will close for the rest of the day after the 4pm service. The Church of England has recommended that mask should be worn at all times when in the church building (exceptions apply). Normal hygiene measures will also be in place, and a register will be kept of those who attend for the purposes of government contact tracing.

READING 1 (NEW TESTAMENT): PSALM 133

*The Blessedness of Unity
A Song of Ascents*

How very good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together in unity!
It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
running down over the collar of his robes.
It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.

For there the Lord ordained his blessing,
life forevermore.

READING 2 (NEW TESTAMENT): MATTHEW 15: 10-28

Things That Defile

Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

The Canaanite Woman's Faith

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

WE PRAY FOR



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

Memorial Book: Carol Naylor, Freda Thackwray, Madge and Edgar
Oldfield, Robert Jeffray, Jennifer Wightman,
Marjorie Sanderson

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- * The social services
- * All who work in the criminal justice system
- * Victims and perpetrators of crime
- * The work of aid agencies throughout the world
- * Those living in poverty or under oppression

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Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we ask you to direct, sanctify and govern
both our hearts and bodies
in the ways of your laws
and the works of your commandments;
that through your most mighty protection,
both here and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

MAGAZINE DEADLINE

The September Magazine deadline for copy is today, Sunday 16 August. Your contributions are most welcome. Editor.

DIAL-A-SERMON

St John's has a phone line which offers a short Service of the Word. The call is charged at your local rate (ie. the standard local rate of your phone tariff) and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. **01943 666875**

SUNDAY RESOURCES

Today's Service of the Word video and a Zest service video are now on our website. [Click here to watch!](#)

FUNDRAISING BOOKLETS

Published during the lockdown, two new booklets by David Machin are for sale at £5 each, every penny to the church roof fund. For more information, see page 21 of this month's Parish Magazine which can be viewed on our website www.stjohnmenston.org.uk/magazine

RHYTHM OF LIFE

The Diocese has just launched an initiative to help us keep pace with

our callings as disciples of Christ. It's called "The Rhythm of Life" and is an encouragement to reflect on different aspects of our 'loving, living and learning' and make practical fixed-term commitments, aided by recommended resources. Further details are on a new Rhythm of Life page on the Digital Learning Platform. Please do consider joining together with others to participate in this. There is an online 'get started' session hosted by Bishop Tony on 8 September that you can sign up for to find out more. There are paper resources but that is a bit tricky at present! More information to follow! Marilyn.

ST JOHN'S ROOF APPEAL

Donations are continuing to come in and now total **£25,415** which, with Gift Aid, amounts to **£30,422**. 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. Due to the current situation with Covid-19, we have postponed the distribution of appeal letters to the wider community and, of course, there have been no recent fundraising events.

St John's Parish Church, Menston

licc. Transform
Work UK



TRANSFORMING WORK

Discipleship for the workplace

Encouraging each other to live out faith in the workplace

From September

Once a month for 8 sessions

In the evening, via Zoom (at least to start with)

If you want to know more or get involved,

email vicar@stjohnmenston.org.uk

Each session includes:

- A ten-minute 'table talk' video on a key workplace topic
- Interviews and stories from working Christians
- A Bible passage and teaching on how to read it
 - 'through workers' eyes'
- Time for group discussion and individual reflection
- Suggestions for prayer and going deeper

www.licc.org.uk/ourresources/transformingwork