

# PARISH NOTES

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



## ASCENSION

24 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 are producing an alternative version of the Parish Notes. Please visit our website for regular updates from St John's.*

### READING 1 (NEW TESTAMENT): ACTS 1:1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from

you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

### READING 2 (NEW TESTAMENT): LUKE 24: 44-53

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

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Registered charity no. 1129823

## WE PRAY FOR



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

**Memorial Book:** Gordon Dale, Frederick Greetham, Francis Voigt, Christine Woods, Joseph Craven, Harold Rich, William Bolton, Bill Chamberlain, Peter Waring, Peter Gilbert, Owen Massey, Michael Heckingbottom, Harold Mountain, Marjorie Green, James Moore

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- \* The Queen, members of parliament and the armed forces
- \* Peace and justice in the world
- \* Those who work for reconciliation
- \* All whose lives are devastated by war and civil strife
- \* Prisoners, refugees and homeless people

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Dear Jesus,  
may your ascension and the giving of the Holy Spirit  
lead us, your followers, to witness to your love  
that knows no end.

**Amen.**

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For all who are affected by coronavirus,  
through illness or isolation or anxiety,  
that they may find relief and recovery:

Lord, hear us,  
**Lord, graciously hear us.**

## REGULAR GIVERS

Statements of donation to St John's for the last tax year to 5/4/2020 have been prepared and will be available in church when it is open again. If anyone requires their statement for their tax return before then, I can arrange for its delivery if you let me know at [colinalexander266@btinternet.com](mailto:colinalexander266@btinternet.com) or 01943 878355.

## DAILY HOPE

Daily Hope Phone Line offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England. The line is

free to call and is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044

## MENSTON HELPLINE

There is now a coronavirus helpline number for anyone who may need it in Menston: 874335.

## ST JOHN'S ROOF APPEAL

Donations are continuing to come in and now total £22,770 which, with Gift Aid, amounts to £27,508. 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.



## JOIN THE GLOBAL WAVE OF PRAYER THY KINGDOM COME 21—31 May



What would happen if every Christian felt inspired and able to share the love of Jesus with their friends, neighbours, colleagues and communities? Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension Day and Pentecost) for more people to come to know Jesus. Visit our website for more information and prayer resources for all the family!

You are invited to a webinar, joining a time of intercessory prayer lead by Archbishop Justin Welby, Archbishop Sentamu and Cardinal Vincent Nichols on Thursday 21st May 10:30-11:00. They will be praying for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on our world today. If you would like to join – please register here: [TKC Intercessory Prayer](#). This will be followed by a live Q&A from 11-11:30am with a Facebook live led by Archbishop Justin designed for those on the edges of faith where prayer is something new to them. The Archbishop will share his personal experiences of prayer.