

St Matthias & St George Parish Church.
A member of "Christ the King" team ministry.
Week commencing 15th November 2020, 2nd Sunday before Advent

But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 1 Thessalonians 5: v 8

Fr Glenn Reading – Team Vicar
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Mel Beynon, Lay Reader, on placement as a student from Queen's College, Birmingham until Christmas.

Important, please read!

Owing to the new lockdown restrictions introduced by the Government, there will be no services held in church until the measures are relaxed post 2nd December. More information will be forthcoming nearer that date.

Nb The church will not be open for private prayer this Tuesday morning. Due to the high infection rate in Astwood Bank and surrounding area it has been decided not to open up and put people at a heightened risk of being infected.

Online streamed services for this Sunday 15th November.

- This **Sunday at 10.30 am, Ruth Wilson**, Methodist Minister, will be streaming Morning Worship on the Facebook page.
- On Sunday late afternoon **at 4 pm, Mthr Victoria** will be streaming Evening Prayer on the Facebook page.

Moreover, Mthr Victoria will be holding #PrayTogether **compline** on her FB / twitter pages every day at 9pm, until the churches are allowed to hold gathered worship once more, and anyone is welcome to join together. She says that 'The Order of Service is almost always uploaded by the amazing Phil (*Garner*) onto the Ss. M&G website, but also available by email on request to me.'

Sunday Stars: There is a letter on the website from Irene, plus activities to do during November. Go onto the website and click on Sunday Stars. Please pass this information onto any young people with whom you're in contact.

Please give notices for inclusion in next week's Spotlight to **Richard Porteous** by next Thursday on 01527 542620 or at
richardporteous@yahoo.co.uk
Log onto our website for more information
www.astwoodbankchurch.org.uk

We pray for those who are sick: Philippa, Rosie, Alex, Jean, Margaret Emms, Marion, Alexei, Dora, Margaret Savage, Nesta, Hazel, Heather, Carol, Carla, Carole, Tim, Jon & Naomi, Pastor Robin Baker, Colin, Steven, and Margaret Andrew.

Haribos wanted! Last week folks!! We've been asked to support the charity 'Home for Good', based in Worcester, which works in the field of fostering and adoption to support families and children in this area. They are putting together little care packages for children who are 18 and leaving the care system. Based on their experience from last year, they are asking for specific items and for our parish they have asked if we can provide a range of Haribo sweets which proved very popular last year. ***If you can, please drop off any variety of Haribo at the Vicarage asap.*** Mel Beynon is overseeing the practicalities of liaising with the charity and delivery of the sweets which has a **deadline of Friday November 20th, this week.**

Thank you!! Just because we can't meet in church doesn't mean that everything stops at Ss Matthias & George. Not only have we got Fr Glenn and Mthr Victoria arranging and presenting online services amongst many other duties, but Irene as Churchwarden, Ann as Treasurer and Pam as Verger are also beavering away in the background and everyone of them deserve our thanks for the hard work that they all do.

Call to Prayer: The Archbishops of Canterbury and York and the Bishop of London have written to all C of E clergy calling "all Christian people to pray and to do so continually over this next month" and to "make this month of lockdown a month of prayer". They also ask their clergy to fast and pray on Thursdays where possible.

They call for prayer every day at 6pm
<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/call-prayer-nation>.

Let us: Pray for those who are particularly fearful at the moment; **Pray** for those of all ages in our communities who may be feeling vulnerable and scared. **Pray** that the love of God might be their peace. That they may know that even in the darkest times God's love brings hope.

Pray for medical staff on the frontline, and care home workers. We pray that they will be sustained physically, emotionally and spiritually in the coming weeks.

Pray for the leaders in all parts of the UK, and the world that they will seek the wisdom of God as they make decisions over the coming days

