

**St Matthias & St George Parish Church.**  
**A member of “Christ the King” team ministry.**  
**Week commencing 3rd May 2020**

**Jesus Christ is risen, hallelujah: He is risen indeed, hallelujah**

*Jesus said, “I came that they (us) might have life, and have it abundantly” John 10 v10*

First of all a reminder about all the different art and craft activities available for young people on the church website. Just click on the ‘Sunday Stars – Activities for Easter’ page. Irene has added some additional activities during last week on the theme of ‘Jesus the Good Shepherd.’ Remember to take a photo of all finished articles and upload them to the website. Irene has a message for all younger members, ‘I hope you are all well and not finding it too hard being back to school online. Although it’s hard not being able to do the things we usually do, a big thanks for being at home and helping out with staying safe. Love and best wishes Irene’. She also has one for us oldens! ‘I am hoping you are all well. If there is anything you need please let me know and hopefully I will be able to sort it. My thoughts and prayers are with you and it hopefully won’t be long before we can meet and worship at the church once again.’ Amen to that!

***There are lots of resources on our website. This Sunday Glenn will again be holding a service online (10.30 am) whilst Victoria continues to live-stream Compline each evening. (Please see below.)***

**Fr Glenn Reading - Team Vicar**

Tel 01527 894436 or 07964 282278

**Curate: Mthr. Victoria Barlow** email

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**We pray for those who are sick:** - Philippa, Rosie, Alex, Jean, Margaret, Marion, Alexei, Dora, Margaret, Margaret, Nesta, Hazel, Heather, Carol, Carla, Carole, Tim, Jon (Jon is Paul & Diane Harrison’s son-in-law), Pastor Robin Baker, Colin, and Steven Taylor.

We pray for the soul of **Marjorie Perkins** who recently died from Covid 19 aged 97. Born and raised in Astwood Bank, she used to regularly attend our church. We hold her daughter Yvonne Walker and other members of her family in our prayers.

We also pray for the soul of **Elizabeth Atkins** recently departed and hold her family in our prayers. Elizabeth was a founder member of Feckenham History Society.

**An important message!:**

You will recall that Glenn, Ann R and Sarah recently wrote about the tight financial situation in which the church is likely to find itself this year. They have asked us to review the way in which we currently give. What would help enormously in assisting the church’s continued ministry in our community, is if we were able **to give online or setup a Direct Debit**. If you are able to do so then the details for the Bank account are below.

The sort code for our bank is:-30-96-97 and the account number is 01231758. Cheques can be made payable to ‘PCC Astwood Bank’. They finished their message with following:

‘Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support which allow us to minister to our community at this time. May the Lord bless and keep us. Amen’

**Our website:** Be sure to go onto our website [www.astwoodbankchurch.org.uk](http://www.astwoodbankchurch.org.uk) and under ‘online resources’ see all the material that Mother Victoria has uploaded to help us through the coming weeks. She also wishes to mention that the services **ARE** live streamed every Sunday at 10.30 on the Church website, (go to Virtual Church) and that she is live-streaming Compline each night at 9.20 pm, on Facebook. Victoria also states that **‘In this way, there ARE services, and we can in a sense all worship together as a dispersed community.’**

**Please pray** for all patients in hospitals throughout the country suffering from Covid 19; for all NHS staff and Chaplaincy Teams and for Care Home staff and carers in the community. We pray also for the souls of over 100 NHS and Care Homes staff who have died from the disease and for their families and loved ones.

**Churches Together in Redditch (CTiR):**

Rather than concentrating on an individual church in May, CTiR has sent a list of prayers for us to use. As it is a long list, groups of different prayers will be listed each week. Here is this week’s list:

**Above all pray:** For God’s mercy and deliverance from the Coronavirus

That many would seek truth during this time and find Jesus

That God’s worldwide church would step up and proclaim Christ boldly

For opportunities in Redditch to show the love and compassion of Jesus and share our faith verbally

For specific friends, neighbours, family members or those on your frontline who come to mind

**Foodbanks:** It is crucial that we support foodbanks more than ever during this time of considerable anxiety for many. Please give as generously as you can and place items of food and toiletries in the boxes located at supermarkets.

Log onto our website for more information  
[www.astwoodbankchurch.org.uk](http://www.astwoodbankchurch.org.uk)

That we would come out of this stronger in faith, deeper in our love for Jesus and each other, hungrier to know God as we move forward, more fervent in prayer and bolder in our witness

Please give notices for inclusion in next week's edition to **Richard Porteous** by next Thursday on 01527 542620 or at [richardporteous@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:richardporteous@yahoo.co.uk)