

**St Matthias & St George Parish Church.**  
**A member of “Christ the King” team ministry.**  
**Week commencing 12th July 2020, 5th Sunday after Trinity**

*If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. Romans 8 v 11*

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**This Sunday:** Father Glenn will again be holding Morning Prayer online at 10.30 am **in our church and will be joined by Mother Victoria** who continues to live-stream Compline each evening at 9 pm. Click on the Church website, and then click onto Virtual Church. If you'd like to watch Reverend Ruth saying Methodist Evening Prayer at 7pm Monday to Friday, then go onto the Bridge Church website and click on Virtual Church.

**Our Website:** Please visit our website [www.astwoodbankchurch.org.uk](http://www.astwoodbankchurch.org.uk) and under Virtual Church click on 'Prayers and Scripture in Times of Anxiety' to see the material that Mother Victoria has uploaded. *Don't forget that the website also contains children's activities.*

**Foodbanks:** With the economic situation becoming dire for many families after another week of several thousand people being made unemployed, the importance of foodbanks continues to grow. If you can, please support foodbanks during this time of considerable anxiety for many. Please leave any food or toiletry donations on the Vicarage doorstep. Glenn will then take them to Newstart in Bromsgrove which is still operating for vulnerable families. Alternatively leave a donation or two in the boxes provided by the supermarkets.

**Prayer Chain:** If you have someone you wish to be prayed for, please contact Pauline Jones on 892650 who will then contact other members of the Prayer Group.

**Today** we celebrate the life of **St Veronica**. Though her story appears late in the history of the early church, it relates to the very heart of the Gospel, Jesus' way to Golgotha. As he fell, carrying his cross on the way to be crucified, she wiped his face with her cloth. On the cloth was left an image of his face. Scholars have pointed out that Veronica's name may well derive from the story itself since Vera means 'true' and icon means 'image'. Thus she obtained the true image of Jesus. A veil of Veronica is preserved in Rome.

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

**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 & Naomi, Pastor Robin Baker, Colin, Steven, Joan Murray and Margaret Andrew.

**A 'Recovery Group'** formed from the clergy and from church laity have met twice with another meeting scheduled next Wednesday, to discuss the reopening of the church for private prayer and subsequently for the resumption of worship. Needless to say this involves the resolution of a considerable number of issues and will take some time. Glenn, however, hopes to be sending out a letter via email or post as appropriate in the near future, outlining the re-opening process and how our worship can be expected to continue into the future.

**CTiR:** The following are new prayers provided by Churches Together in Redditch and you may wish to keep them at hand and read them over the coming week.

We pray:

- for those still fighting COVID-19 in hospitals around the world, bring them strength. Let them not feel lonely despite the barrier of PPE and lack of visitors. Let your love and caring intervene for those fearing for their lives.

- for those facing financial insecurity and redundancy – please bring them peace, freedom from anxiety and guide them to new opportunities.

- for those already facing homelessness or poverty, please provide comfort and support. Let our Government be mindful of the needs of these people, and the various charities providing help be well provisioned to support them. Let there be hope in place of despair.

- we ask that you use your church as a promoter of unity at this time. Let us be the first to demonstrate love for all. Teach us to work through differences and open our hearts to see others the way You see us.

- for those who have engaged in online services during lockdown who may not be churchgoers. Give them the courage to join churches, when possible, to seek answers and salvation in You.

Thank You, Lord, for all You have provided for us – for our friends, our families, for the home comforts we have and the food we eat. Let us not take them for granted.

