

**St Matthias & St George Parish Church.**  
**A member of “Christ the King” team ministry.**  
**Week commencing 5th July 2020, 4th Sunday after Trinity**

*Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”*

**Fr Glenn Reading – Team Vicar**

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**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 & Naomi (Naomi is Paul & Diane Harrison’s daughter and Jon their son-in-law), Pastor Robin Baker, Colin, Steven, **Joan Murray and Margaret Andrew.**

**Foodbanks:** *With the economic situation becoming dire for many families after a 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. *Currently most foodbanks are giving out food parcels and the following items are always needed: cereal, soup, pasta, rice, tinned tomatoes, pasta sauce, lentils, beans, pulses, tea/coffee, biscuits, fruit juice, tinned meat and tinned vegetables.*

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.

**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.

**We give thanks** as the Covid statistics continue to improve in this country, albeit slowly.

**We pray** that there will be a pick up in the economy and that the population will be sensible and mindful of the rules governing the gradual returning to normality especially following the re-opening of the hospitality sector.

**We pray** for the people of those countries, often with poorer health systems, where the growth of Covid 19 shows little sign of abating.

**We pray** for the people of Leicester that the resumption of lockdown will not be prolonged.

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)

**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.*

**This Sunday: Good news!** *Father Glenn will again be holding Morning Prayer online at 10.30 am but this time in our church and will be joined by Mother Victoria* who will be continuing to live-stream Compline each evening at 9 pm. Go to the Church website, click on and go to 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.*

A ‘**Recovery Group**’ formed from the clergy and from church laity have met once, 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.

**The Revd Mike Bartlett:** Today Father Mike receives his farewell gift at St Peters though he will lead his final services on July 19<sup>th</sup> before leaving the parish on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. We wish Mike and his wife Lynn many happy years of retirement in their new home.

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

Lord, we pray for co-operation between nations in fighting the virus;

we ask that international aid for developing, poverty-stricken or war-torn countries would not fall away as a result of the economic downturn; we mourn the many whose lives have been cut short due to this virus. We lift up their grieving families and friends and ask for Your comfort and peace;

we 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.





