

St Saviour's Church

Coalpit Heath Newsletter

June 2020

Hello everyone, I hope this newsletter finds you keeping well. Thank you to Lucy for printing it. I am sorry it has taken so long to produce, but hopefully most of you have already had contact from Church by phone, visit or email. There is not much news to tell, but I am looking forward to being allowed back into church very soon. It will be very different, socially distanced and maybe no singing. As we hear news, we will let you know. The best way to do this is by email, so do let Andy know your email address. However, if you don't have email, please also let Andy know so that we can keep you updated by other means. There is also lots of information that is updated weekly on the church website, so do check that out regularly www.coalpitheath.org.uk

In the wider news, just last week Cannon Dr Mandy Ford was announced as the new Dean of Bristol Cathedral. We look forward to welcoming Mandy to the diocese and working with her. You can see her video on this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i1kiHH-xcfl>

Thanks to Mike, Mary and Colin for all the regular phone calls. If you have not had a call and would like to be added to the list, then please let Andy know. If there is anything we can do to help, do contact us.

Andy and Paul - 01454 882867 01454 774250 - andrew@brander.me.uk

Jesus with us • Minister's Letter, July 2020

Like me, I expect you have mostly been 'confined to quarters' for quite a long time now. Although for most of us this is due to the coronavirus pandemic, for some it is their normal state, house-bound, even bed-bound. Most of the church's celebrations are to do with events, like the Annunciation, the Nativity of our Saviour, the Crucifixion ... However, occasionally, we celebrate not an event but an idea. This is the case with the Holy Trinity. Another 'idea feast', which is less prominent, celebrates the passionate and compassionate love of Jesus, and goes under such titles as the Sacred Heart, or the Divine Compassion of Christ. Its designated feast day is the second Friday after Trinity Sunday. Here is a feast for 'lockdown'! It is not about an event but about the very nature of Jesus – Jesus who is with us where we are now. Jesus' love for us is not a rose-tinted love, but a committed and compassionate love. The pictorial representation of the feast is usually of a heart surrounded by thorns. This reminds us of the suffering and painful love of our Saviour. There are stories every day at the moment about compassionate care, and people risking their own lives to care for those suffering from Covid-19. They risk their lives because these people cannot care any longer for themselves – they have got to the point where they need the help of others. We are all like this before Jesus. We cannot overcome our faults and failures on our own – we need to call on his love, forgiveness and mercy. Because his love is not 'fair weather' love, but love for stormy and turbulent times too, we know he will not turn away from us, but will reach out to embrace us. Even in our isolation he is with us. Let us rejoice and rest in his compassionate heart.

Short, spoken, services of about ten minutes are still being put on our church website, week by week: www.coalpitheath.org.uk. I hope you are able to listen to them.

Colin Lunt

Prayer of the month - Edward Norman

May the God who gives life to all creatures
Give to us a vision of a sanctified world
Beyond the conflicts of this present time.
Help us to remember that the divine purposes are not served by human wrath,
and that wickedness expresses itself, as does virtue,
In the intentions and acts of all people.
To the end of our days, O Lord, preserve us in the hope of a world
Filled with your goodness and illuminated by your mercy.

Monthly Calendar and Sunday Readings - June 2020

Readings are from Year A of the *Common Worship* lectionary, normally the Principle Service readings in the morning (with 'related' Old Testament reading, where applicable) and the Second Service readings in the evening.

Sunday 14 June - The First Sunday after Trinity (Proper 6)

Morning: Exodus 19.2-8a ; Psalm 100 ; Romans 5.1-8 ; Matthew 9.35 - 10.8 [9-23]

Evening: Psalms [42] 43 ; 1 Samuel 21.1-15 ; Luke 11.14-28

Sunday 21 June - The Second Sunday after Trinity (Proper 7)

Morning: Jeremiah 20.7-13 ; Psalm 69.8-11[12-17]18-20 [or 69.14-20] ; Romans 6.1b-11 2 ; Matthew 10.24-39

Evening: Psalms 46 [48] ; 1 Samuel 24.1-17 ; Luke 14.12-24

Sunday 28 June - The Third Sunday after Trinity (Proper 8)

Morning: Jeremiah 28.5-9 ; Psalm 89.1-4,15-18 [or 89.8-18] ; Romans 6.12-23 ; Matthew 10.40-42

Evening: Psalm 50 [or 50.1-15] ; 1 Samuel 28.3-19 ; Luke 17.20-37

Christian Aid Week

The 'Together for Fromeside' Just Giving website has reached 97% of its £3,000 target for Christian Aid Week donations. The link is www.justgiving.com/TogetherforFromesideChurches2020 Many thanks to all those who have donated in this way. If you are not able to donate online, but would still like to support this great charity, Jessica would be happy to call and collect a donation from you. Tel, 01454 228666.

Update from the latest news is that hopefully we will be able to open the Church for private prayer from the 15th June.

House groups are still meeting online via Zoom on Mondays at 7.30 led by Colin. Also Mary's Prayer group on Friday at 7.30. Please contact Colin 01454 775129 colin@lunt.org.uk or Mary 01454 887870 mary.head@blueyonder.co.uk if you'd like to join either group.