

St Laurence Parish Church, Frodsham
Newsletter for week commencing Sunday 22nd November 2020 – Christ the King, Year A
 “To know God and to make God known”

Vicar: Rev Elaine Atack – revelaine@nym.hush.com

Website: slfchurch.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/saintells/

This week

Sunday 22 nd Nov		No service due to lockdown Online service – see below for link	Ephesians 1.15-end Matthew 25.31-end
Monday	10.00-13.00	Church open for private prayer – please wear a face mask	
Tuesday	10.00-13.00	Church open for private prayer – please wear a face mask	
Wednesday		Church closed	
Thursday		Church closed	
Friday	12 noon	Funeral of Dorothy Jolly (invited guests only) Church closed for private prayer	
Saturday		Church closed	
Sunday 29 th Nov		No service due to lockdown	

Please join us for our online service each Sunday – and hear familiar voices. The link currently is:

<https://slfchurch.org/trinity-17-on> and is also displayed on our website and Facebook page

If you or anyone you know would like a CD then contact Rev Elaine or Andrew and Wendy Rudd to arrange.

Unfortunately, due to another lockdown there will be no Sunday services in church for the next few weeks. However we will be open for Private Prayer: Mondays & Tuesdays – 10am–1pm. Many thanks for your continued prayers, patience and support at this unpredictable time.

Prayers

Our prayers for those who are sick: If you know of anyone whom you feel needs our prayers – please ask permission from them or their family and then pass their name to Rev Elaine:

revelaine@nym.hush.com

Please pray for –

Those who are sick

For those who have died

Those whose anniversary of death falls at this time

Letter



Dear Friends,

This Sunday marks the end of the current Church year – and we celebrate the feast of Christ The King. What a grand image this gives us. We may think of pomp and ceremony, jewels, ornate crowns, wealth, status, authority and power.

Is this what Jesus is really like? Not at all - that image doesn't relate to the Jesus born in a stable and riding into Jerusalem on a donkey. No jewels, no riches – just a crown of thorns.

Although we think of Jesus as having all power, majesty and honour – he is a very different sort of king – not proud but humble; and he is our “servant king” as the famous hymn tells us.

The kingdom of God is seen when love transforms the world of pain, death and suffering. LOVE is the emblem of Jesus – the universal King. The kingship of Jesus is based on the power of love – not the love of power.

He needs us to be his messengers: he has no hands, but ours – no feet, but ours – no tongue, but ours – and his love can shine out to others through us: his love, his mercy, his good news. This is so vitally important during this pandemic.

We don't have to be wealthy or powerful or talented – all we need is a warm and willing heart. Everyone can do something – no matter how small.

That's how Jesus will recognise us as his people when we get to the gate of heaven.

The King is among us: may we both see him and be him in the most unlikely situations.

Please reflect on this poem "We stand amazed" by Ian M Fraser:

*Lord God, what a risk there was in your becoming flesh!
What a depth of self-giving love for your world!*

*We stand amazed
at such power bent by such love
to accept such humiliation
for such as us.*

*We stand amazed
that suffering love
should be the power above all power,
the power which transforms the universe
and wins its freedom.*

*We bless and adore our incredible Lord;
God most high brought low for our sakes.*



If you are not already aware of it, please can I draw your attention to the "Prayer for the Nation" initiative from the Church of England. We are being encouraged to use this lockdown to pray – if we can, at 6pm each day as an act of solidarity – but anytime is fine too. Some of the prayers and a link to this can be found further on in this newsletter.

Please keep safe, keep well and keep in touch with one another.

With love and blessings,

Elaine 😊

Notices



PRAYER FOR THE NATION The Archbishops of Canterbury and York and senior church leaders have called a month of Prayer for the Nation during the second lockdown. The suggestion is that as many of us as possible unite to do this at 6pm each day.

Below are three prayers but you can see and download all the prayers at the following link:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-11/PftN%20Booklet%20spreads.pdf>

Loving God, at this time of crisis when so many are suffering, we pray for our nation and our world. Give our leaders wisdom, our Health Service strength, our people hope. Lead us through these parched and difficult days to the fresh springs of joy and comfort that we find in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Loving Father God, be with us in our distress: with our families, friends and neighbours, our country and our world. Give health to the sick, hope to the fearful, and comfort to the mourners. Give wisdom to our frontline and key workers, insight to our government and patience to us all; Overcome disease with the power of your new life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Loving God, you know us and all that we are facing. We thank you that we can come to you as we are – with all our fears and concerns, our difficulties and challenges. Please draw close to each of us and those we remember before you now. Bring to us your peace and comfort. And fill us with your Spirit that we may be bearers of your

grace and hope to others. As a country protect us, encourage us and keep us. In the name of your Son Jesus we pray. Amen.

REV ELAINE asks us to send in suggestions for our favourite carol and we will be putting a link to one each day on our website and Facebook page during Advent and Christmas Day from 1st to 25th December. Please send your suggestions to saintells@gmail.com. More information about plans for Christmas next week.

HOT OFF THE PRESS (or at least out of the steriliser!) Pickled onions in sherry are now available. Beryl also has Apple Chutney, Redcurrant Jelly and Damson Jam. When they're gone, they're gone. Please contact her after 10am or email saintells@gmail.com if you don't have her number.

RUSS' GARDEN CHUTNEY is from his own, and an excellent Frodsham garden! Russ's email is russnaylor@ntlworld.com for order and collection.

FOODBANK Donations can be made at Morrison's, Sainsbury's and Tesco and also to Frodsham distribution centre at Guide HQ, Ship Street between 1 and 3 pm on Fridays (excluding Bank Holidays). Current needs are biscuits, tinned fruit and long-life fruit juice. To find out about obtaining a voucher, opening times of distribution centres or how to donate financially through the online donation page, please visit the website - runcorndistrict.foodbank.org.uk

DONATIONS TO CHURCH Many people will now find it difficult to make their usual weekly contributions to the church. If you would like to contribute directly, our Bank Account details are as follows: ST LAURENCE FRODSHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL Sort Code: 09-01-55 Account No: 42559803. Alternatively, you can use our online donations page <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/371c0c8f-ea13-4763-9688-e0de77dd8475>
The work of our church during this difficult time is reliant on people's generosity, a generosity that is a hallmark of a lived-out faith and a testament to it. Thank you.

News from Church Members

FROM CYNTHIA LAWSON

The highlight of my Saturday is the delivery of my newsletter with my CD. Wenet and I have a good chat with all that is happening in the church family and close home families. A huge thank you for the work Wendy. Does. It must take a long time to complete her deliveries. Special thanks to Andrew for the work he does putting together the CD. I know that Rev Elaine thanks Andrew each day in the service but this is a personal thank you from all the congregation like me who thrive on the services I receive.

My thanks and blessings to all those who contribute to keeping me in touch with all St Lawrence stands for and togetherness in these difficult times

Love and payers, Cynthia Lawson

BERYL'S BLOG

Is there a good side to lockdown? Well, for me, yes! I can avoid any confrontations. During Lockdown Mark 1 it was mid-September before I felt able to go to the shops. I ventured into Morrison's – my first shopping trip since February. I only needed a few fresh items so I was 'in and out' quite quickly having spoken to no-one and remained hidden behind my mask. Two weeks later I ventured again into the store. Same system as previously mentioned but whilst packing my few things at the till I heard 'Excuse me' from a lady, not wearing a mask, standing at the next till. I didn't know her so thought she must be speaking to someone else. 'Excuse me', she said again whilst rattling my trolley. 'You spoke to me last week.' I told her it could not have been me as I hadn't been in the store 'last week.' She continued at a higher volume, 'It was you. You told me off for not wearing a mask.' I assured her I had not spoken to her or anyone else about their decision not to wear a mask and turned away to pay for my groceries. The lady persisted with responding more than once, 'It was you. It was definitely you – you told me off.' I felt very tense and headed for the door but not before glancing around and realising the continuous outburst had attracted the attention of customers in both our queues and the surrounding area. I couldn't help thinking of the person who must have told her off for not wearing a mask – what a shame it had no effect. Time to head home and calm down with a cup of tea and my custard doughnut treat. Just when I thought my day couldn't get any worse, I sank my teeth into the doughnut only to bite into raspberry jam – the packet was wrongly labelled!!



Stay safe. Beryl x

Contributions for the Newsletter should be emailed to saintells@gmail.com by 7pm on Wednesday. Thank you
If you wish to be unsubscribed from this weekly newsletter, please email saintells@gmail.com with
'Unsubscribe' in the heading

From the Church of England:



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers