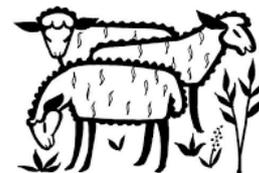




NEWSLETTER

Sunday 3 May - 4th Sunday of Easter



Acts 2.42-end; 1 Peter 2.19-end; John 10.1-10

Online Service this Sunday



There will be a recording of worship for this Sunday which will be shared on the **St Nicks YouTube channel** www.youtube.com/channel/UC_10sXmB7N5CKsD60_eRXjg

Why not subscribe to the channel and be alerted when new material is added!

Find other worship resources at stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/covid19/worship/



The Grapevine

The May issue of The Grapevine is now available on the St Nicks website at stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/news/grapevine-may-2020/. There is no printed edition this month.

More than a gesture - a reflection by Bishop David Smith

Standing outside on a Thursday evening at 8.00 pm along with many neighbours to applaud the NHS may seem a fairly low key gesture but it has more significance than that. It enables us to demonstrate a genuine and very deep sense of gratitude to a wide range of people who in diverse ways care for our health and well being. Such people can so easily be taken for granted.



As I write this I have just observed a minute's silence as the nation remembers those who have lost their own lives in caring for people who are ill with the coronavirus. With the photo of each one on my computer screen it was possible to pray for them individually. What a varied and talented group of

people they were. One minute may again seem like a gesture but it was far more significant. These were real people from many countries and not statistics.

It does not end there. A thorough review as to what was done, not done and what should have been done will, no doubt take place in due and that is not for me to comment on. What is very important today is that we should be determined to insist that the NHS must be properly funded so that our gratitude will have a tangible and positive expression, otherwise we might be guilty of just making a gesture with our prayers and applause. We will not just be caring for an organisation but for human being like ourselves who spend their lives in the service of others.

In his epistle James writes, 'If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you

do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.' It is not difficult to apply this understanding to caring for the NHS today. People of faith and no faith need to take this to heart.

Almost as a postscript but no less sincere is the gratitude that the vulnerable and elderly in the village express to the volunteers who are giving generously of their time to get food and other supplies for us. This is greatly appreciated. So, too, are the phone calls so that we know we are not forgotten especially if we live alone.

There is much for which to give thanks.

May God bless you.

Bishop David



Worship by Telephone

If you know of people who aren't able to access online worship resources, you might like to tell them about a new service called Daily Hope launched by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

You can call 0800 804 8044 for free 24 hours a day and hear hymns, reflections and prayers.

Find out more at cofe.io/DailyHope.



A free phone line of hymns,

The churches are closed until further notice, both for public worship and private prayer.

News and Notices

Sunday Worship. Do join us for the online service led by Nick Bird. There will again be a service on local radio, (Radio York 103.7) on Sunday at 8.00am led by one of the Christian denominations. On BBC1 the service is advertised for 10.45am but does seem to change time at the last minute.



VE Day Weekend 8th to 10th May. Although we cannot celebrate this weekend together Radio York are suggesting we make a cuppa and have a slice of cake on Friday. You might want to do this from your front garden?

A message from Dunnington Methodist Church

In your home and in isolation know you are not alone.

Rev Ruth is holding Zoom meetings on Wednesdays and Sundays at 9am and Tuesdays at 7pm. If you are interested in joining please e mail her on ruth.duck@methodist.org.uk for more details.



Great 50 days initiative between Easter and Pentecost.
www.yorkshirenethodist.org/our-work/great-50-days/

Let us pray for those who care for others;

For Doctors, nurses, and care workers,

For those who clean and cook and organise behind the scenes,

For Chaplains, especially Rachel and Louise at York Hospital,

For all those working in hospitals. For those working in Care homes,

For those working in the community.

Let us pray for their safety and health, and that of their families, and for them to be sustained in difficult times.

We pray too for those who care at home for family and friends who are ill or need help. Strengthen and sustain them and help them with their responsibilities.

Loving father, we pray that all who care for others may know your love and care for them, and be enabled to care for others in the same way.

Amen

Lectionary Corner Prayers & Information

English Saints and Martyrs of the Reformation Era

Merciful God, who, when your Church on earth was torn apart by the ravages of sin, raised up men and women in this land who witnessed to their faith with courage and constancy: give to your Church that peace which is your will, and grant that those who have been divided on earth may be reconciled in heaven and share together in the vision of your glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Amen.

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This day is set aside to remember all who witnessed to their Christian faith during the conflicts in church and state, which lasted from the fourteenth to the seventeenth centuries but were at their most intense in the sixteenth century. Though the reform movement was aimed chiefly at the papacy, many Christian men and women of holiness suffered for their allegiance to what they believed to be the truth of the gospel. As the movement grew in strength, it suffered its own internecine struggles, with one group determined that they were the keepers of truth and that all others were therefore at best in a state of ignorance and at worst heretical. In the twentieth century, ecumenical links drew the churches closer to each other in faith and worship and all now recognise both the good and evil that evolved from the Reformation Era.

Sourced from 'Exciting Holiness'

Julian of Norwich - Spiritual Writer c.1417

Most holy God, the ground of our beseeching, who through your servant Julian revealed the wonders of your love: grant that as we are created in your nature and restored by your grace, our wills may be so made one with yours that we may come to see you face to face and gaze on you for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Amen.

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On this day in the year 1373, when she was thirty years old and suffering from what was considered to be a terminal illness, a woman of Norwich, whose own name is unrecorded, experienced a series of sixteen visions, which revealed aspects of the love of God. Following her recovery, she spent the next twenty years of her life pondering their meaning and recorded her conclusions in what became the first book written by a woman in English, The Revelations of Divine Love. At an unknown point in her life, she became an anchoress attached to the Church of St Julian in Norwich, and it was by this name of Julian that she came to be known to later generations. She died around the year 1417.

Sourced from 'Exciting Holiness'

Lectionary Corner at St Nicholas

4 May: English Saints and Martyrs of the Reformation Era

8 May: Julian of Norwich, Spiritual Writer c.1417



Do you need practical support or a friendly chat?

If you need help/support but don't know who your local Community Support Group volunteers are, please email covid19east york@gmail.com, or call Rev Nick Bird on 01904 489349 and we will link you up.

Would you like to receive this newsletter by email? Contact Victoria on grapevine.rey@gmail.com. It is also available to download from the St Nicholas Church website at www.stnicholasdunnington.org.uk/news/

Next newsletter on **Sunday 10 May**. Items to grapevine.rey@gmail.com by **9.00 am on Thursday 7 May**