

St Mary's Church Newick
A Worshipping Community - Sunday 29th March 2020 10.30am

This short act of worship has been prepared for you to use at home, as due to the current situation we are unable enter our Church building together, either here in Newick or in our neighbouring parishes, but the life of the church continues in the community, in our homes, in our prayer and pastoral ministry.

Why not spend a few moments with God, knowing that other people are sharing this act of worship with together within our communities?

If you are a joining us from further away, welcome, and if you would like to message us, we would love to be praying for you via church.newick@gmail.com or through our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/saintmarysnewick/>

We will keep everyone up to date, broadcast services and times of prayer, on our Church Facebook page and continue to build a sense of community during this time of isolation through the Newick Community Resource Page https://www.facebook.com/groups/798875173939553/?ref=group_header

Opening Prayer

As we come to worship you might like to have a time of silence and light a candle. Then pray: **Holy and Loving God I come to worship you, as I do, I remember that I am a part of your church in my community and in the world, and I take comfort from the fact that I am not alone. Come by your Holy Spirit and help me to worship you in spirit and in truth.**
Amen

Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this:

'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord.

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.'

There is no other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Amen. Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray together

Holy and Loving God, all life comes from you, and in you all things hold together.

As we remember this, we pause to give you thanks and Praise.

As we remember this, we are reminded that you hold the end from the beginning, and that nothing is too large or too small for you.

As we remember this, remind us that as all things are held, so we are held by you, in love.

**Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you. In this time of anxiety:
Help us in our anxious thoughts.
Help us in our day to day lives.
Help us in this time of deep uncertainty.
Give us strength to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, always and everywhere.**

**We acknowledge that at times we are selfish, at times we do not seek you first.
But we know that you are always faithful, merciful, gracious, and forgiving.
(Silence)
We receive your mercy and forgiveness faithfulness and grace.
In the name of Christ.
Amen**

*Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or listen to it here
Mighty to Save by Ben Fielding and Reuben Morgan and sung by Laura Story*

<https://youtu.be/HnXX8TbUX-E>

Today's Gospel Reading: John 11: 1-45

- 1 Now a certain man was ill, Laz'arus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.
- 2 It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Laz'arus was ill.
- 3 So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill."
- 4 But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness is not unto death; it is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by means of it."
- 5 Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Laz'arus.
- 6 So when he heard that he was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.
- 7 Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go into Judea again."
- 8 The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were but now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?"
- 9 Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any one walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world.
- 10 But if any one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him."
- 11 Thus he spoke, and then he said to them, "Our friend Laz'arus has fallen asleep, but I go to awake him out of sleep."
- 12 The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover."
- 13 Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep.
- 14 Then Jesus told them plainly, "Laz'arus is dead;
- 15 and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."
- 16 Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

17 Now when Jesus came, he found that Laz'arus had already been in the tomb four days.

18 Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off,

19 and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother.

20 When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary sat in the house.

21 Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

22 And even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you."

23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

24 Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,

26 and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

27 She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, he who is coming into the world."

28 When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying quietly, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you."

29 And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him.

30 Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him.

31 When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

32 Then Mary, when she came where Jesus was and saw him, fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled;

34 and he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see."

35 Jesus wept.

36 So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!"

37 But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

38 Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb; it was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.

39 Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days."

40 Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?"

41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.

42 I knew that thou hearest me always, but I have said this on account of the people standing by, that they may believe that thou didst send me."

43 When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Laz'arus, come out."

44 The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with bandages, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

45 Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him

Talk

Time to Reflect

Today's readings are full of hope, reminding us that the resurrection is real, and new life is possible.

Take time to read the gospel passage slowly and prayerfully again.

Is there a word or a passage that stands out to you?

Pause to spend time with that word/ passage.

What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?

If Jesus were stood before you what would you like to ask him?

Take a time to sit quietly

The Creed By Hillsong Worship

Sing/ Read /pray /proclaim the words or listen to it here

<https://youtu.be/GKhS6o8xELw>

Giving

Up until this point in time, every Sunday we have had a collection from your generosity to resource the Ministry & Mission here at St Mary's as well as supporting our wider mission & community engagement.

By responding to what God has given us, our giving also provides us an opportunity to symbolise the offering of ourselves by the offering of our gifts. We make our lives an offering, our time, our money and our love.

I have to ask that during these difficult times and only if you are able to consider offering this kind of support in whichever way you can.

Your kindness and generosity equips us with the means to maintain Christ's vision and action in our community.

A time of prayer

*In our prayers today,
we put all thoughts and worries and hopes
into the hands of God.*

*You may like to hold your own hands
in front of you as you pray.*

Let's pray

Holy and Loving God we pray for your world, for the leaders who are making difficult decisions as every day brings new changes and challenges.

Lord of all, Lord for all

Hear our prayer

We pray for our nation, that decisions might be made with wisdom and care for the benefit of all.

Lord of all, Lord for all

Hear our prayer

We pray for our village of Newick, for our brothers and sisters in Chailey, Fletching and Barcombe. And for those who are joining us from further away.

We pray for all, that your peace might reign and that your perfect love might settle our fears.

**Lord of all, Lord for all
Hear our prayer**

We pray for frontline workers, Drs, nurses, carers, HCA's, shop workers, refuse collectors, teachers, TA's, postal workers, funeral directors, emergency services team working in close proximity to each other for our safety and wellbeing.

We pray for our Hospitals, especially Princess Royal, Brighton County and Queen Victoria

We pray for all those incredible folk working, living and caring at Chailey Heritage, at Bevern View who are watching today (much love guys and we miss you) for our nursing homes and their amazing care teams.

**Lord of all, Lord for all
Hear our prayer**

We pray for our loved ones, those we know who may be ill, those who are struggling, those who are confused and conflicted... (*you might like to name names here*)

**Lord of all, Lord for all
Hear our prayer**

And finally we pray for ourselves, you know what is on our hearts and minds, and so we offer that to you (again you might like to name your own prayers and concerns)

**Lord of all, Lord for all
Hear our prayer
Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Hymn: Listen to. And Can it Be by Stuart Townsend
<https://youtu.be/Tu2uA6U4Fyg> \

A prayer of blessing

May you know the deep peace of the God who knows and perfectly loves you.

**May you take the yoke of Jesus upon you, knowing that he bears your load with you.
May you know the indwelling Spirit bringing you wisdom and peace.
Amen**

Rev' d Paul Mundy
Associate Vicar of St Mary's Church, Newick