

Dear friends,

Much love and continued prayers from the Rectory at St Mary's Newick,

and thank you to Sue, Teresa, Patsy , Owls Club, Andy Rees and Josh Stockwell for the Service this week, 

This week's Service: <https://vimeo.com/433165027>

Printable order of service here: Sunday

Families and Owls; Don't forget Ali is on at 10am via St Mary's Facebook Page 
Next week Ali is hosting Weds4CC (Wednesday 4 o'clock Craft Club) and Friday Bible time will be followed by Zoom

On Friday 3rd July at 12 noon, at St Mary's, we have the funeral of our much loved and respected Dennis Baker. Sadly we are still restricted on numbers and this will be a family only service at the graveside. However you will be able to pay your respects on Dennis' journey to St Mary's as the hearse will leave around 11:40hrs from Dennis & Daphne's home in Oldaker Road, and onwards through the estate, passing the entrance Levellor Road, turning left into The Rough and right into Newick Drive, then turning right onto Western Road, The High Street, The Village Green, Church Road and arriving at St Mary's Just before 12noon. Please do hold Anne, David and the family in your prayers, and please come out along the route to pay your respects if you are able.

This Sunday, Matthew reminds us of the importance of welcome and hospitality, explaining to his readers that Jesus tells us that to welcome a follower of Christ is to welcome Christ Himself.

Our reading from Romans is a call for the Christian to remember that Christ's victory over sin is a refusal to let sin reign in his/her life, rejecting evil desires, to offer himself or herself to God.

The language here is one of sacrifice, reminding us of the sacrifice that Jesus made for us and the sacrifice of our lives that we are to offer in response. Paul returns to this theme later in Romans, 12: 1 *Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, this is your spiritual act of worship.*

Our sacrifice is to be deliberate and we are not dead, but alive!

Whilst that sacrifice will be by individuals it will be a corporate one. Sacrifices have to be made when Christians come together to worship, witness, pray and study God's word together.

It is good that, over the last six years, our churches in NE wick, Barcombe & Chailey have been meeting together to do these things, Lent Courses, Ash Wednesdays', Maundy Thursday's, Alpha, prayer retreats. Times of self-examination and reflection. I pray that this will continue as we move forward.

If our unity with Christ is real, it must be shown in unity with fellow believers.

What unites us is far more important than what divides us.

Verses 11-13 remind us of the spiritual battle that is going on within us.

However, we must remember that we have died to sin and that it no longer reigns over us.

But we have to make the choice to follow God's way.

What sacrifices might we be called to make as we seek to offer hospitality to God in our lives?

What might it mean to offer hospitality to others in His name?

Andy has pulled yet another corker out of the bag this week; That great spiritual hymn by Alma Baze Androzzo " If I can help somebody as I walk along" first performed in, I think, 1945 and re recorded by the likes of Gracie Fields, the awesome Mahalia Jackson and of course Sir Harry Secombe. Alma

herself knew first-hand the devastation of racial segregation and persecution, born in 1912 and growing up in Tennessee she found the strength she needed in her faith and gospel worship, encouraged by her father to play the piano from the age of 5 she had no formal musical training, but she would live to see the gospel hymns she created performed over many generations until her death in 2001.

The opening verse of this hymn feels so prophetic to Alma's journey, it inspired so many, and I hope it may inspire you all to sing a little louder this Sunday and in the weeks ahead.

"If I can help somebody as I pass along, If I can cheer somebody with a word or a song, If I can show somebody he is travelling wrong, Then my living shall not be in vain!....."

And the people said AMEN!

Thanks again Andy for taking me back to my early love of Gospel Music.

St Mary's is open for private prayer this week on Wednesday 9am until 12 noon and Saturday 1pm until 5pm, please keep a look out on Newick talk and St Mary's Church Website, for updates regarding opening for collective worship.

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Printable order of service here: Sunday

Our service this morning is available on the Church website under services

<https://newickchurch.org/services-2/>

Facebook Link:

[St. Mary's Church, Newick](#)

Our online service from Newick will be at 10.30 followed by a Zoom Café at 11.15 Paul Mundy is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Cafe Church

Time: Jun 28, 2020 11:15 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89144353065?pwd=aEV0VFpvU2Z4b0lhRUZpekR6QW1FQT09>

Meeting ID: 891 4435 3065

Password: 525170

Our services have 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. 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

Much love to you all, stay in touch, stay safe, stay well

Paul x