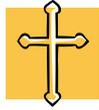


Tyndale Benefice



Wotton-under-Edge with Ozleworth
North Nibley, Alderley (including Tresham)

Sunday, 31st May 2020
Pentecost
Whit Sunday

Collect:

God, who as at this time
taught the hearts of your faithful people
by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:
grant us by the same Spirit
to have a right judgement in all things
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

or

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father,
ignite in us your holy fire;
strengthen your children with the gift of faith,
revive your Church with the breath of love,
and renew the face of the earth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Principal Readings:

1st Reading: *Acts 2: 1-21*

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, & it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, & a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit & began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed & astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, & residents of Mesopotamia, Judea & Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia & Pamphylia, Egypt & the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, & visitors from Rome, both Jews & proselytes, Cretans & Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed & perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this

mean?' But others sneered & said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice & addressed them: 'Men of Judea & all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, & listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

"In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,

and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,

blood, and fire, and smoky mist.
The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord's great & glorious day.
Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

2nd Reading: *1 Corinthians 12: 3b-13*

Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' & no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; & there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; & there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, & to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one & the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. For just as the body is one & has many members, & all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Gospel: *John 20: 19-23*

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, & the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came & stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands & his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them & said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you

forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

Reflection from Sue Plant

Most of us have heard of the expression being in the doldrums. It is a place in the ocean where the wind has dropped completely and there is no movement of the ship's sails. With no engines, sailing ships just had to put up with being stuck for a while.

At the moment we might feel a bit that way ourselves. We perhaps started this lock-down with high hopes of achieving great things in house and garden. We have got on with some tasks, but others may have left us feeling discouraged and lacking the energy to complete them. I have seen this time referred to as The Great Pause. It is as if we are waiting for inspiration until life is restored to normal.

Jesus knew once the disciples could no longer see him they would feel themselves in the doldrums, not sure what to do because they doubted they were powerful or wise enough to do anything on their own. In order to reassure them Jesus had told them to wait in Jerusalem for fifty days following Passover until the Feast of Pentecost. The disciples had to be patient. They had no idea what would happen, but they trusted Jesus. And suddenly at Pentecost they felt themselves filled with the breath and wind of the Spirit and they were fired to take action.

Even though breath and wind cannot be seen, like the disciples, we too know the presence of the Spirit inspires us with a sense of courage and strength of purpose. The time is coming when we will need to trust in the power of the Spirit to encourage us to be bold again. There are so many things that will need our help if we are ever to put right all the things that have been harmed in our community during the period of isolation.

For fifty days during the Easter season we have celebrated the victory of Jesus in the resurrection. We have prayed that the power that was at work when God raised Jesus from death might be at work in us. At Pentecost, as part of God's Church here in Wotton, I call upon you to live out, in the weeks and months to come, what you proclaim:

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, will you dare to walk into God's future, trusting him to be your guide?

Will you dare to continue to grow together in love, remembering and building upon the good community things that have happened in this time?

Will you dare to share your riches with those who have suffered loss of livelihood during this time through no fault of their own?

Will you dare to pray for one another until our hearts beat with the longings of God for a just society?

Will you dare to carry the light of Christ into the world's dark places?

We do not dare these things in our own strength but

By the Spirit's power, we will.

Love and God bless, Sue

For your prayers:

For those who have died and their families:

Phyllis Portlock whose funeral was on 29th May.

Anne Brazier (Teresa Pottinger's mum) whose funeral was on 28th May.

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus

God of compassion,

be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.

In their loneliness, be their consolation;

in their anxiety, be their hope;

in their darkness, be their light;

through him who suffered alone on the cross,

but reigns with you in glory,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Daily Prayer continues to be said at 9.00 every morning in individual homes.

We pray for:

- The World and its needs
- The Church and her life
- Those who are ill in body, mind or spirit
- Ourselves

If you wish to join us, you will find a choice of three services on the website - Midweek Prayer (from the Church of England), Morning Prayer, and Reflective Service. <http://wottonparishchurch.org.uk/resources-for-prayers-services-at-home/>

Year of Mind – where we remember those that have died during this week in previous years.

Wotton

31st: Stanley George Sims (2003)
Amy Mylese Watkins (2009)
Eileen Martin (2012)

JUNE

1st: Nicky Paget (2010)
Colin Whittaker (2018)
2nd: Nora Chappell (2019)
5th: Vivienne Cory
6th: Daphne Frances Whittard (2007)
Edward "Ed" John Rhys (Alderley 2017)

Nibley

31st: Margaret "Eileen" Woodward (2018)

JUNE

2nd: Edith Annie Bailey (2004)
3rd: Ruth Amy Jennings (2009)

This month we hold Wotton Baptist Church in our prayers.

In 'normal' times, the pew sheet has a list of people who are ill. These people are included in prayer at Sunday services, & at Morning Prayer every day. To continue this prayer - please email the Parish Office or leave a message on the Parish mobile if you would like prayer

for yourself or a family member. There is a group of people who will pray.

Spiritual Crisis? Prayer Ministry?

Has this time of isolation raised concerns or fears of a spiritual nature & you want to talk about them? Would you like prayer ministry, such as has been offered after Eucharist, & at Healing and Wholeness Services? There is a small group of people who are trained & who are able to listen to you and offer help. Please ring the Parish mobile on 07483 146531, with your name and phone number, to request a phone call. This offer is for those who live in the Parishes of Wotton under Edge, North Nibley, Alderley and Tresham.

*******Notices*******

Lets' talk about Dementia – Live talks throughout June.

The talks are designed to help people who are caring for someone with dementia during this challenging time. Whether that is caring for a loved one or as a paid/professional carer. [Mary Merheim](#), from [Dementia Doulas Ltd](#), will be sharing practical advice on the importance of the wellbeing of carers. This talk is also coinciding with National Carers Week. Please register here -

<https://letstalkaboutdementia2020.eventbrite.com>

50% of all ticket revenue from these series of talks will be shared with UK Dementia Charities.

Know someone without online access or prefers not to use the internet? Daily Hope Phone Lines – The Church of England have a FREE OF CHARGE phone line available 24 hours a day offering comforting hymns, reflections and prayers. **Ring 0800 804 8044**

Worship & Discipleship - Thy Kingdom Come (21 May to 31 May) - The 2020 TKC anthem is now here - Thy Kingdom Come, from worship leader Pete James. It's set to the melody of Tell Out My Soul. We're asking everyone to pray for God's Kingdom in the days between Pentecost and Ascension. Tune into the [Thy Kingdom Come Facebook page](#) to listen to Pete introducing the song and leading us in worship.

Bishop Rachel will be leading the Pentecost Service from Gloucester Cathedral on Sunday 31st May at 10.15am. It will be live streamed on the Cathedral Website.

<https://www.gloucestercathedral.org.uk/worship/services/special-services/pentecostwhit-sunday.php> (the page will go live on Sunday)

Diocese of Gloucester Podcasts – an ongoing fortnightly audio series finding out about different projects, organisations and inspirational stories. The third podcast is between the Archdeacon Phil and Bishop Rachel. You can play the podcast by going to: <https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/2020/phil-and-rachel-podcast-episode-3/>

St. Martin's - every Sunday Revd Peter Marsh, from his woodwork shed – Each week during church closure, a recorded 'St Martin's Morning Service', produced by the congregation & David Moss, is available on the St. Martin's website – www.northnibleychurch.uk - it's "Ramblings" this week.

Services from the BBC

- BBC Radio 4's daily service is live at 9.45am on BBC Radio 4 LW (long wave) or on the DAB side channel.
- Live on Sunday is streamed at 8.10am each Sunday.
- Sunday Worship is shown on BBC1 at 10.45am every Sunday. They are from empty cathedrals (so far Bangor, St. David's, Hereford). Hymns are taken from a previous recording of Songs of Praise.
- Songs of Praise is aired on BBC1 on Sunday at 1.15pm

Prayer and digital resources available – if you would like any sent to you email wotvicsec@btconnect.com or visit the website wottonparishchurch.org.uk

Reverend Morag is not available from May 30th to June 5th

Clergy:

Revd Peter Marsh – 01453 547 521 (not after 6.00pm)

Revd Morag Langley – 01453 845 147

Licensed Reader:

Sue Plant - 01453 845 157

Wotton Churchwardens:

Jackie Excell – 07863 121613

Douglas Hinton – 07415 541359

(Assistant) Lynda Durrant – 01453 521873

North Nibley Churchwarden:

Wynne Holcombe - 01453 542 091

Alderley Churchwarden:

Kay Pettifer - 01453 843838

Tresham Churchwarden:

Susan Whitfield – 01666 890 338

Benefice/Parish Office:

07483 146531 or wotvicsec@btconnect.com