

**The Church of St Francis
WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR
THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
[Sunday after Ascension Day]
16th May 2021**



**IN THE WORLD
NOT OF THE WORLD**

SENT TO THE WORLD

FOR OUR PRAYERS

We pray for those who are in need of prayer at this time: Matthew; Carson W; Lorna; Megan; Stephen C; Maegan; Tom; Riley & his mum and family; Jeanette, David & Grace; Paula.

We continue to pray for Woodside House Care Home and all those in our Church, friends and family who are managing long term health issues including: David & Cynthia; Pete and Rosie; Doreen; Rosemary; Sheila; John and Jane; Shirley.

We pray for all who mourn the loss of a loved one or a friend and remember also those who have died in recent days, among them: David Bradford.

A PRAYER FOR UNCERTAIN TIMES

God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or feeling isolated. 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.

**The Church of St Francis
Heartsease**

**Heavenly Father
We ask your blessing upon us.
Hold the Heartsease Community,
and all the world,
in your arms of love.
Be with us.
Give us your strength,
peace, and healing grace.
Watch over us,
protect us from harm;
and keep in safety
all those who care for the sick
and attend to our needs,
in Jesus name we pray.
Amen**

PRAYERS FOR THE 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

COLLECTS

O God the King of glory,
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us
and exalt us to the place
where our Saviour Christ is gone before,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen

Risen, ascended Lord,
as we rejoice at your triumph,
fill your Church on earth
with power and compassion,
that all who are estranged by sin
may find forgiveness and know your peace,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen

POST COMMUNION

Eternal God, giver of love and power,
your Son Jesus Christ
has sent us into all the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:
confirm us in this mission, and help us to live
the good news we proclaim;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

READINGS FOR 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 1:15 - 17, 21 - end

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people) and said, 'Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus — for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.'

So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us — one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.' So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias.

Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.'

And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

PSALM 1

¹ Blessed are they who have not walked
in the counsel of the wicked, ♦
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the assembly of the scornful.

² **Their delight is in the law of the Lord ♦
and they meditate on his law day and night.**

³ Like a tree planted by streams of water
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves
that do not wither, ♦
whatever they do, it shall prosper.

⁴ **As for the wicked,
it is not so with them; ♦
they are like chaff
which the wind blows away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked
shall not be able to stand in the judgement, ♦
nor the sinner in the congregation
of the righteous.

⁶ **For the Lord knows the way of the
righteous, ♦
but the way of the wicked shall perish.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now,
and shall be for ever. Amen**

1 JOHN 5:9 - 13

If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son.

Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts.

Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son.

And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

'ANCIENT & MODERN'



Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

JOHN 17:6 - 19

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.

Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me.

I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours.

All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.

And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.

Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled.

But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves.

I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.

I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one.

They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.

And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Many months ago we promised the launch of our online Facebook Shop – and at last our plans are coming to fruition!

The great news is that the shop will be launched this coming Friday – and the even better news is that for the summer months we are using a room in 'Next Door @St Francis' as a base for the whole project.

Ancient & Modern in 'Next Door @St Francis' will be open every Friday morning 10am – 12pm for visitors to come in and have a browse and perhaps pick up the bargain they've spotted online!

In due course we are hoping to open the Café to coincide with the shop hours – watch this space as they say...

'LET IT GROW'

On the weekend of 5th & 6th June, St Francis will be launching this years 'Let it grow' project. This will be a fun event helping to promote our partnership with 'Farmshare' and raising awareness about our St Francis Eco Church group.

We are delighted to share the news that we have a guest preacher in St Francis on the Sunday of that weekend, 6th June – Julian Bryant.

Julian is our local Christian Aid Coordinator and is a passionate advocate for sustainable and neighbourly living. We very much look forward to welcoming him among us and hearing what he has to say.

Over the weekend one of the features will be a repeat of the big plant giveaway that proved so popular last year. We already have pledges of sunflower seedlings and some veg plants, [thank you!] but would be very grateful to receive further offers - the more the merrier



FORTHCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

Mon: Morning Prayer – 9am

Tues: Morning Prayer – 9am
Evening Prayer – 5pm

Weds: Morning Prayer – 9am
BCP Holy Communion – 11.30am
Evening Prayer - 5pm

Thurs: Morning Prayer – 9am
Evening Prayer – 5pm

Sun: Celebrating Together – 10.30am
[Holy Communion]

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK
Please give if you can



THY KINGDOM COME



Every year the ten days between Ascension Day and Pentecost is a special time of directed prayer when the church worldwide prays for those who have yet to come to faith. This year we have some prayer diaries to give away both for own use and to pass on to those who you think might appreciate them. Please ask if you would like one.

CONFIRMATIONS PENTECOST 2021

Next Sunday 23rd May is Pentecost and this year we are delighted to be sending three candidates to Norwich Cathedral for confirmation at the 10.30am service. Bishop Alan will be confirming Adam, Donna and Tracey and we ask that you hold them in your prayers at this very special moment in their journey of faith; especially as they have waited so long for this day to come!

ST FRANCIS CHURCH
HEARTSEASE
96 - 98 RIDER HAGGARD ROAD

IF YOU
OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW
IS IN NEED OF A HELPING
HAND...

WE WILL DO OUR BEST
TO HELP

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OR
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