

Thy Kingdom Come

From Sunday we are joining the global 'Thy Kingdom Come' prayer initiative and offering resources and worship to encourage as many as possible across the benefice to join in.

From 26th May to 29th May, **Morning Prayer** will be on **Zoom** at 9.00am each day.

The link to the service is the same every day and is shown on the email that is sent on Friday from Revd Becky and Revd Gary.

The liturgy and readings are available to download on the benefice website, under 'Prayer & Worship' You can access videos, download podcasts and a prayer app via this page too.

Christian Aid Week - Thankyou

A very sincere thank you to everyone who supported Christian Aid through the Just Giving scheme and directly to David. The fantastic total of £2215.48 (+£268.50 in Gift Aid) was raised.

The Just Giving site is now closed, but donations can always be sent to David Oats.

Fr Trevor Maines - Chairman of the Newbury Christian Aid Fund Raising Group.

Key Contacts

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Newbury, St George & St John

24th May 2020

7th Sunday of Easter – Ascension

Thy Kingdom Come 2020

'Thy Kingdom Come' is an initiative which has inspired people over the last five years to pray specifically in the 10 days between Ascension and Pentecost. Jesus spoke extensively about 'the kingdom' as an alternative way of living and being in the world. God's ways are spoken of prophetically and poetically – and often in the most surprising ways; those who felt they were last, were revealed to be first. The poor lifted up, the hungry filled with good things; and religious and imperial leaders confounded! This initiative takes Jesus' prayer as an incentive to see how God's kingdom/reign can be prayed for, hoped for, and known in all the world.

This year will be very different, but there is still plenty we can all do – and it would be really good if many of our Benefice family would get involved.

Online Benefice Service, Sunday at 10am

Please join us for our online Benefice Service of Holy Communion. The service will be available on YouTube here: <http://tiny.cc/stg-stj>
Or go to the new benefice website and click the link www.stgeorge-stjohn-newbury.org.uk

'Virtual Coffee and Chat' at 11am. Details via e-mail.

Wednesday Worship

This takes place each week via Zoom at 7.30pm led by a different member of the clergy team. The Zoom password can only be shared by email, so please take careful note of this from the weekly Friday email sent by Revd Becky or Revd Gary.

The Service Sheet is on the Benefice Website from Tuesday midday. This week's service will have a 'Thy Kingdom Come' focus.

In need of help?

If you need help, a listening ear, or have a prayer request contact clergy on the numbers below.

The Collect

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.

First Reading Acts 1:6-14

So when they had come together, they asked him,
'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the
kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know
the times or periods that the Father has set by his own
authority. But you will receive power when the Holy
Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses
in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends
of the earth.'

When he had said this, as they were watching, he was
lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While
he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven,
suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They
said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up
towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up
from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you
saw him go into heaven.'

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called
Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey
away. When they had entered the city, they went to the
room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and
John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas,
Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus,
and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these
were constantly devoting themselves to prayer,
together with certain women, including Mary the
mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Gospel John 17:1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to
heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify
your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you
have given him authority over all people, to give eternal
life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal
life, that they may know you, the only true God, and
Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on
earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So
now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the
glory that I had in your presence before the world
existed.

'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.

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.

Prayers for the Week

Prayer is at the heart of everything we do. The weekly Prayer Diary that is sent out by email with this newsletter includes prayers for named individuals, together with prayer intentions for the week for our benefice, the local community and the wider world.

Prayer for the week of Thy Kingdom Come

Creator God,
send your Holy Spirit to renew this living world,
that the whole creation,
in its groaning and striving,
may know your loving purpose
and come to reflect your glory;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

*The full monthly cycle of prayer intentions can be found on the **website**.*

Upcoming Services

Wednesday Worship	Zoom	27th May
Link to be released via email.		7.30pm

Sunday Worship	YouTube	31st May
		10.00am

All our Services, (except Zoom services) remain available on the Benefice Website and on YouTube.