

The United Benefice of
St Michael on Greenhill, Lichfield
with St John, Wall

COLLECT AND READINGS
17th May
6th Sunday of Easter

Alleluia, Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!



Collect

God our redeemer,
you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life,
so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

New Testament Reading Acts 17.22-31

²²Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, 'Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, "To an unknown god." What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him— though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For "In him we live and move and have our being"; as even some of your own poets have said,

"For we too are his offspring."

²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.'

Gospel Reading John 14.15-21

¹⁵'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

In preparation for each Sunday we will email out and post on the website the Collect and Readings for the day. If possible, please join us in using the short act of worship and the readings at 10.00am which is our usual service time on a Sunday. There will also be a short sermon video available on the website on the 'Resources for Prayer at Home' page.

Sunday Sermon

The link for the Sunday sermon is

<https://www.stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk/sunday-sermons.html>

For those who receive this by post the text is printed below.

NEW!

Worship by Zoom

On **Ascension Day** – Thursday 21st May- and on **Pentecost Sunday**- 31st May - we intend to hold live worship via Zoom.

The service will start at 6.00pm and will last for about 30mins. There will be readings, prayers, a short address and hymns.

If you would like to join in please email Simon on simonbaker57@outlook.com and you will be sent a direct link. You do not need to have Zoom downloaded on your PC or other device.

Services recorded in Church

Since the lockdown began all clergy have been instructed not to go into their church for private prayer or to record or stream worship. This has now changed so that a priest alone or with anyone domiciled with them can go into church. At present, this can only be one priest for each church. From this Sunday onwards some or all of the service we record will be done at St Michael's. It is good to have our church back in a small way at least. The service for 21st June will be recorded at St John's because it is their Patronal Festival.

<p>On Sunday 17th May Martin and June Frayn celebrate their wedding anniversary. We congratulate them. Please remember them in your prayers</p>
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FOR YOUR PRAYERS

ST MICHAEL

Those newly in need of prayer

Anne and Peter Whatson, Anthony Staples aged 6,

Those in continuing special need of prayer:

Colin Eastwood, Yvonne Harper, Jeyan Anketell, Ian and Judith Watson, Alison Cox-Toplis, Julian & Wendy, Jamie, Gary and Denise, Sam Bassett, Mark Berry, Dorothy Clayton, Jo Cobb, Dottie Collins, Robert Harris, Bill Hill, James Knight, Marielouise Oliver, Arthur Palin, Nick Rutter, John Tipper, Sheila Vaughan, Renee Wellings, Felicity Woodfield

Those who have died

George Tuckley, Caroline Green, Evelyn Woodward

ST JOHN

Those who are ill and their carers:

Pat Crowe, Jo Hearn, Ann Kinson, Allan Law

Prayer Resources

We have produced a booklet of resources for prayer at home which contains a short act of worship that you can use. This can be found here along with other resources for prayer: <https://www.stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk/resources-for-prayer-at-home.html>

You can text prayer requests to 07388 529020

The Royal School of Church Music are putting a *Hymn of the Day* on their website as well as a service with readings and hymns. There is a link on our website on our resources for prayer page.

Here is a link to the Diocese of Lichfield facebook page where videos of daily prayers from the cathedral will be posted <https://www.facebook.com/LichfieldCofE/>

Bible Study

Each Wednesday at 10.30am in Easter season we will be holding Bible studies on the theme: ***Living our Easter Faith***. There are full instructions as to how to join in on our notice sheet and the Bible text and questions can be found on our website.

<https://www.stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk/easter-season.html>

If you would like to join in please contact Rev Chris Baker on c.j.baker@bham.ac.uk

Weekly Reflection

The Revd Mel Clark is writing a weekly reflection for people to read and think about. The reflections are available here. <https://www.stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk/easter-season.html>