

21st June St Mary's Honley & St George's Brockholes

<http://www.hwbparish.org.uk>

<https://www.facebook.com/stmarysandstgeorges/>



Everyone Has Value: The birds of the air and the hairs on your head: God knows everyone. You are valued. You are loved. Place a family photo on your table: this may be your immediate family, or those who are like family to you. Name them before God.

21st June Sunday Service on Zoom

Service sheet can be found on the worship tab on the website

Why not share this and invite your friends and neighbours to join with us?

Service starts at 10.00 you can join this from 9.45am



Join Zoom Service

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86405810524?pwd=VnM0MUdqMFRWeU5SNukxR2FGd1pqdz09>

Meeting ID: 864 0581 0524

Password: 902153

One tap mobile

+441314601196,,86405810524#,,,,0#,,902153# United Kingdom

Dial by your location

+44 131 460 1196 United Kingdom

+44 203 051 2874 United Kingdom

Meeting ID: 864 0581 0524

Password: 902153

A version of this service will be available on the you tube later.

Services of Daily prayers can be found on the link on our worship page. And accept the invite to pray morning prayer at home at 10.00 am each day.

<https://www.facebook.com/thechurchofengland/> keep up to date.

Most of all keep in touch. Martin

However, weary we may be, our God does not get tired, does not get weary and he promises his strength to us, those who hope in Him. Sometimes, it is simply enough for us to rest in the 'everlasting arms' which are underneath us and about us to carry us and sustain us.

*'The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms'.
(Deut. 33.27)*

Last week's service can be accessed through you tube.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ExV_GgNpkPk&t=1472s

or collective worship

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v5bTs9sgpRs>

YOU ARE LOVED!

Good news deserves to be shared.
Shared from the rooftops
not just whispered.
God's love merits telling loudly
to one and all:
YOU ARE LOVED!

From the tips of your toes
to the top of your head,
God's attention to detail
is beyond compare and
God's love knows no bounds.
YOU ARE LOVED!

In light, love is revealed
and darkness retreats
and the good news to be shared
is no secret for
YOU ARE LOVED!

By God whose wonderful light
banishes darkness
embracing all creation in love.
CHILD OF GOD,
YOU ARE LOVED!

Face Coverings.

Guidance from the government people in England should wear face coverings, in "enclosed public spaces", such as in shops and on public transport. Elizabeth Jones is offering to make these as modelled by me. Three sizes child, medium and adult. Contact number 01484 645401.

The Prayer for this week.

Faithful Creator,
whose mercy never fails:
deepen our faithfulness to you
and to your living Word,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our church buildings will at present remain closed.

We know there are a number of people in our congregations and communities who are particularly at risk and so must be protected until the dangers of the pandemic have passed. Those with health conditions and those over 70 are generally vulnerable and need to be shielded in the early phases of emergence. This places a real burden on leaders as we seek to ensure accessibility, without encouraging people to put themselves or others at risk.

As we begin the process of emerging, there is still a risk of transmission, so we need to be intentionally seeking to minimise risk. Anyone who is considered vulnerable and with an underlying health condition should be encouraged to stay at home and not assist in cleaning at this time. [Those with health conditions and those over 70].

Our churches have decided not to open for private prayer at present, but we are opening for funerals if requested going through the risk assessments, measuring of space we can allow **14** people to attend at St Mary's, no singing will be permitted.

We will continue to work towards opening church for limited periods and limited areas. We do however also have to be aware that work on our organ at St Mary's has started. Any access therefore needs to take this into account.

The Government guidance on opening places of worship makes it very clear that strict cleaning and supervision needs to be in place. No one is to lead any prayers up front when a church is open for individual prayer and that people shouldn't gather with others who are not from the same household. Also, there should be no live-streaming while individual prayer is going on.

At this moment in consultation with the Wardens I believe we need both to take time to prepare to keep people safe, we are still awaiting government clarification on certain requirements so our church buildings will at present remain closed for now.



GIVING DURING THE LOCKDOWN

If you have accumulated giving envelopes and want them to be put into the collection you can contact Pauline who is happy to arrange a collection from you.

You can contact Pauline on 01484 663510.

Or perhaps you may wish to start a standing order instead.

If you would like to discuss other options please contact Pauline Adams, Roger Kenworthy or Clive Green.

You can still please keep putting your weekly giving aside and bring your offertory to church when things get back to normal.

Now more than ever, please consider giving generously to support our Mission and Ministry during these difficult times and beyond.

Thank you for your support. Martin

We remember:

Years Mind for this week are:

Brian Thomas, Pamela Greaves

Those who have lost loved ones.

At this time the families and friends of
Annelise Jones and Geoffrey Robert Gould

News Sheet

Please send your short reports on events that have taken place and those that you may be involved in that you would like to publicise by Thursday to: Martin

Vicar: Revd. Martin Short 01484 661751 martin.short@Leeds.anglican.org

Who you can also contact for Baptisms and Weddings:

Pompom Sparrows

You will need: brown wool, scraps of black, yellow and orange felt, scissors, PVA glue, glue spreaders, card.



Draw circles of about 6 cm. diameter onto card and cut these out. Cut a hole of about 3 cm. in diameter in the centre of the circle to make a doughnut shape.

You will need two rings, which should be placed one on top of the other. Wrap the wool around the rings from centre hole to outside over and over again around the ring until the whole ring is covered

by one layer of wool. Repeat until the hole in the middle is almost gone.

Cut wool all the way round the outside of 'doughnut' at the point where the two pieces of card meet. Cut a length of wool and place it between the two pieces of card gathering all the strands of wool together and tie tightly. Then ease the cardboard rings out from centre and off the wool.

You can cut the rings to make this easier but make sure you don't accidentally cut the wool that is tying the pompom together. Once the rings are off, fluff up your pompom. This makes the body of the sparrow. Cut beak from yellow or orange felt, eyes and wings from black felt and glue these to the pompom to complete the sparrow.

Read Matthew 10 v29 -31

²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Think about kinds of birds you know. Think about common little sparrow yet each sparrow is known by God. Think about how precious each one of us is to God and ways we can treat others as important and special.

Reading from the Bible *Matthew 10.24-32*

Jesus summoned the twelve and sent them out with the following instruction: ²⁴'A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! ²⁶So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³²Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven

Martin's Talk:

Fear and worry and anxiety run deep in all of us. We're afraid of being alone, of being unloved, of being abandoned. Some of us are afraid of losing; others are afraid of success. We're afraid of taking chances, but we're also afraid of missing that "once in a lifetime" opportunity.

Fear of getting the wrong answer. So, which command is repeated most often in the Bible?

You might imagine it is something stern: Behave yourself! Smarten up! Say your prayers! Worship God more whole heartedly! You'd be wrong. It's the command we find in verses 26, 28 and 31: Don't be afraid, or do not fear. It is repeated more than 300 times! That's more than "be holy as I am holy.", more than "do good." But it turns out that we have a harder time obeying "do not be afraid" than almost all of God's other commands.

In our Gospel reading for this morning Jesus is talking to some very nervous disciples. He is sending them out on their first missionary journey. He has instructed them to preach this message: "The kingdom of heaven is near". He warns them that their message will not be welcomed by all. He says: "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves." You can see easily enough why Jesus needed to tell his disciples not to be afraid, at this point in his instructions to them.

Why not be afraid? What reason does he give? We might imagine that he would say 'because God will look after you'. Well, he does say that, eventually. But the first reason he gives (verses 26-27) is that a time will come when everything that is presently secret will be made known. Lots of people would regard the imminent disclosure of their most private thoughts and words as a further reason to be afraid, not as a reason to throw fear to the winds. So why should that mean they don't need to be afraid?

Jesus seems to be assuming that what will come to light on that day is the disciples' loyalty and faith; they will be seen to have followed Jesus. Those who have lived with integrity and innocence, despite what the world says about them, will be justified.

How does it make you feel to know that God loves you that much? In 1 John 4. we are told that "God is love," and that "there is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear because fear has to do with punishment. God values each one of us and there is no quality or unique personality trait that is not recognised by the God who knows every part of us, including 'every hair of our heads'. This instinct of God to know us, cherish us and rejoice in us can never be over-stated. Amidst so many other noises in the world today that tell people they are of 'lesser' value than others, this resounding affirmation of God for each of his children is heard loud and clear in this passage.

This passage from Matthew encourages us to 'shout from the rooftops'; to share with the world the secrets God passes on to us about how special we are. Avoiding becoming too self-righteous, God asks each one of us to be quite 'open' about our God-given qualities. A suitable quest for all of us is to find the appropriate way to show others that we are God-made and to celebrate our uniqueness, giftedness and value to God. Correspondingly, as we recognise our personal value we acknowledge the value of others. As unique and special as we are, so the people we live with and share community with are equally as valuable to God. This leads us nicely full circle: 'I am a Child of God and they are the Children of God'.

In the Gospel today we discover that once again God talks to us, we are encouraged to listen for God in the different contexts of our lives as he affirms our own value and that of all people; for we are the 'Children of God'

"Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. And even the very hairs on your head are all numbered. So, don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows." Believe it!