

The Sixth Sunday After Trinity

19th July 2020

Notices

Resuming of Sunday Worship: The PCC has asked the Bishop of Manchester to dispensation of the public worship in our church building until 1st September, and it was granted. Meaning we now have enough time to do all the necessary Covid-19 risk assessments, but also get the church flooring changed during August.

Lahore Pandemic Appeal: Manchester Diocesan link Diocese of Lahore in Pakistan is helping local people by providing food parcels. Manchester Diocese appeals for church communities to support this work. There is more information who to help in the separate leaflet on our website.

Summer Challenge for kids & Sunday School: During the summer, we post a 'Be A Summer Hero' challenge on our Facebook page on Mondays. Please check it out. Also there are still some Sunday School material for children **age 6-11**. They are available from the Rectory. Text Rev Maria if you'd like to pick up the material pack.

Giving: Regular giving is possible via bank standing orders. The details are:

Account name: Parish of the Good Shepherd & St Barnabas

Sort code: 77-19-46

Account number: 00034309

Branch: TSB Longsight

A one-off donation is possible via <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/resurrectionandstbarnabas/>

Years In Mind:
Emily Edge 18th July

Birthdays:

Reflection:

This week our readings calls us to faithfulness and hope. The message of all of the readings is that our world is not random, but is following a divine purpose, and that God will finally bring an end to evil and rescue God's people – and all of creation – from brokenness and darkness. In the Wisdom of Solomon reading, God's power is praised, and the assurance of God's hope is remembered. In Psalm 86 the care for God's people is being expressed in practical situations, while praying for God's protection to continue. Paul, in his letter to the Romans, reminds his readers of the gift of God's Spirit, and the hope that this gift brings, while teaching them that the freedom from sin and death that they hope for is not just for them but for all creation. Finally, in Jesus' parable he explains why good and evil exists side by side. He offers the hope that the time will come when evil is finally done away with, and only goodness remains. It may seem naïve to speak of good finally overcoming evil. In the face of corruption, poverty, climate change, war and inequity, it may appear that the opposite outcome is far more likely. However, as people of faith, we do not have the luxury of pessimism, cynicism and despair. If we truly believe that God is alive and active in our world, then we must trust that our world is not random, but is moving purposefully forward the full reign of God's kingdom. We are called to live together – "wheat" and "weeds" together – trusting in the hope that the time will come when evil and injustice are removed from our world. All that is left for us, then, is to embrace our hope and make it available to all.

*Creator God,
you made us all in your image:
may we discern you in all that we see,
and serve you in all that we do;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Rector: The Reverend Maria Onuigbo Mobile: 07526 035611

Email: revmariaonuigbo@outlook.com