

All Saints' Church

Cottenham with Rampton



Pastoral Letter #13

10th June 2020

Dear Church Family,

At the end of my sermon on Sunday, I asked the Church family to consider praying this prayer each morning: *'Lord, today, who do you want me to connect with outside of the Church?'* Last Tuesday, I joined a Webinar (online conference) on the subject of *'Living Missionally during the Covid Pandemic'*. One of the speakers - Michael Harvey - introduced us to the acronym ACORN and invited us to share it with our congregations. Sunday's prayer was the first letter of A for Ask. Here's how the rest goes:

- A** is for **ASK**: Each day simply and prayerfully ask God *'Is there someone I'm being nudged to connect with – to reach out to – today?'* Research suggests that 70% of us will already have the name of somebody in mind.
- C** is for **CALL**: This is God's response to our question. His *'call'* is for us to respond to the name that may come immediately or later by way of a sense that this is his nudge to us.
- O** is for **OBEY**: Our response may be through a phone call, text, WhatsApp, Messenger, etc. The first step need be as simple as asking *'How are you doing?'* and really *listening* to the answer. Remember that this conversation is as the result of what God has prompted to happen so be open to offering prayer either with them or for them.
- R** is for **REPORT**: Share with a Christian friend what God has done in this situation, even if it seems to be a very small step. Share the outcome but *not* the detail of the person or the conversation – this must remain confidential. Share what God has done through you and that person, recognising that when we share the Good News with another person, we get to hear it again for ourselves.
- N** is for **NOTICE GOD**: Reflect on what God has done in and through you. Notice that God has used you and helped you grow in confidence and faith.

If you'd like to listen to Michael talking about the process, click on this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lcw16Z_y-k0 to a You Tube video to hear more.

It would be lovely if you could let me know if and when you've tried this and the outcome. Please just drop me an email or give me a call. It would be very encouraging to hear from you.

Many of you will have read that churches **may** open for individual prayer and small funerals from Monday 15th June. There is a lot to do to get both churches ready so please bear with us while we take time to consider how we make the buildings safe for people to enter and use.

Services and events happening this week are:

Fri 12th June at 2pm – Weekly Bible Study on 1 Corinthians led by Frances Horgan using Zoom. If you want to join, please let me know and I'll send you the link.

Sun 14th June – Online service available on Facebook and YouTube from early on Sunday morning. Watch at whatever time is convenient to you.

Sun 14th June at 11am – coffee and chat after the service using Zoom. Do join us and catch up with one another.

Sun 14th June at 6pm – Evening Prayer using Zoom led this week by Sarah Rossouw. If you want to join, please let Cheryl Lowe (cheryl@cynewulf.co.uk) know, and she'll send you a link to the service. This week, we are looking at 'Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil' from The Lord's Prayer.

For your prayers, please could you remember the following:

- The families of Jean Blythe, Rosalie Dunnico, Betty Stubbings and Ethel Kester who have recently died
- Those with long-term ill-health and their families caring for them, particularly Pauline Eke (Franklin Gardens) currently in hospital; those who are lonely
- For Cottenham Primary School with increased numbers of children in school following the return of some pupils in Reception and years 1 and 6
- All those working in the NHS and care homes during the pandemic; all other key workers keeping vital services going; for those returning to the workplace on Monday as more retail and businesses open
- For world leaders responding to the 'Black Lives Matter' protests; that racism would be abolished in all its ugly forms.

If you are using the 'Prayer and Worship from Home' resource and saying Morning or Evening Prayer, these are the Lectionary (set) readings for the week ahead:

Sat 13 th June	Joshua 10: 1-15; Luke 11: 37 to end
Sun 14 th June	Romans 5: 1-8; Matthew 9: 35 to 10: 8
Mon 15 th June	Joshua 14; Luke 12: 1-12
Tues 16 th June	Joshua 21: 43 to 22: 8; Luke 12: 13-21
Wed 17 th June	Joshua 22: 9 to end; Luke 12: 22-31
Thurs 18 th June	Joshua 23; Luke 12: 32-40
Fri 19 th June	Joshua 24: 1-28; Luke 12: 41-48

Happy birthday today (Wed) to June Rose who celebrates a significant birthday somewhere between 50 and 70! We hope you have a lovely day.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, now and evermore. Amen.

Best wishes, Lynda. Rector of All Saints Cottenham with Rampton 01954 583651
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