

How is Linda Wheatley dealing with lockdown?

So how have I been keeping myself busy?

Gardening, sorting cupboards, knitting, finding out how to crochet again, decorating, painting fences, and sorting the garage and shed, finally! One of the biggest projects has been sorting the photo albums. With albums spanning 50 years to look at, it has been a mammoth task. Many of the albums were old and needed replacing. But what a trip down memory lane! It has been a joy to recall past holidays and events, and looking at pictures of when the children were small. I have been sharing some of these Zach, who has enjoyed looking at them. Zach had not heard of a photo album, having only seen photos on the iPad or iPhone, unless some had been printed off. Andrew has taken Zach to some of the places we visited when he was a child, and Zach recognises some from the photos. Others, have yet to be visited. Zach was amazed at the pictures of me and his Daddy when we were babies (yes there were photos even when I was a baby!) even some of my baptism at St Barnabas.

What am I reading?

I have been reading Lineage of Grace, by Francine Rivers, a set of five short stories about important women in the Bible. There are Bible readings, and a story about each character in a way that the author has perceived the story. At the end of each story, there are questions and reflection.

I have read War Horse, and reflections of life as a junior doctor, by Adam Kay. I have also been reading The Secret Seven to Zach on Facetime, and a few others.

What am I watching?

I have enjoyed the services on line, although I don't always watch live. It has brought a different aspect of church into my life. I have enjoyed wildlife documentaries, and finishing of some of the series recorded a while ago, that didn't ever get around to watching, such as the last Poldark.

How am I keeping fit and healthy?

I have walked every day, and enjoyed watching the gardens change, as late winter has turned into Spring and then summer. It is amazing how the number of Skips in people's gardens have proliferated.

What are you all getting up to?

If you would like to contribute to the back page, please email your answers to Sarah on revsarahtodd@gmail.com or give her a ring on 07534 720160

St Barnabas



w/b May 24th
2020

Church Matters

Hello to you all.

Welcome to this week's Church Matters Newsletter. This enlarged newsletter aims to keep church family in contact, share prayer requests, strengthen our discipleship and bring us closer together during this challenging time. If you are receiving this newsletter but aren't on the mailing list then please contact Sarah on 07534 720160 or revsarahtodd@gmail.com

Sunday Livestream Worship Schedule

24th May 2020: Easter 7 (Sunday after Ascension)

Live Stream on our Facebook Page, Website and YouTube

10.00 am Morning Worship—"Thy Kingdom Come"

11.00 am Zoom Coffee

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82231709350?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82231709350?pwd=TVF4aG0yclJQeE5Dd2ZWRkgzdIVXdz09)

[pwd=TVF4aG0yclJQeE5Dd2ZWRkgzdIVXdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82231709350?pwd=TVF4aG0yclJQeE5Dd2ZWRkgzdIVXdz09)

Meeting ID: 822 3170 9350

Password: 703583

Or ring 0203 481 5240 and then enter the following information

Meeting ID: 811 9431 6602

Password: 703583

You can only phone 0203 numbers for free if you have inclusive minutes remaining on your landline or mobile tariff, otherwise you will have to pay your provider a per-minute rate plus an access charge as outlined in their terms.

1600 Craft and Worship with Dave and Ellie

Reading for Easter 7

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?” 7 He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 8 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.” 9 When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10 While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 11 They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward 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.” 12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. 13 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[a] James. 14 All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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, 2 since you have given him authority over all people,[a] to give

eternal life to all whom you have given him. 3 And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. 4 I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. 5 So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. 6 “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. 7 Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; 8 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. 9 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. 10 All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. 11 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.

Reflection I wonder how much time we spend looking up! This is what we find the Men of Galilee doing in our reading from Acts today. I am always fascinated when the bible records people’s person names and/or places they came from; there is usually a good reason.

On reading this passage today, my attention is drawn to the fact that the

Christ Is Coming Again



At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Luke 21:27 (NIV)

Words are taken from Luke 21:25-36 (NIV).

T N A I D N H G C M W N S R Y
H D A T O E E E C Y J P T F T
F J F T K W V S A A H L A N W
I I I F I B A L C V R D N M S
L F B D W O A T Y A E E D V E
I R S S H Y N Q C S P N F K A
F E G U A L T S Z H D E J U E
E D B G N X F U T G L O R Y L
V E C H B O D R B A W O R L D
D M L S E I L R U Y R H L D H
Q P O S I G N S M F U S S T N
G T U I P D R G Q Z P F R O S
B I D P O W E R S Z D A O T X
W O Q G R H E A D S E M W N V
G N L P R A Y G Q J A Z J U E

careful	glory	moon	redemption	stars
cloud	heads	nations	sea	sun
earth	heaven	power	signs	watch
escape	lift	pray	stand	world

News

Coronavirus - The Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, said: "We note from the Government's COVID-19 Recovery Strategy that churches could be open from July as part of the conditional and phased plan to begin lifting the lockdown. We look forward to the time when we are able to gather again in our church buildings. **"Stay alert, control the virus, save lives.**

The Church Office - The office is closed and the lovely Marge is on furlough. This means that Sarah is having to cover, so administration responses will be much slower than usual. Sarah will be checking the office email when she can—please be patient!

Barnabas Buddies - If you or anyone you know in the parish feels you could be a phone buddy or you know of someone isolated, lonely and in need of a chat then please call Katherine the churchwarden on 528508 or email katherine@katherinekear.co.uk.

Daily Prayer and Worship - Daily prayer will live stream on the Facebook Page at 10.00 and 21.00 every day (varies on Sunday evening). Prayer changes things - and your prayers matter. You are now able to view all of our videos, including morning and evening prayer on our temporary website (<https://www.stbarnabasgloucester.org/social-media-and-videos>). Any issues please get in touch with Comms lead Ellie on 07772894187.

Parish Giving Scheme - Like many churches, charities and other organisations, St Barnabas is facing serious financial challenges. Whilst we believe that God will provide for our needs we rely on giving from our church family, grants and donations from others to continue our ministry here in Tuffley, White City and Robinswood,. If you haven't already done so, would you consider signing up to the Parish Giving Scheme? If after prayer you would like to do so, then call the dedicated telephone number 0333 002 1271 between 9 and 5 pm. You will need to have your bank account details, church/parish name and PGS parish code to hand (available from the PGS representative for your parish). You will be able to Gift Aid your donation, if eligible, and you will also be given the option to increase your giving annually, in line with inflation. If you would like to give a one off gift, then our e-banking details are: **HSBC, St Barnabas Church PCC Sort Code: 40 43 42, Account Number 91283383** A huge thank you for anything you can give!

Christian Aid—Thanks to all who gave. We raised over £400 on Facebook and I know that some gave on the Christian Aid website. Given the current situation, that is such an encouraging result! God bless you all

Fun-draising Ministry—Keep an eye out for our "Virtual Summer Fayre" that is going to take place on between 12-2 on Saturday 27th June. The team are coming up with a number of ideas but are looking for more. Contact the Fun-draising lead Elaine on emarsh6@sky.com if you would like to be involved.

Afternoon Tea Deliveries— Would you like an afternoon tea delivered to your door on a Saturday or Sunday? Sandra Howells is happy to deliver a box of delicious goodies including home baked scones,, cream,, jam and cake for a minimum £3.00 donation to church funds. Please feel free to pay more!!! E-banking details are given above. Text her on 07852 139123 with a name, address and details of how many portions you would like.

remaining disciples came from one place, Galilee. Galilee had a bit of a reputation. It had its own way of doing things and would have felt a very different place to Jerusalem. So much so that the word "Galilean" could define an individual who was being rebellious or stirring up the status quo. To be Galilean was nothing to boast about! Yet on that day of Pentecost that we are celebrating next week, each of those Galileans spoke words that people from many different places could understand. I wonder if they did so in the same accent—the Galilean accent I hope they did! They then proceeded to travel, preach and share the good news of Jesus and transform the world for ever!

Isn't it amazing that this group of people from the same small town impacted in such a huge way on their world and ours? These few men of Galilee and indeed the women too always kept their eyes on heaven, but rather than simply gazing wistfully up, they constantly prayed for the kingdom to come, and God's will to be done in their lives and in the lives of others. Having walked with Jesus on the earth—they must have missed him very much. Yet they found the strength and encouragement and the vision to live for him. Through their lives, actions and their words, many people came to know Jesus.

So people of Gloucester—don't stand too long gazing into the sky. In these challenging days, let us find comfort in that prayer Jesus prayed and know that God is protecting us. We need to keep our eyes on Jesus and commit ourselves to prayer especially in days leading up to Pentecost. Jesus has made God known to us, he has given us God's word and God's truth. One day he will

return in the same way that he left. So secure in that truth, let us pray and act boldly and be guided by the signs of God's kingdom that are all around!

The kingdom of God is justice and joy; for Jesus restores what sin would destroy. God's power and glory in Jesus we know and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

Bryn Austin Rees

The Revd Sarah Todd



Prayer for Tuffley

Our 24/7 Prayer booklet will be available on our website and there are a few printed copies if you would like one. It will tell you how to book a time to pray for our area during a specified hour of your choice each week and is full of resources and messages of encouragement to help us pray. Please sign up if you haven't already and pray for God's kingdom to come in Tuffley,, White City and Robinswood.



Please pray...

- **For our Church family and the wider Church:**
- Pray for the Church in Tuffley as we continue to pray for our local area
- All members of the Anglican Communion around the world For the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd Justin Welby, and all primates and bishops
- For the staff at the Anglican Communion Office in London and the UN offices in Geneva and New York
- Pray for our financial situation and for the wisdom and compassion to meet the serious challenges that lie ahead.
- **For our community and the world:**
- For wisdom to connect with new housing developments in innovative way.
- For inspiration in finding ways of using sport, music and art to build relationships and share the Christian faith in our community
- For the governments of our world that all may seek the common good
- **For the Covid-19 pandemic**
- Pray for a measured and sensible response to the easing of restrictions
- Pray for frontline workers, especially our teachers as they prepare for some children to return to school on June 1st.
- Pray for the Barnabas Buddies, Feeding the 5000 and our Community Net outreach initiative.
- **For the sick and the bereaved**
- The sick: Janet, Colin, Tim, Mick, Joan, Noel, Julia, Rachel, Christopher, Ruby, Clare, Kay, Mary, Phil, Terry, Kate, Clodagh
- Those who mourn especially the families of; Peggy Whitfield, June Hull, Audrey Fielding, Avril McNulty, Ray Etheridge, Ann Harries, Norman Trigg, Irene Fletcher, Des Wilkins, James Merlock, Jeanne Clutterbuck, Dennis Metcalfe, Sheila Brassell

Parish office: **CLOSED**

office@stbarnabasloucester.org.uk

Revd Sarah Todd (Vicar) 07534 720160

revsarahtodd@gmail.com

Myra Bowen - Davies (Churchwarden) 302508

myrabowendavies@me.com

Katherine Kear (Churchwarden) 528508

katherine@katherinekear.co.uk

Prayers during the day Thy Kingdom Come

You may wish to light a candle and have some reflective music playing in the background

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Praise

Blessed are you, the God of our ancestors, worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed is your holy and glorious name, worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed are you, in your holy and glorious temple, worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed are you who look into the depths, worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed are you, enthroned on the cherubim, worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed are you on the throne of your kingdom, worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Blessed are you in the heights of heaven, worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Scripture

Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf.

Hebrews 9.24

Silence

Use this time to reflect on the scripture or to pray for your 5 people. Pray they might come to know Jesus.

Prayer

God of our salvation,
hope of all the ends of the earth,
we pray:
Thy kingdom come.
That the world may know Jesus Christ
as the Prince of Peace,
we pray thy kingdom come.
That we may be bold to speak the word
of God
while you stretch out your hand to save,
we pray thy kingdom come.
That the day may come when every knee
shall bow
and every tongue confess that Jesus
Christ is Lord,
we pray thy kingdom come.

Almighty God,
your ascended Son has sent us into the
world
to preach the good news of your
kingdom:
inspire us with your Spirit
and fill our hearts with the fire of your
love,
that all who hear your Word
may be drawn to you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silence and space to add your own prayers

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your
name, your kingdom come, your will be
done, on earth as in heaven. Give us
today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver
us from evil. For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and for
ever. Amen.

In the name of the Father, and of the
Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen