

## A warm welcome to St Helen's



### 15th March 2020

9.00am Holy Communion

4.00pm Jigsaw

### 3rd Sunday of Lent

Helen

Helen

**Readings: Exodus 17.1-7, Psalm 95, Romans 5.1-11, John 4.5-42**

### Prayer Focus

Sunday DCC members

Monday Jigsaw

Tuesday Christian Men Together

Wednesday Wednesday Lunches

Thursday Scripture Union

Friday Churches Together in central Solihull

Saturday Solihull Hospital

**Thank-you to:** all who respond so willingly in a variety of ways when help is needed.

**Administration of Communion:** Everyone is welcome to come to the altar. Baptised and communicant members of all churches or Christian traditions are invited to receive the bread and wine. If you wish to receive a blessing please come forward carrying this service leaflet.

**St Helen's Chapel:** the peaceful atmosphere offers a quiet space for reflection, personal prayer or the opportunity to light a candle for a loved one.

**Please pray for those in need:** Barbara Middleton, Diane Read, Alison, Tim Durston, John Priddy

**Please pray for those in continuing need:** Arthur Ogden, Pamela Shepherd, Christina; James, Gwen and Stuart Reid, Jonathan Chandler, Sheila Garbett, Penny and Daniel, Pauline Mortimer

**Recently departed:** Judith Foster-Smith, Frank Rhodes

**In Memoriam: -**

**Pastoral Care:** Please let Helen, Beryl Moppett or Barbara Sears know of all cases of need for pastoral care. Contact Barbara 704 1994 or Beryl 705 0337

**NOTICES FOR THE BULLETIN** Please let the Parish Office Team know by the Tuesday 3pm of each week if you require a notice for the Sunday bulletin: 0121 705 5350 or office@solihullparish.org.uk. Thank-you so much

**CONGREGATIONAL GIVING** Most people in St Helen's make regular giving via the Parish Giving Scheme or Standing Orders. If you are a visitor and would like to make a contribution to the work of our church, a collection plate is available in the foyer.

**For Loop system please switch hearing aids to 'T' setting**

## NOTICES

**Prayer Tree** Thank-you to those who volunteered to be at the Prayer Tree yesterday.

**Mothering Sunday Flowers** - the posies will be prepared on Friday 20 March at 3pm in the main hall. If you would like to help, please come along. Many thanks, Linda Finch.

**Pioneer Minister** - 'Recently people have shown an interest in my Lent activities - Pause 4 Lent the Greville and, until the end of March, Lent walks. Details of both available in all churches for you to refer too'. Suzette

**Coats for Kids** - donations for any children's coats you no longer need will be greatly appreciated to pass on to those who can't afford them. Please leave in the Parish Office or St Helen's Church. Thank-you Paula McClenaghan.

**Prayers for Youth Ministry** - 17 March (Thornby Avenue) at 7.00pm.

**St Basil's Sleepout** - 3 April - Solihull Parish Youth will be taking part, raising money for homeless young people. Please give generously. Cash or cheque to the Parish Office or the Just Giving Page <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/solihullparishyouth>. Any large cardboard boxes gratefully received. Thank-you, Lynn.

**Prayer for the life of the church** - Wednesday 18 March at 10.00 in the chapel. For more information please speak to Les Prescott.

**Homegroups: Lydia**-23 March 19 Marsham Court Road 2.15pm. **Links**-26 March, meetings take place at 33 Dovehouse Court, for more information please contact either June Paddock 705 2767 or Barbara Sears 704 1994. **Thornby**-16,30 March evening meetings, 20 Thornby Avenue at 7.45pm. All afternoon meetings on the same dates at 2.30pm at Pat's house, 1 Woodfield Road.

**Sunday 29 March** - Bishop Anne will be visiting the Parish for the licensing of Revd Sue Chandler and there will be a joint service at St Alphege at 10.30am. There will be an 8.00am service at St Helen's as usual and Evening Eucharist at 6.30pm.

**St Helen's ACDM** - will now take place on Sunday 29 March before the Evening Eucharist. Please join us from 4.45pm for tea and cake, followed by the meeting. Please send reports for the ACDM booklet to Phil Godfrey: [philgodfrey@btinternet.com](mailto:philgodfrey@btinternet.com)

**Walk of Witness** Good Friday 10 April 2020. Please join us from 11am outside St Augustine's Church, Solihull. If anyone is able to help marshal please let Helen know.

**Retreat in a Daily Life** Those who are taking part in Retreats in Daily Life might be interested to buy the book entitled "Sleeping with bread". Copies are available for sale on the St Alphege Bookstall.

## COLLECT

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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.

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

<b>Monday</b>	<b>16 March</b>	2.00pm Arts and Crafts Together 2.15pm Thornby Homegroup, 1 Woodfield Rd 7.45pm 20 Thornby Avenue
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>17 March</b>	10am Tuesday Prayer in the chapel 7pm Prayers for Youth Ministry, Thornby Ave
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>18 March</b>	Helen's day off
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>21 March</b>	Prayer Tree 11am-1pm outside Metro Bank, Solihull Town Centre
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>22 March</b>	<b>Mothering Sunday</b>
8.00am	Eucharist	Helen
9.00am	Holy Communion	Helen
6.30pm	Evening Prayer	Chris
<b>Readings:</b>	<b>Exodus 2.1-10, Colossians 3. 12-17, Luke 2. 33-35</b>	

**Notices continued:** The funeral of the late Judith Foster-Smith will take place at Robin Hood Crematorium, on Friday 27th March at 12.30pm.

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### BIBLE READING OLD TESTAMENT Exodus 17.1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

### BIBLE READING Romans 5. 1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

## **GOSPEL John 4. 5-42**

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.' Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.' Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.' Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'