

SUNDAY 13th September 2020 – Patronal Festival

PRAYER FOR THE DAY (The Collect)

Almighty God, who looked upon the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin Mary and chose her to be the mother of your only Son: grant that we who are redeemed by his blood may share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom; 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. Amen.

TODAY'S READINGS

Romans 14.1-12; Luke 1.46-55.

Please refer to today's order of service for the texts. You can download this from our website.

INTERCESSION

Father, as we turn aside from the busy world, with its clamour and distractions, quieten our hearts in your presence, that we may be still and know that you are God.

We pray for the mission and unity of the Church throughout the World: remembering today the Anglican Church of South America. In our diocese we pray for those in the Waveney and Blyth Deanery. We pray for those who have recently been ordained as Deacons and Priests. For the judicial System and Police in Suffolk. And we pray for the diocese of Lweru in Tanzania.

In our life at the Tower, we pray for all who come in search of God's presence: that they will find a friendly welcome here. We pray for our regular Welcomers and Sidespeople. We pray for strengthening of our faith and mission, as we serve people in the Town centre.

We pray for those around the World living in fear of war, persecution and poverty. For the many refugees and asylum seekers who look for a better life in a foreign land. For all who are hungry and homeless; and for the Aid workers who try to relieve their plight.

We pray for Families and friends and all whom we love. For those who may be lonely or sad; nourish them with

patience and comfort them. May they know Christ's presence with them.

We pray for those we know who are sick or otherwise distressed including Simon Hulme, Revd. Geoff Colmer Angela Pantelis, Linda Haywood Smith Freya, and John Wheeler. We continue to pray for Andrew Hastings, Derek le May, Andy Courage, Joyce Courage and John Bradberry.

We pray rest in peace and rise in glory for those who have recently died, including Stafford Patient, and Callum Doe, and we pray for all who mourn. We give thanks for the lives of those whose remembrance falls at this time of year.

NOTICES

From today, our choir is singing again in church, in a strict socially distant way and with special protocols, as allowed by regulations. We welcome them and thank them for their perseverance during the months of lockdown.

Please note that everyone in the congregation is nevertheless still required by the Government and Church regulations to wear a face covering in church, and to refrain from singing. This is all part of making the church as safe a place as we can for people to join us in worship.

We are continuing the practice of Spiritual Communion at least for now, where only the celebrant receives on behalf of the whole Body of Christ. The main reason is in order to make the service in church as safe as possible and this is achieved partly by having the minimum of movement around the church. It also means that it is the same for people participating in church or at home on line. This policy will be kept under review.

Those who are attending the service in Church are asked to download the service at home and to follow it on their phone or tablet or print out their own copy. There will be some printed copies available in church for those who prefer not to do this, but it would be good to save printing and paper as much as possible.

SERVICES WILL CONTINUE TO BE STREAMED LIVE

You do not need your own social media account, and you do not need to watch at the time of live streaming. Just go to the St Mary-le-Tower website and click on "LIVE" after the **Streamed Services** title, and this will take you to the St Mary-le-Tower Facebook Live page. Then click on the service when it appears about five minutes before the time, and you will be logged on.

PARKING PERMITS We are working on this and they will soon be available.

RIDE AND STRIDE THANK YOU to Ruth Longhurst and Jo and Peter Mays who between them welcomed riders and walkers to St Mary-le-Tower all day yesterday. Really great work!

INSPIRING IPSWICH is holding an online meeting tomorrow evening (Monday 14th) about how churches may reach out to those on the margins of Ipswich communities with the Gospel. If you are interested please look at the Inspiring Ipswich website.

SMLT WEBSITE SURVEY

Please let us know what you think!

The new Social Media team at SMLT are keen to have your opinions on our website, to help inform updates and proposed improvements. To that end we have designed a

very brief survey and would be really grateful if you could find a minute or two to complete it. It is just five short questions. To access the survey, click this link: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/G6C8RQ6 or hover your smartphone camera over the QR code above.



PLEASE LET ONE OF THE MINISTRY TEAM (Vicar, Elders, Churchwarden) know of any pastoral needs amongst the SMLT Community, so that we can respond, especially news of anyone suffering from the Coronavirus, but also other illness, or death, or just loneliness.

CURRENT PARISH CONTACTS

Please refer to the **Parish Website** for latest updates and downloads www.stmaryletower.org.uk

Revd Canon Charles Jenkin

Vicar, 07789 633315
charlesjenkin60@gmail.com

Jo Jones

Churchwarden 07813 543587
jonesgriz01@gmail.com

Christopher Borrett

Director of Music
music.stmaryletower@gmail.com

Sue Rudland

Business Manager for Tower House
towerhousedev@gmail.com

FINANCE UPDATES

EMERGENCY APPEAL The PCC has launched an emergency appeal to sustain our church over the coming winter following all the disruptions of the Covid-19 pandemic crisis. Letters have been delivered to all regular members of the St Mary-le-Tower Church Community, and over the coming weeks we will be reaching out further to other contacts. You can download the appeal documents from our website.

THANK YOU SO MUCH for the response that has already been made to this appeal. We have now **exceeded** our initial target of £50,000. This is really fantastic progress but we need to keep going!

THIS IS NO TIME TO RELAX. No one should be in any doubt that our church faces a very significant challenge to sustain St Mary-le-Tower into the future. A good start has been made. Thanks be to God! But let's keep it up.

WAYS OF GIVING TO SMLT. Because of the Covid-19 restrictions, there will continue to be no plate collections in church. Donations can be made in the following ways:

- Via the Donations Cabinet in church
- Via the Contactless Terminal in church
- Via the Donation Button on our website
- Via regular giving by Standing Order
- Via BACS to 30-94-55, 00059383
PCC St Mary le Tower Ipswich

[The donations bank account is separate from the PCC's operational account and is seen only by the Churchwarden, Donations Officer and Bookkeeper.]