



Welcome to the Parish Church of St. Nicholas Burnage

'Knowing, Growing, Sharing in the love of Christ'

Hi Everyone,
Here is the newsletter for Sunday 3rd May 2020.

As you will be aware, the church building remains closed for all services. We want to continue to support our congregation so if you are housebound or isolating and need any shopping or errands, please let Alison 07932071977 or Jane 07745392374 know as members of our congregation have kindly offered to help where they can.

We will be following the Church of England guidance, this can be found [here](#).

Readings for 3rd May, Fourth Sunday of Easter

O.T Reading: Acts 2: 42-47, Psalm 23, N.T. Reading 1 Peter 2: 19 – 25, Gospel : John 10: 1-10

Rachel and Ollie will be delivering a service on Sunday 3rd May at 10.30am, you can watch this service via the links below:

On our church website <https://www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk>

Or via Rachel's You Tube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/SuperBlitzgirl>

Rachel and Andrew will be delivering services for Morning and Evening prayer as follows:

- **Morning Prayer** at 8.30 am each day, (except Friday and Saturday). This will be very simple, using the Northumberland Prayer tradition
- **Evening Prayer** at 16. 00 pm GMT each day. It will be based on Common Worship, but with variants from other traditions on some days.

A message from Rev'd Canon Dr Rachel Mann

Dear Friends,

Recently, I read that we are now past the 'heroic' stage of lockdown. I think what that writer meant is that we've reached a point where the challenges of lockdown can no longer be met with a kind of bravado or chirpy energy. For example, in the early days of the restrictions, there was a very real 'We can handle this' spirit. The internet was awash with people making videos of themselves doing ridiculous things from the confines of their living rooms, and everyone shared recipes for banana bread, and home exercise regimes. While I know many have continued their exercise regimes, sewing classes and such like, I sense many of us have encountered a growing weariness. The weeks have stretched on. Some of us feel a profound longing to get out and start socialising again or to spend time in Church or – in my case – simply to hug another human being. Indeed, at this point, a handshake would do!

Lockdown is deeply testing in a spiritual way. I'm not sure anyone has got a magic formula to make it more bearable. Personally, I find having a routine and some structure helps. I've never felt more called to pray, and to pray in a structured way and I encourage each of us to find fresh ways to share our deepest longings with God. If any of you would like some help with your prayer life don't hesitate to contact me, Andrew or

Fr Alan. The three of us are not 'spiritual masters', but it is true that art of our vocation is to help people pray.

I'm also finding it helpful to give myself permission to simply 'stop'. Lockdown is exhausting. I simply don't think there is anything wrong with reaching for intellectual 'comfort food' at such a time as this. I think we often need something which holds us when we're struggling. I've been reading old favourites and crime thrillers, as well as watching TV programmes like Parks and Recreation. Some days it's all my weary mind can cope with!

In short, may I commend 'rest' to you. This time we're facing is going to go on for far longer than many of us realise. It's going to be a marathon rather than a sprint. So, dare to rest in God. He is there for each of us. His are the everlasting arms.

Stay safe!

Rachel x

PRAYER LIST May 2020

Please pray for Jacob Holt, his family and his Godfather, Giles Elliott, Brenda Denny, Jim Davey, Vi Reed, Barry Southall, Irene Smith, Claire Cawley, Georgie Rose Naylor, Peter Taylor, Ian Lomas, Sylvia Bate, Paul Nield. Ann Ackerman. Winifred Murphy, Norma Cookson, Margaret Vessey.

Please keep Ollie Mills and Lorna Cole in your prayers as they should be celebrating their wedding on Sunday 3rd May but due to the lockdown, their wedding has had to be rescheduled and it will now take place on Sunday 1st November.

IN RESIDENTIAL CARE

Muriel Wheatley (Anchor Westfield, Hall Lane, Wythenshawe), Edith Partington.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

ANNIVERSARY list , May 2020

Tony Huddart ,Rev.R.Ian McCalla, Paul Raven, Sally Smith, Christine Taylor, Ada Wheatcroft
L.Fred Lowe, Ann Clifford , Josephine Hale, Joyce Gibson , Gordon Campbell, Jean Bradbury
Melanie Wills, Paul Clark, Peggy Dadswell, Agnes Penny, Maggie Claughton ,Ellen Lowe, Stuart Nunns, Katie
Thornburn, Alison Lowther, Christine Heather Ward, Jean Blades, Marjorie Darke, David Witty , Michael
Samwell, Doreen Fanshawe, Eileen Klyne, Maureen, Gladys Short, Dorothy Eades

A message from our Treasurer:

Thank you to all of you who have continued to offer financial support to our Church. It is truly amazing how our wonderful and generous congregation have rallied round to ensure we can continue to meet our commitments.

If you would like donate to the church regularly, you can set up a standing order direct into our bank account. Forms are available on the website and here is a link to the form.

<http://www.st-nicholas-church.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/SNC-Regular-donation-form.pdf>

All you need to do is print then complete the form and return it to me to process.

Andrew Mills
St Nicholas Church Treasurer
c/o 2 Glenside Drive
Wilmslow
SK9 1EH

If you would prefer to send a contribution by cheque, please make the cheque payable to 'St.Nicholas PCC' and post it to me using the details shown above.

If you would prefer to simply make a one off or occasional payment into the church accounts, here are the bank account details for BACS:

Account details: NatWest Bank (Didsbury)
Account Name : St Nicholas Church PCC
Account number: 02047578
Sort code: 01-02-69

In order for use to claim Gift Aid, please ensure that any reference you use allows us to identify you. Please add a reference of your initials and postcode. E.g. AJM SK91EH

***Thank you,
Andrew Mills,
Treasurer***

Happy Birthday to the following people who celebrate their birthday in May:

We are unable to participate in services and to sing to these lovely people, so as you wash your hands please remember to sing through 'Happy Birthday twice'. We will celebrate as a church once we are back to our usual routine.

6th May Julie Crossley
9th May Anne Holmes
14th May Val Hagan
26th May Emily Crossley

If you have a birthday or you know that someone else in the congregation has a birthday in April, please let us know. Call Alison on 07932071977 or Jane on 07745392374 or email alison@st-nicholas-church.org.uk.

If you would like to add any names or notices to the newsletter, please let Alison know on email: alison@st-nicholas-church.org.uk or by phone 07932071977. Thank yo