

# Newsletter

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024



Charity No. 1127144  
Serving God, Serving the Community

Dear Friends,

I am conscious that very many of you are going through difficult and testing times at the moment. For some, the issues are related to health. For others, there is the care of someone you love who is sick in mind or body. A few of us have significant financial worries, others of you are being challenged in terms of your ability to live out the ministry to which we have been called (whether that is clearing the churchyard, watering the flowers, working in the centre, administration, teaching or praying). We can even be tempted into things which deplete us or limit our ability to thrive and live out a Christian life. As Christians we are called to much more than being good but actually to share in God's ministry on earth.

I want to remind you today in this newsletter, that Jesus knows your struggle. You are not alone. Though some may preach what is known as a 'prosperity gospel', that is that put your faith in Jesus and everything will be ok, I am not sure that the gospels or the epistles (a churchy word for letters) actually say that. What they do say is that when we turn to Christ, we invite the Holy Spirit to live and move within us. They tell us that for believers, Jesus walks alongside us showing us the way to God the Father. And that way was not easy for him, just as it is difficult for us. We see the struggle in the way that Jesus is tempted in the wilderness. We see difficulty in the way he is pursued and harassed during his teaching ministry. We see anguish in his prayers in the garden of Gethsemane. We see him endure pain on the cross, so that through faith in him we are protected from eternal punishment.

I know some of us use the 'App' called Lectio 360 (talk to me if you want to know how to get it and use it). It's free and offers morning and evening opportunities for short prayers and reflection. Today's text uses the last prayer of Jesus which we find in John 17. 12-19. Jesus prays:

*'While I was with them, I kept them safe by the power you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost, except the one who had to be lost. This happened so that what the Scriptures say would come true.*

*13 I am on my way to you. But I say these things while I am still in the world, so my followers will have the same complete joy that I do. 14 I have told them your message. But the people of this world hate them, because they don't belong to this world, just as I don't. 15 Father, I don't ask you to take my followers out of the world but keep them safe from the evil one. 16 They don't belong to this world, and neither do I. 17 Your word is the truth. So let this truth make them completely yours. 18 I am sending them into the world, just as you sent me. 19 I have given myself completely for their sake, so they may belong completely to the truth.'*

Jesus's desire for us is that we know joy even in the midst of suffering. He asks the Father to keep us safe from the evil one. When we say, 'Yes I believe' we live under God's protection. You may not feel very joyful as you read this, but it is good to focus on the bright spots of light we see in our daily living however small that they are. Practicing acknowledging the positives really can change a mindset. It may be as simple as instead of thinking about all the washing needing to be done, reflecting on the gift we have of clothing and a choice of it at that. It might be that instead of being overwhelmed by the trials of life, we thank God that we are alive. I do not say these things lightly. Sometimes (and I know) the darkness is very powerful around us, the difficulties can feel overwhelming. In those times I hold on to the fact that the battle of good and evil has been won. I might feel awful and be thinking negatively but that is not what God wants for my life. Sometimes "Jesus help me" is the only prayer we can manage. Sometimes, what we hold on to is simply the knowledge (even without the feeling) that we are loved by God, watched over and protected.

Don't know Jesus yet? Not sure if he really is the son of God? Some of you reading this may be in that position. A step forward might be to acknowledge you are angry with him or struggling without him and invite him to be part of your life. When you have done that, tell someone. If nothing else, text me: 07806608219.

I pray for each one of you, that you will live this week, as one who is loved and protected by God.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jenny Callies'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'J'.

# What's on this week

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	The Centre is open Monday-Friday 9.00 am – 2.00 pm 1.30pm Knit and Natter in the Centre
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	9.30 am -12.00 pm in the Centre. Caritas drop-in. Drink and a chat. Advice. All welcome. 12-2.30pm The Club House meets in the Village Hall. All welcome
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	10.30am Holy Communion in the Centre 1.00 pm The Bible Course at The Rectory
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	10.00 am Little Church meet in Church The Village Hall is a Polling Station all day.
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	9.15 am Holy Communion – Revd David Felix 11.00 am Word and Worship – Revd Colin Hart From 12.15 Parish Sunday Lunch in the Royal Oak

## Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June Trinity 5

Lamentations 3: 23 – 33  
2 Corinthians 8: 7 – end  
\*Mark 5: 21 – end

## Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July

Habakuk 2.1-4  
John 20.24-29

## Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June Trinity 4

Ezekial 2.1-5  
2 Corinthians 12.2-10  
Mark 6.1-13

\*Denotes 11.00 am Reading

# Notices

## Parish Lunch

The next Parish Lunch will be on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July, after the 11.00 am service. We will be in the Royal Oak. Last time the food was good, and the service was quick. It's a great chance to be together. If cost is an issue speak privately to me or to Carol Jones. We don't want anyone excluded because of money.

## Cake Rota

Please sign up at the back of church. What do you like to find on the table? Imagine you had not had time for breakfast...what would you choose? That's what we need to offer. Thanks to those who do this regularly. If you prefer to give funds, speak to Pat or Wendy.

## Churchyard Clean up

Thanks to all who played a part in this. A lot of work was done and vegetation thrown away. The team managed to fill a skip which was quite an achievement. If you haven't wandered in there lately do go and look. It is looking very good.

## Messy Church

The next Messy Church will be 9th July. Do please sign up on the sheet in Church. There are a variety of things to do and all help much appreciated.

## Women's Fellowship (formally wives)

Tuesday 2 July 3pm meet at the Woodcote Hotel Hooton for afternoon tea. If you need help with getting there chat to one of the ladies in church.

## **Rector on holiday**

I am away from the parish from 4<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> July. All services are covered. If you are in urgent need of assistance please contact 0151 334 4155 and we will do our best to assist you. The Rectory will still be occupied.

## **Rector's day off**

Just to remind people that currently my day off is on Monday. When you Whatsapp message me and say, 'I know it's your day off but...' know that on some Mondays that is a lot of messages to ignore. I work Tuesday- Sunday inclusive. Occasionally, I work Monday too as in next week but it is not the norm. Thanks for your understanding. Jenny

## **Silent Disco**

This is taking place on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July in the upstairs room of Bromborough Social club. You pay £10 and get a headset. You listen to the type of music that you like. Most popular music tastes catered for. It's funny watching people dancing to different sounds. Bar available. All welcome but you need to be able to climb the social club stairs! The other good thing is that if you switch off the headset you can talk to each other because the room is quiet!

**Leader's photos** Those of you who hold a role at church or who are listed on the website in a position of responsibility... we need your picture. Preferably head and shoulders. This is your chance to send one you like and have chosen. Please send to [communications@stbarnabasbromborough.org](mailto:communications@stbarnabasbromborough.org) If safeguarding issues mean that you don't want your photo used please let Andrew Watts know.

## **Our Scout Group, the 13th Bebington, will be 70 on Sunday 19th October**

An afternoon tea and fun day will be held on that day. All past members & family are welcome to join the celebrations. To book tickets (it's a free event) email [70thbirthday@13thBebingtonscoutgroup.org.uk](mailto:70thbirthday@13thBebingtonscoutgroup.org.uk) Please share this with family members who may have belonged to the Group in the last 70 years.

### **We pray for...**

The growth of our congregation and God's protection around all who attend and serve at St Barnabas. Pray for the right/best person to occupy 10 Downing Street.

Thank God that we can have democratic, safe and fair elections and for all the teams who will make that possible throughout the nation.

In our parish we continue to pray for Gordon Simmonds, Val and Pete Jones, Craig Dillon and David Hart. Our Church family at home, Josie Davies, Thelma Williams, Eddie and Hilary Griffiths, Mr Maelor, Pat Porter, Jan Harper and Barbara Tharme. We pray for the families of the Lt. John Bowers, Lt. Sarah Holmes. We pray for our link Missionaries Marcio, Noemi and their children and thank God for the work that they are doing in Indaiatuba. We pray for Revd Deborah our brothers and sisters at St Barnabas Church Limassol in Cyprus.

## **Donate to St Barnabas as you shop online!**

Sign up with GiveAsYouLive.com and choose 'PCC of St Barnabas, Bromborough' as your chosen charity

The Rector Jenny can be contacted at [rector@stbarnabasbromborough.org](mailto:rector@stbarnabasbromborough.org) or via her mobile 07806608219

Please send notices for inclusion in the Newsletter to [ros.wood@outlook.com](mailto:ros.wood@outlook.com) by Wednesday at 4pm.

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