

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

This Tuesday (25th January) marks the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. As the Iona Community has so eloquently put it, 'We are one in Body, but not in fact.' As the Church, called to live together in such a way that we draw the peoples of the world to God's generous heart, we fail when we cannot even love one another. As God's people, I invite you to continuing praying for the rest of the week and beyond, that as members of Christ's body we may overcome our divisions and celebrate together the love that makes us one with God and with one another:

Heavenly Father, you have called us in the Body of your Son Jesus Christ to continue his work of reconciliation and reveal you to the world: forgive us the sins which tear us apart; give us the courage to overcome our fears and to seek that unity which is your gift and your will; 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.

BISHOP OF LOUGHBOROUGH—SAJU MUTHALALY

Please remember Saju Muthalaly in your prayers over the coming week as he is consecrated as bishop on Tuesday 25th January, the Feast of the Conversion of Paul, in St. Paul's Cathedral in London. In his new role as the Bishop of Loughborough, Saju will share oversight of the diocese with Bishop Martyn, and will support clergy and lay ministers in every Anglican worshipping community across the county.

Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts, by your Holy Spirit you have appointed various orders of ministry in the Church: look with mercy on your servant Saju, now called to be bishop; maintain him in truth and renew him in holiness, that by word and good example he may faithfully serve you to the glory of your name and the benefit of your Church; through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

UPCOMING SERVICES

Sunday 23rd January 2022

The Third Sunday of Epiphany

10:30 am Benefice Service | Sproxton

11:00 am Holy Communion | Sewstern

Tuesday 25th January 2022

The Conversion of Paul

9:00 pm Night Prayer | Zoom

Sunday 30th January 2022

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

9:00 am Holy Communion | Branston

11:00 am Holy Communion | Wyomondham

Tuesday 1st February 2022

9:00 pm Night Prayer | Zoom

Sunday 6th February 2022

The Fourth Sunday before Lent

9:00 am Holy Communion | Sproxton

11:00 am Holy Communion | Wyomondham

Tuesday 8th February 2022

9:00 pm Night Prayer | Zoom

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THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



Diocese of
Leicester

PLEASE TAKE THIS PEW SHEET AWAY WITH YOU.

THE BENEFICE OF SOUTH FRAMLAND & THE HIGH FRAMLAND PARISH

The Parish Bulletin

SHARING GOD'S LOVE WITH THE VILLAGES OF BRANSTON, BUCKMINSTER, COSTON, CROXTON KERRIAL, EDMONDTHORPE, GARTHORPE, HARSTON, KNIPTON, SALTBY, SAXBY, SEWSTERN, SPROXTON, STAPLEFORD, WYFORDBY AND WYMONDHAM



The Third Sunday of Epiphany

Sunday 23rd January 2022

Gathering Sentence

Luke 4.14

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country.

The Collect

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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.**

(or)

God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10

A reading from the Book of Nehemiah.

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.

And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen,' lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the

law. Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.'

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 19

Refrain: The commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes.

The heavens are telling the glory of God and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. One day pours out its song to another and one night unfolds knowledge to another. They have neither speech nor language and their voices are not heard, yet their sound has gone out into all lands and their words to the ends of the world. **R**

In them has he set a tabernacle for the sun, that comes forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber and rejoices as a champion to run his course. It goes forth from the end of the heavens and runs to the very end again, and there is nothing hidden from its heat. **R**

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple. The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes. **R**

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter also than honey, dripping from the honeycomb. **R**

By them also is your servant taught and in keeping them there is great reward. Who can tell how often they offend? O cleanse me from my secret faults! **R**

Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins lest they get dominion over me; so shall I be undefiled, and innocent of great offence. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. **R**

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 12.12-31a

A reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians.

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations and believed in throughout the world.

Alleluia.

Gospel Reading

Luke 4.14-21

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Communion Sentence

Luke 4.17-19

Jesus said, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

Prayer after Communion

Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**