

# Welcome to the United Benefice of Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade

*Part of the North Chilterns Group of Parishes*

*And welcome to our **KSW WorshipLink**,  
which replaces the normal pew sheet for the time being.  
It has been devised to help you to worship on your own at home and  
to be 'Home Church' alongside the YouTube provision.*

## **November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2020 – The Feast of Christ the King**

### ***The Collect***

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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### **This Week's Readings**

*We are not printing these out! We're hoping that this will encourage you to go and find your bible and look them up... (See below for links to visual representations of these readings for children and others.)*

Old Testament: **Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24** New Testament: **Ephesians 1: 15-23**

The Gospel: **Matthew 25: 31-46**

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### ***A reflection on the gospel from Kate Peacock of the Diocesan Flourishing Churches Team***

So how do we grapple with this equally inspiring and challenging Gospel reading? Well, as so often with tricky bits of the Bible we need to put it in context as when Jesus said this and the wider themes of surrounding passages. Whilst remembering that today we celebrate Christ the King – the King of All who has humbled himself to be in each of us – not just as a baby in Bethlehem, but Christ resident in each of us. That mutual indwelling of which Paul talks so much. What we do to each other we do to Christ. We are totally accountable, and Christ is totally humble. What right do I have to claim that Christ is in me – but how can I not – when he created me – when he as King created me. Christ is both King of all – ruler of all, mighty and all powerful and yet humble. He is both King on the throne and beggar in the street.

So what do we do about the guilt, the compassion fatigue, the limits of ourselves? How can we still strive for justice, for mercy and God's Kingdom in our limited way? Well for me, the answer is twofold. Firstly, pray – however you can, whenever you can. In the supermarket buying fair-trade products, in your living rooms as you watch the news. Pray always for justice, for Christ to come again and restore his Kingdom. And secondly, be humble yourself, before the Throne of Grace, be humble, be forgiven by Christ. Be as Christ like as you can – that surely is the mission for us all that we lead lives that mirror the justice and mercy of Christ's. And see the face of Christ in all whom you meet. Don't let the guilt weigh you down – the poor will always be with us, and guilt in and of itself can be an indulgence and a distraction. We all have our limits, but Christ does not – limitless King, limitless God, limitless love. Live in that love and the world will be changed. God's glory will be realised and you will be doing far more than you realise or know. And remember we are to be stirred to this work – stirred in our souls to be strengthened by the fruits of the Spirit and it is only through the Spirit we can do anything at all.

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Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

### **A Blessing**

Love is God's word and his way. May we know that we are known and loved and held by God. **Amen.**

Videos from Nicola posted so far on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRoQ3YB9ywTtcFdtEt0vmgQ>

Here is a visual representation of this week's gospel reading for children, created by the Diocesan Children's Mission Enabler:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eHgMCXjh4yM>

Every week at <https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/encouraging-faith/> you can access a short film from a member of senior diocesan staff to encourage us in faith together over the coming months.



### **For families in the current health crisis situation**

#### **Growing in faith together**

1. **Keep a regular routine of prayer.** Good times to pray together are those times you do something regularly, eating together, going to bed or washing your hands! Or light a candle and **pray the same family prayer at the same time every day.**
2. **Read a bible story** at bed-time or watch one online with them during the day.
3. With the ongoing situation, **it can be difficult adjusting to not seeing family and friends in person, however, you can still pray for them together daily.** Write them a letter or send them a picture saying that you are thinking and praying for them?
4. **Choose one of the follow family fun prayer ideas** - [Bright prayer ideas for families at home!](#)
5. **Listen to a podcast together.** For example, you can click [here](#) to listen to Family Prayer Adventure podcasts.

#### **A prayer for children**

Dear God, when I feel worried about what is happening in the world, blow my worries away like the wind blows leaves on an autumn day. When I feel sad about how this virus is making so many people sick, wash my tears away like a waterfall washes over rocks and makes them smooth. When I feel scared that I might get this horrible virus, calm my fears like the dawn makes a dark night fade away and I feel safe again. Thank you that you are with me and everyone I am worried about. Thank you that you love me and will always be with me. Amen.

*Dorothy Moore Brooks, Chaplain at Great Ormond Street Hospital*

### **This week we pray in love for:**

#### ***The worshipping life of the churches***

- ◆ Sunday worship online and through Home Church
- ◆ Those preparing for baptism and confirmation
- ◆ The Sunday Schools and Children's Church and their leaders; those missing being together in this way
- ◆ Our First Steps service; continuing online
- ◆ Our Messy Churches and their helpers – another online Messy Church in December
- ◆ All visitors and newcomers to our online services, website and Facebook

***Lots of people have asked me to pray for individuals whom they know who are ill with coronavirus, either at home or in hospitals or care homes. Please join in praying for all of them, and those who care for them.***

#### ***November prayers for...***

##### ***Kensworth***

- ❖ Remembrance and those who have lost a loved one in the last year

##### ***Studham***

- ❖ Remembrance and those who have lost a loved one in the last year

##### ***Whipsnade***

- ❖ Remembrance and those who have lost a loved one in the last year

***This week please remember in your prayers; those in the midst of illness, operations or accidents; amongst whom Hayden Anslow, Lorraine Burger, Fred Downie, Claire Stoop, Eddie Perry, Pete Travis, Frank and Barbara Walker, John and Helen, Rachel, Hilary, Paul, Philip, David, Sue, Richard and Beverly; and those who have died recently, amongst whom Joan McNeill.***

Do you have a name or a request for prayer that you wish to have included on this prayer list? Please email Nicola on [revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com](mailto:revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com) before Thursday each week.

***A prayer for these times: Keep us good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

*(from the Church of England website)*

**Readings for next week - Advent Sunday**

***Isaiah 64: 1-9***

***1 Corinthians 1: 3-9***

***Mark 13: 24-end***

Don't forget to take a look at the Bishop's Golden Rules at <https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/coronavirus/>

And here's a daily prayer for us all to join in praying

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer/todays-prayer>

### ***Important information***

## **Studham, Kensworth and Whipsnade (SKAW) Coronavirus Response Group**

**This group has closed for the time being. It would really help if those involved either became a part of the villages' good neighbour schemes, or allowed their data to be held digitally should the group need to re-form.**

**Many volunteers and those in need are still in touch, which is a wonderful tribute to the group itself.**

**Anyone who has a new need should continue to contact**

**01582 873447 / 872597 [gnstudham@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gnstudham@hotmail.co.uk) for the time being and they will be put in touch with the relevant group in each of the three villages.**

**A huge thank you to all those of you who have helped!**

**Further local updates on:**

[www.parishlink.org.uk](http://www.parishlink.org.uk)

[www.studhamparish.co.uk](http://www.studhamparish.co.uk)

Facebook: Studham Village

Facebook: Studham Villagers

Facebook: Spotted Kensworth

Facebook: Kensworth Studham Whipsnade Parish Churches

Village noticeboards

Nextdoor App

