

## BLESSING

*May the light of the world shine in your darkness  
and assure you that you are not alone.  
And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit  
be upon you and on all those for whom you pray,  
now and for evermore. Amen*

## PARISH PRAYER LIST

Canon Ken, Bishop-elect George, Joyce, Eddie, Johnny,  
Adam & Hayley, Cora, Audra, Sylvia, Adam

**Senior members resident in care homes**

Nan, Isabel, Leslie, Lillian, Tom, Sally, Kay



**Remember all who have been bereaved especially during  
this time when restrictions prevent the usual funeral services.**

The Wade family following the death of Ronnie, formerly of Hemsworth  
Court Nursing Home, Shankill Road.

We continue to hold the Adair and Hill families in our prayers at this time  
following the death of Liz's husband Bobby and then her brother Brian.  
Pray for Liz and Pauline as they come to terms with the loss of their  
husbands, that they and their families will know God's comfort and peace.

## PARISH PRAYER LINE – TEL: 07553404711 (New)

*Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.  
Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act. Psalm 37:4,5*

*Canon Ken and I are doing our best to keep in touch and provide  
resources during this time of separation. Please contact us for a chat  
and/or a prayer. We would love to hear from you.*

---

**Reverend Bobbie Moore**

Telephone: home: 028 9268 2789 mobile: 07746 583470

[bobbiemoore1@gmail.com](mailto:bobbiemoore1@gmail.com)

**Canon Ken McReynolds**

Telephone: Mobile: 07922 358091 [kenmcreynolds@hotmail.com](mailto:kenmcreynolds@hotmail.com)

[www.staidan.connor.anglican.org](http://www.staidan.connor.anglican.org)

[www.facebook.com/staidansandyrow](https://www.facebook.com/staidansandyrow)

---

---

St Aidan's Parish Church  
Enabling people to find a Living Faith in a Loving  
God by "Serving Christ in the Community"

---

**10 MAY 2020 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

## THE EASTER GREETING

Christ is risen.

**The Lord is risen indeed.**

**Alleluia!**



## PENITENCE *(We say sorry to God)*

**O God our loving Father, we are very sorry for all the things we  
have done which make you sad. We have sometimes been selfish  
or bad-tempered or disobedient. We are sorry for the things we  
have failed to do, for the work we did not finish, the thank-you we  
forgot to say, the friends we did not help, the quarrel we never  
made up. For these and all our failings, forgive us through Jesus  
Christ our Lord. Amen**

## WE RECEIVE GOD'S FORGIVENESS

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our  
Saviour, forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve him in the  
world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**PRAISE** : Blessed is the Lord

**For he has heard the voice of our prayer;**

Therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

**And in our song we will praise our God.**

## COLLECT OF THE DAY:

Almighty God,

whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of  
righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above,  
where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. **Amen**

## MINISTRY OF THE WORD

### Psalm 31: 1-5; 23,24

### Acts 7: 55-60

But filled with the Holy Spirit, (Stephen) gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

### 1 Peter 2:2-6



Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him— you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says:

"See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.

### 1 John 14: 1-14 - Jesus the Wav to the Father



'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.

Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.'

Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.  
We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.  
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us with power from on high.  
We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

### PRAYERS

***Take a few moments and in your imagination place yourself in church and as you look around at familiar faces, ask for God's blessing on each one as you name them in your heart.***

Jesus taught us to call God our Father, so in faith and trust we pray

**Our Father, who art in heaven....**

**Loving God, accept the cries of our heart  
as we offer our prayers;**

**through them transform us and all creation  
until you are in all and through all.**

**We ask these and all our prayers in the name of Jesus. Amen**

## Fifth Sunday of Easter

### You also like living stones are being built into a spiritual house.

On yet another Sunday without our usual practice of gathering together in church for worship, this text from today's epistle reminded me of a wonderful poster I used to have with these words underneath. It was a picture of women carrying piles of bricks on their heads beside the unfinished walls of a new church building. The bricks were made from mud, which was dried in a kiln then carried to the site.

Sadly I don't have that poster any more but I found a couple of others from a visit to Burundi in 2009. Team members enjoyed getting their hands dirty making bricks for a new church building.



Peter speaks of Christ as the living stone and each of his followers as living stones, being built up into a spiritual house.

Just think about that – think about a dry stone wall – all the different shapes and sizes of stones and the craftsman fitting them all together to make a solid wall; maybe sometimes smoothing off a rough edge, fitting in an oddly shaped one, filling in with some tiny, seemingly insignificant ones. Every single stone has its use, its place and purpose.

We are all so different – yet, as living stones we are being fitted and crafted together to make up a spiritual house, a temple where God dwells.

Let's remind ourselves of the hymn we sang at the end of our services for several weeks before church closed:

*For I'm building a people of power and I'm making a people of praise  
that will move through this land by My Spirit and will glorify My precious  
name*

*Build Your church, Lord. Make us strong, Lord.  
Join our hearts, Lord, through Your Son  
Make us one, Lord In Your Body in the kingdom of Your Son*

*Blessing:*

*May the light of the world shine in your darkness and assure you that you are not  
alone. And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and on  
all those for whom you pray, now and for evermore. Amen*