

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

BLESSING

May the glory and the promise of this joyous time of year
bring peace and happiness to you and to those you hold most dear
And may Christ our risen Saviour always be there by your side
To bless you most abundantly and be your loving guide.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Canon Ken, Bishop-elect George, Joyce, Eddie, Johnny,
Adam & Hayley, Cora, Gwen, Audra, Sylvia, Adam
Senior members resident in care homes
Nan, Isabel, Leslie, Lillian, Tom, Sally, Ronnie, Kay



Remember all who have been bereaved

We 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*

***Please do not hesitate to contact Revd. Bobbie
or Canon Ken by telephone or email.***

Reverend Bobbie Moore

Telephone: home: 028 9268 2789 mobile: 07746 583470

bobbimoore1@gmail.com

Canon Ken McReynolds

Telephone: Mobile: 07922 358091 kenmcreynolds@hotmail.com

www.staidan.connor.anglican.org

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"

26 APRIL 2020 – THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE EASTER GREETING

Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed.

Alleluia!



TODAY'S PSALM 116

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 Father,

who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord: Give us such knowledge of his
presence with us, that we may be strengthened
and sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Isaiah 43: 1,2

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41

On the day of Pentecost, Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd, 'Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.' Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added to their number.

Luke 24: 13-35

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him. He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

"What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us.

They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the scriptures concerning himself.

As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognised by them when he broke the bread.



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. 87

A SHORTENED FORM OF EVENING PRAYER BASED ON COMPLINE

The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. Amen.

Brethren, be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: whom resist, steadfast in the faith. 1 Peter 5: 8, 9.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us. Thanks be to God.

O God, make speed to save us. O Lord, make haste to help us.

A PSALM

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord. The Lord's Name be praised.

A BIBLE READING

THE EVENING HYMN

Before the ending of the day, Creator of the world, we pray
That thou with wonted love wouldst keep Thy watch around us while we sleep.

O let no evil dreams be near, Or phantoms of the night appear;
Our ghostly enemy restrain, Lest aught of sin our bodies stain.

Almighty Father, hear our cry Through Jesus Christ our Lord most high,
Who with the Holy Ghost and thee Doth live and reign eternally. Amen.

Keep me as the apple of an eye. Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.
Preserve us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

NUNC DIMITTIS Luke 2: 29-32

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all
people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Preserve us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

PRAYERS

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the silent hours of this night,
so that we, who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world,
may repose upon thy eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord;
and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night
for the love of thy only son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

We will lay us down in peace and take our rest.
For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety

The Almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
bless and preserve us this night and for evermore. Amen.

Dear Church Family

Well, how are you getting on in '**lockdown**'? As I was reflecting on this word I thought how easy it would be to consider ourselves imprisoned in our homes as we do not have the freedom to go about as before. **BUT** how much better it is to think of our homes as places of sanctuary. After all the reason we are confined is for protection both of ourselves and others.

The term sanctuary means protection or a safe place and in the bible there are countless references. One of my favourites is in psalm 73:16,17

***When I tried to understand all this, it troubled me deeply
till I entered the sanctuary of God; then I understood their final destiny.***

The psalmist was agonising over the actions of evil and arrogant people, but when he entered the sanctuary he was able to see things from God's perspective. I have found this helpful when struggling with issues that leave me perplexed and confused – that sense of entering the sanctuary of God's presence realigns my perspective. The global pandemic which is causing such death and destruction impacts all of us leaving us confused, anxious and fearful for ourselves, our families and indeed our world. In the midst of this God's sanctuary is open, we are free to go there and sit with him; to ask for courage, for faith to meet each new day. The psalm concludes with this affirmation:

***Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand. You guide me with your
counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory. Whom have I in heaven
but you?
And earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may
fail,
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.***

I'm attaching a short form of evening prayer which I hope you might find helpful. I have also attached an order of service for Sunday and the readings each speak about the powerful effect of God's presence. The beautiful verses from Isaiah 43 assure us of the protection of God's presence in the face of trouble. The passage from Acts reminds us of the certainty of the resurrection, the need for repentance and the promise of forgiveness. Doctor Luke recounts the journey of the disciples unaware of their companion's identity until his presence was revealed as they shared a meal together. Even if we are not aware of it, God's presence is with us as he has promised. During this time while we are unable to meet together for worship, I pray that each of you would enter into the sanctuary of God's presence and there find peace and blessing, all that you need, in fact, to face each new day.

I'm continuing to post and repost regularly on the parish Facebook page and weekly on the website. Canon Ken and I are available and would love to hear from you either by phone, email or post. Let us know what you are finding helpful and if there are other resources we could provide.

May God bless you and give you his peace.

Warm greetings in Christ.

Revd. Bobbie

Week ending 26 April 2020

Reverend Bobbie Moore

21 Kilwarlin Ave., Hillsborough, BT26 6LQ

Telephone: home: 028 9268 2789 mobile: 07746 583470

bobbiamoore1@gmail.com

Canon Ken McReynolds

35 Hazelgrove Ave., Lurgan. BT66 7TS

Telephone: Mobile: 07922 358091 kenmcreynolds@hotmail.com