



## WEEKLY LETTER FROM THE CHAPLAINCY

Sunday July 12<sup>th</sup> 2020 – Fifth Sunday after Trinity

**WELCOME** to the latest weekly letter on this Fifth Sunday after Trinity, as the Church continues its journey through 'Ordinary Time'.



In our Gospel Reading for this Sunday, we hear Jesus' Parable of the Sower, and I invite you all to take that title seriously as you reread that famous passage. So often we read it as a story about four different kinds of ground in which the seed falls, and we worry about what kind of ground we are to receive Christ's precious seed. But what if the story is not about the seed or the ground but actually about the Sower – about God's loving goodness, his abandon, his pure, pure joy? More of that in my sermon on Sunday – and a reminder for those who have been

unable to access our Sunday worship via Zoom that there is also the option to join on your telephone line.

Don't forget to keep in touch if there is any way in which I can help you – [chaplain@scilly.church](mailto:chaplain@scilly.church) / 423911.

### SUNDAY WORSHIP



Our Parish Morning Service via Zoom on Sunday at 11.00 a.m. As for every Sunday, the code is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/477892334?pwd=aWVpWXVidksralpVZm1yUjN6VDg0dz09>. You will be able to join from 10.30 a.m. and

chat to others before we start properly at 11.00 a.m. **Please note that there are times during the service when I am unable to admit**



and death'. Sin and death are still real, and still present in us, but they no longer have the last word.

The passage ends with God's promise to 'give life to [our] mortal bodies through his Spirit that dwells in [us].' This is one of the passages where Paul is speaking of the 'resurrection body' that we affirm each time we say the baptismal creed (that we know as the



Apostles' Creed). It reminds us that God's promise for our future destiny is not that we will become some kind of disembodied soul (that is a Greek idea

rather than the teaching of the Jewish and Christian Scriptures). God promises to save and transform both our spirits and our bodies in the mystery of heaven. Quite what that means is very difficult to grasp, but it should certainly encourage us to treat our bodies with care and respect, as the 'temples of the Holy Spirit' that they are, and as we wait for God's promise to come to its fulfilment.

### THINKING IT THROUGH

As usual I'm attaching/enclosing two thought provoking articles reflecting on the current crisis. This week they are by **David Walker**, the Bishop of Manchester, and **Andrew Davidson**, Dean of Chapel at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.



I'm also attaching/including my sermon from last Sunday for those who may want to read it. It considers Jesus' offer to us of his 'easy yoke'.

## WORSHIP – A REMINDER

In order to respond to the concerns and needs of both regulars and visitors, for at least the next two months, and unless circumstances change dramatically, our principal act of Sunday worship will remain our Zoom service at 11.00 a.m., to which visitors are most welcome. In addition, beginning this Sunday (July 12<sup>th</sup>), an Epilogue service will



be held **in the Parish Church** at 8.15 p.m. (as Old Town Church has very little space for social distancing). This will feature much of the same content as the Zoom service in the morning.

## A PRAYER DURING THE PRESENT PANDEMIC

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy  
in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support  
the anxious and fearful,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may rejoice in your comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us  
from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
**Amen.**



*Please be assured of my love and prayers.*

Perran

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