



**DURHAM  
CATHEDRAL**

THE SHRINE OF ST CUTHBERT

# Praying Together

*during the week beginning Sunday 19 July  
The Sixth Sunday after Trinity*

*During this time of great anxiety and uncertainty, we want to stay in touch with our regular worshippers and indeed with everyone who is associated with the Cathedral family. We are delighted that we have been able to reintroduce congregational worship here at the Cathedral and there is more information about that later on in this booklet. Durham Cathedral is also open for private prayer and quiet reflection. If you'd like to come to the cathedral for worship and/or prayer, there are some important measures we'd like you to know about, to ensure the safety of members of the public and staff. You can find this information on our website: [www.durhamcathedral.co.uk](http://www.durhamcathedral.co.uk) We will continue to live stream services as well so that, if you can't re-join us yet, you will still be able to engage with us online.*

## Gospel

**Matthew 13. 24-30, 36-43**

Jesus put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

# Thought for the Day

by the Very Reverend Andrew Tremlett

*But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.*

It is good to be here – and we have certainly waited with patience. It is now almost exactly four months since we last met for public worship back in March: since then the world has become a different place, or rather different places. For some, working in front line services, the past months have been an extended period of frenetic activity, shot-through with fear that an unseen virus could be spreading inadvertently. Hospitals, Care Homes and Schools have become both the front-line of that invisible war, but also those who have been working in them have become national heroes, recognised for selfless service.

For others, our main task in life – alongside the day job, whatever that might be – has been to stay at home, to stay safe, and to protect others we love. And now, thanks be to God, we are slowly but surely awaking from this dream-like state, with families being re-united, friends re-visited and the economy slowly re-emerging. At the Cathedral, many of our children are back in class at the Chorister School. We opened the doors for private prayer in June, and now over 2,000 people each week are coming to this sacred and holy place. And today, another milestone on our journey as we gather for public worship. For many of us, this will be an emotional occasion, tinged with memories of other gatherings but, however simple this one is, it is nonetheless an historic moment.

But to be clear, the worship of almighty God, the praise of his Son Jesus Christ, and the acknowledgement of the presence of the Holy Spirit has never ceased from this place. For the Cathedral community and the wider Durham diaspora, this has not been the kind of waiting which involves twiddling the thumbs or passing the time of day. From the very first day, the round of prayer was faithfully continued both physically here in the Cathedral precinct, and also joined by a whole crowd of witnesses. The ability to share in worship on-line and remotely has been one of the great gifts of this period, and one we are actively exploring how to continue. So it's great that we are joined in this service by people from around the world. What this points up for me is that there are many different kinds of waiting,

- The Advent waiting speaks of preparing ourselves for judgement, epitomised in the Great 'O' antiphons. Alongside hope for the incarnation, there is trepidation in the second coming.

- Lent gives us a different kind of waiting: it is about pilgrimage, the sense of journeying on, about being a different person at the end of the journey.
- The waiting in the Garden of Gethsemane speaks of the power of companionship, faithfulness in adversity
- And then the Pentecost waiting is different again. It is the disciples, scared and uncertain, who gather waiting for the baptism of the Holy Spirit, as Acts puts it.

But what each of these ‘waitings’ have in common is that there is an intentionality about it, in each we wait for a particular time, there is a sense of movement, progression, departure and arrival. They are liturgically framed so that we know the beginning and the end, we understand the character, the shape; frankly we know how the story ends. By contrast, the only certainty in the last few months has been the lack of certainty. While some have enjoyed the change of rhythm, the opportunity to pause and take notice of nature, for many others it has been disorientating, the loss of routine, the lack of personal contact, the unfamiliarity as well as the understandable fear. And while we all welcome the gradual return to normality, there are very few who think that, this side of finding an effective vaccine, this will not become part of the pattern of life in the next few years. So, if we are being honest, a different kind of waiting is required. One where we do not know the outcome in advance, where uncertainty is a reality. We might call this ‘faithful waiting’ or ‘patient waiting’ or even a season of waiting. And in case we might be tempted to think of this as time wasted, perhaps we should rather draw on what we have learnt in this time:

- That fellowship one with another, in person, is important but that Christian community can be sustained in other ways;
- That stepping back from the business of routine can open perspectives on what we do not usually see or take notice of;
- That there is something decidedly ‘kingdom’ about the inversions of this time – the health and care workers, the refuse collectors, the teachers, those who maintain power, water and electricity – these are the building blocks of a just and equitable society;
- That the vulnerable – economically, socially, physically – are even more so in a time such as this, and that the measure of that just and equitable society is the extent to which we attend to their needs.

*But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.*

# A Form of Intercession

We pray for God's faithfulness to be known in our world.  
Faithful God  
**glorify your name.**

In a world of change and hope,  
of fear and adventure;  
faithful God  
**glorify your name.**

In human rebellion and obedience,  
in our seeking and our finding;  
faithful God  
**glorify your name.**

In the common life of our society,  
in prosperity and need;  
faithful God  
**glorify your name.**

As your Church proclaims your goodness in  
words and action;  
faithful God  
**glorify your name.**

Among our friends  
and in our homes;  
faithful God  
**glorify your name.**

In our times of joy,  
in our days of sorrow;  
faithful God  
**glorify your name.**

In our strengths and triumphs,  
in our weakness and at our death;  
faithful God  
**glorify your name.**

In your saints in glory  
and on the day of Christ's coming;  
faithful God  
**glorify your name.**

## Hymn

Ring Christ, ring Mary, Benedict and Bede,  
With Michael, till our hearts from sin be freed;  
Ring Cuthbert, Oswald, Margaret and Hild,  
Till, blessed Lord, our hearts with joy be filled.

Let bells peal forth the universal fame,  
Creator Lord, of thy mysterious name;  
Conscience within, the boundless heavens above,  
Disclose to faith the hidden name of Love.

Loudly proclaim with each insistent chime  
How thine eternity redeems our time;  
Past sins forgiven, and future hopes restored,  
Reveal thy presence with us, gracious Lord.

Spirit divine, re-cast our faulty ways,  
Make them ring true and echo to thy praise;  
Through every change of circumstance and choice  
May we confess thee with a single voice.

Call us to worship, call us to obey,  
Call us to pilgrimage along life's way;  
Rouse us from sleep; renewed in mind and heart,  
Call us to love thee, Lord, since Love thou art.

Ring Christ, ring Mary, Benedict and Bede,  
With Michael, till our hearts from sin be freed;  
Ring Cuthbert, Oswald, Margaret and Hild,  
Till, blessed Lord, our hearts with joy be filled.

*Peter Baelz*

# Calendar of Holy Days

Monday 20 July

*Margaret of Antioch, martyr, 4th century*  
*Bartolomé de las Casas, Apostle to the Indies, 1566*

**Wednesday 22 July    Mary Magdalene**

Almighty God,  
whose Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of mind and body  
and called her to be a witness to his resurrection:  
forgive our sins and heal us by your grace,  
that we may serve you in the power of his risen life;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Thursday 23 July

*Bridget, abbess, 1373*

**Saturday 25 July**

**James the Apostle**

Merciful God,  
whose holy apostle Saint James,  
leaving his father and all that he had,  
was obedient to the calling of your Son Jesus Christ  
and followed him even to death:  
help us, forsaking the false attractions of the world,  
to be ready at all times to answer your call without delay;  
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.

## Return to Congregational Worship

We're delighted to announce that people will be able to attend worship at Durham Cathedral again from Sunday 19 July. We have arranged a programme of worship which will run from this day until mid-September – at which point the programme will have been reassessed and may develop further as we reintroduce other aspects of our worship.

## **Sundays**

In order to maintain social distancing, numbers are limited to approximately 50 attendees at each service – so there will be two services of Holy Communion (CW1) on Sunday mornings at 9.30 a.m. and 11.30 a.m. Worshippers will need to book online to attend one or other of these services in order to stay within the number limit and so that we don't have to turn anyone away. Both services will be identical. The service at 9.30 a.m. will be live-streamed. Here is the link for booking to attend either of these two services: <https://www.durhamcathedral.co.uk/whats-on> You will enter the Cathedral via the Galilee Chapel. People from the same social 'bubble' will sit together. Others will sit alone. Hand sanitiser will be available when you arrive but we ask that you also wash your hands thoroughly before you leave home. You will be able to pick up a disposable order of service as you arrive and we ask that you take it away with you as you leave. The service will be said with organ music and a sermon. We will not physically share the Peace with each other and Communion will be distributed in one kind only (the consecrated bread) by clergy wearing face masks. We will stand to receive Communion. The service will last about 45 minutes and we will be discouraged from staying behind after the service for longer than is necessary. The presiding priest will be outside the North Door after the service to say goodbye to people as they leave.

Morning Prayer (BCP) on Sunday will be live-streamed at 8.30 a.m. but will not be open to the public for the time being. Evensong (BCP) will be pre-recorded and available online only at 3.30 p.m. There will be no service in church at that time.

## **Weekdays**

In the week, from Monday to Saturday, Morning Prayer (CW) will be said in the North Transept at 8.30 a.m. and Evening Prayer (BCP) will be said in the North Transept at 5.15 p.m. Both services each day will be open to the public but will also be live-streamed. But please note that, on Friday 24 July and Friday 31 July, these two services will be said at home by a member of the clergy and will not be open to the public but will be live-streamed. From August, these two services will be said in church and be open to the public every day. Prayer Books and Bibles will not be provided. You will need to use the Daily Prayer app downloaded to your smart phone or tablet or you will need to bring your own books or you can simply engage with the service by listening. You will not need to book to attend either of these weekday services. However, you will be asked to 'sign in' when you arrive because we are participating in the 'track and trace programme'. Entry will be via the Galilee Chapel and exit via the North Door. Hand sanitiser will be available on entry but please wash your hands thoroughly before you leave home.

## A Prayer for use during the Coronavirus outbreak

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.

## A Prayer for the Church

O God, make the door of this house  
wide enough to receive all who need  
human love and fellowship,  
narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride and strife.  
Make its threshold smooth enough  
to be no stumbling-block to children,  
nor to straying feet,  
but rugged and strong enough  
to turn back the tempter's power.  
God make the door of this house the gateway  
to Thine eternal kingdom.  
Amen.

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