

DIOCESAN STRATEGY PRAYER

Living God, Jesus calls his followers to seek first your Kingdom.

Renew us as we make your love known;

Release us to share freely together in mission;

Rejuvenate us to be fruitful in your service.

Give us courage, wisdom and compassion,

That strengthened with the grace of the Holy Spirit,

We may, as the Diocese of Sheffield,

Both flourish and grow through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Anyone wishing to book weddings and baptisms, please contact the Vicar.

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We have a hearing loop; please switch your hearing aid to the 'T' setting

If you would like to speak to someone or for someone to pray with you, please speak to the Clergy.

All are welcome to share bread and wine at Communion or a blessing at the altar rail.

To the toilets, go through the Lady Chapel, across the vestry and into the St James' Room corridor

COLLECT for Trinity 7

Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

New Testament Reading Ephesians Ch 2 v 11 - end

¹¹ Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (which is done in the body by human hands)— ¹² remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵ by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His

purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace,¹⁶ and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.¹⁷ He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household,²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Gospel Reading Mark Ch 6 v 30 -34 & 53 - end

³⁰ The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught.³¹ Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest."

³² So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place.³³ But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them.³⁴ When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

⁵³ When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there.⁵⁴ As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus.⁵⁵ They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was.⁵⁶ And wherever he

went—into villages, towns or countryside—they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.

Thought for the Week

Phil Ch 4 verses 6-7 *Do not be anxious about anything. Be saturated in prayer throughout each day, offering your faith filled requests before God with overflowing gratitude. And the peace of God.....will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.*

Here is another prayer linked thought! It's just that this seems to something the Holy Spirit keeps reminding us to do. Pray with faith and gratitude and live in peace not in anxiety and fear.

Lockdown is being lifted (in some minds too quickly)! Will the R number increase? What about people's jobs? What about the economy? What about people's health? What about abused children being at home for so long? So many questions? No concrete answers! This country and this world need your/our/my prayers day in and day out.

As we pray though, instead of being filled with fear and anxiety, ask that the Holy Spirit will fill us with his peace.

Holy Spirit help us to pray as you promised. Lead us in prayer. Fill us with your whole life peace.

Amen.