

## Food Bank

We know that food is hard to come by at the moment, but **the Foodbank need donations of the following UHT Milk, Tinned Tomatoes, Jam and Sponge Puddings. Also you can donate baby food in Tins or Jars, BUT NO BABY MILK. The food bank would prefer their regular donors to avoid giving beans if possible as they always receive plenty of these from supermarket donations. Please can I ask you to check the dates on your donated goods.** **Joan**

**Any queries please contact the Churchwardens  
Colin Keam 01928 576293**

**or**

**Rosemary Lunt 01928 569863**

**or the**

**Church Mobile**

Bookings for baptisms and weddings

**Tel: 07722470940 and speak to**

**Robbie**

**Church website**

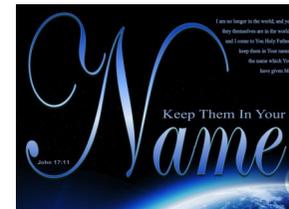
**[www.runcornstmichaels.org.uk](http://www.runcornstmichaels.org.uk)**

**Facebook**

**Saint Michael and All Angels Church, Runcorn**



**Parish Church of  
St Michael and All Angels  
Sunday 24th May 2020  
7th Sunday of Easter**



### Readings

Acts 1: 6-14

John 17: 1-11

We also are living in uncertain times. Ask God to help you to trust him.

### **A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus**

Jesus promised the disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit, enabling them to be witnesses to the good news about him wherever they were. They returned to Jerusalem to pray and wait. The Holy Spirit is a gift for us too. In the next week, leading up to Pentecost, pray that the Holy Spirit would enter your life in a fuller way, and enable you to tell other people about him.

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy.  
Sustain and support the anxious,  
be with those who care for the sick,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may find comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us  
from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
Amen

The gospel reading is Jesus' prayer to the Father on the night before he died. He prays that his followers would be protected and that they would be united. Pray this for our church now.

### Reflection for this week's readings

**24th May 2020**

### Prayers & promises

Read the Bible passages on the inside page. Today we are in between Ascension Day and Pentecost. We remember Jesus' ascension into heaven, and also look forward to the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus describes eternal life as knowing him and knowing God. Being a Christian does not mean an easy life, but it means a life lived in relationship with Jesus. Thank Jesus for the gift of eternal life, and pray that this week you can stay close to him whatever your circumstances

**In the first reading, Jesus' disciples asked him what would happen in the future. They felt uncertain. Jesus told them that the future was not for them to know.**

## Readings

### **Acts 1: 6-14**

<sup>6</sup> So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, “Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?” <sup>7</sup> He replied, “The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” <sup>9</sup> After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. <sup>10</sup> As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. <sup>11</sup> “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!” <sup>12</sup> Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, a distance of half a mile.

<sup>13</sup> When they arrived, they went to the upstairs room of the house where they were staying. Here are the names of those who were present: Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon (the zealot), and Judas (son of James). <sup>14</sup> They all met together and were constantly united in prayer, along with Mary the mother of Jesus, several other women, and the brothers of Jesus.

### **John 17: 1-11**

After saying all these things, Jesus looked up to heaven and said, “Father,

the hour has come. Glorify your Son so he can give glory back to you. <sup>2</sup> For you have given him authority over everyone. He gives eternal life to each one you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is the way to have eternal life—to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth. <sup>4</sup> I brought glory to you here on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup> Now, Father, bring me into the glory we shared before the world began. <sup>6</sup> “I have revealed you to the ones you gave me from this world. They were always yours. You gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything I have is a gift from you, <sup>8</sup> for I have passed on to them the message you gave me. They accepted it and know that I came from you, and they believe you sent me. <sup>9</sup> “My prayer is not for the world, but for those you have given me, because they belong to you. <sup>10</sup> All who are mine belong to you, and you have given them to me, so they bring me glory. <sup>11</sup> Now I am departing from the world; they are staying in this world, but I am coming to you. Holy Father, you have given me your name; now protect them by the power of your name so that they will be united just as we are.

**The licencing of our new vicar, Rev Karen Brady will taking place on Wednesday 10th June at 7.00pm. We are hoping that it will be on screened live on our Facebook page or YouTube. We will keep informed how you will be able to watch nearer the day.**

**Colin & Rosemary  
Churchwardens**

## PRAYERS

### A prayer for family life

God of compassion,  
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,  
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,  
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:  
strengthen us in our daily living  
that in joy and in sorrow  
we may know the power of your presence  
to bind together and to heal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

### PRAYERS ABOUT THE OUTBREAK

**For you to pray at home**

### For hospital staff and medical researchers

Gracious God,  
give skill, sympathy and resilience  
to all who are caring for the sick,  
and your wisdom to those searching for a cure.  
Strengthen them with your Spirit,  
that through their work many will be restored to health;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### General Prayer for this time

Father of all,  
you call us to be generous to one another,  
and to recognise in their faces the true image of your Son.  
Give us grace that as individuals,  
and as a whole society,  
that in this time of great need  
we may minister friendship and support in ways that are safe  
to all those who are in need of the service of others this day,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.