

Opening Church for Private Prayer

The Vicar and Churchwardens are hoping to open up the church for private prayer. There are few things that we need to do before we can open up the church. We are looking to open on Sunday 28th June 10.00am-12.00noon, and then on the following Wednesday 10.00am-12.00noon and then the following weeks same days same times. Please look out on our website, Facebook page and the Church notice board for any updates.

Rev Karen Brady

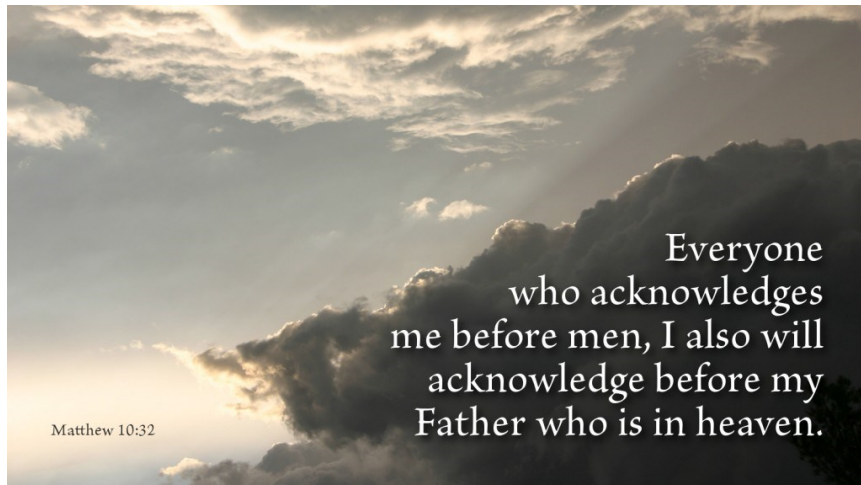
Colin Keam

Rosemary Lunt Churchwardens

**Any queries please contact our
Vicar: Rev Karen Brady
on 07419820864
or email revkarenbrady@gmail.com**

**or the
Church Mobile
Bookings for baptisms and weddings
Tel: 07722470940 and speak to
Robbie**

**Church website
www.runcornstmichaels.org.uk
Facebook
Saint Michael and All Angels Church, Runcorn**



Everyone
who acknowledges
me before men, I also will
acknowledge before my
Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 10:32



**Parish Church of
St Michael and All Angels
Sunday 21st June 2020
2nd Sunday after Trinity**



Readings

Romans 6: 1b-11

Matthew 10: 24-39

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

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

Reflection for this week's readings

21st June 2020

A new way of life

Read the Bible passages on the next page. They describe a new way of life for Christians, with amazing benefits but also some challenges.

Paul tells us in the first reading that when we become Christians, the power of sin in our lives is broken. We may still choose to do wrong, but we don't have to. Reflect on this and ask for God's help in any

area of your life where you struggle to do what is right. Thank Jesus that through his death on the cross, you have been set free from the power of sin.

Paul tells us to consider ourselves dead to the power of sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. How can you be more alive to God this week?

In the second reading, Jesus tells us not to be afraid. He reminds us of God's care for sparrows. We are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows. Next time you see birds, on a walk or in your garden, notice them and thank God for his care for you.

Jesus tells his disciples that following him may lead to family conflict. This is especially true today for Muslims who become Christians. Pray for those whose new faith brings opposition and rejection from their families. May they find welcome and support from other Christians.

Collect & Readings

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you. Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Romans 6: 1b-11

Should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace? ² Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? ³ Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? ⁴ For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives. ⁵ Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. ⁶ We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. ⁷ For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. ⁸ And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. ⁹ We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. ¹⁰ When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. ¹¹ So you also

should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus.

Matthew 10: 24-39

²⁴ "Students are not greater than their teacher, and slaves are not greater than their master. ²⁵ Students are to be like their teacher, and slaves are to be like their master. And since I, the master of the household, have been called the prince of demons, the members of my household will be called by even worse names! ²⁶ "But don't be afraid of those who threaten you. For the time is coming when everything that is covered will be revealed, and all that is secret will be made known to all. ²⁷ What I tell you now in the darkness, shout abroad when daybreak comes. What I whisper in your ear, shout from the housetops for all to hear! ²⁸ "Don't be afraid of those who want to kill your body; they cannot touch your soul. Fear only God, who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ What is the price of two sparrows— one copper coin? But not a single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it. ³⁰ And the very hairs on your head are all numbered. ³¹ So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows. ³² "Everyone who acknowledges me publicly here on earth, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. ³³ But everyone who denies me here on earth, I will also deny before my Father in heaven. ³⁴ "Don't imagine that I came to bring peace to the earth! I came not to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵ 'I have come to set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-

law. ³⁶ Your enemies will be right in your own household!' ³⁷ "If you love your father or mother more than you love me, you are not worthy of being mine; or if you love your son or daughter more than me, you are not worthy of being mine. ³⁸ If you refuse to take up your cross and follow me, you are not worthy of being mine. ³⁹ If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it.

PRAYERS DURING 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.

A prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord our God.
How sweet are your words to the taste,
sweeter than honey to the mouth.
How precious are your commands for our life,
more than the finest gold in our hands.
How marvellous is your will for the world,
Unending is your love for the nations.
Our voices shall sing of your promises
and our lips declare your praise.