



# The Bridge Group of Churches

Nackington - Lower Hardres - Bridge - Patrixbourne - Bekesbourne

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*Weekly Sheet for the Bridge Group of churches:*

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020, Pentecost**

**Today's Readings:** Numbers 11: 24-30; Acts 2: 1-21; John 20:19-23

**Next Sunday is 7<sup>th</sup> June 2020, Trinity Sunday**

Readings: Isaiah 40:12-17, 27-end; Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-end;  
Matthew 28: 16-20

## **Collect**

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us  
your holy fire; strengthen your children  
with the gift of faith, revive your Church  
with the breath of love, and renew the face of the  
earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

## **Readings**

**Numbers 11: 24-30;**

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again. Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied

in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, 'My lord Moses, stop them!' But Moses said to him, 'Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!' And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

### **Acts 2: 1-21;**

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.' But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: "In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

## **John 20:19-23**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

### **Prayer Share**

Please continue to pray for all schools, but especially Bridge and Patrixbourne school as they prepare for a 'phased return' for some year groups. Please pray for all school leaders, teachers, parents and governors as they discern the safest way forward.

## Village News

### Rev'd Canon Alan Duke

On Thursday we received the sad news that Rev Canon Alan Duke died peacefully at his home in Lancashire, where he and wife Mary had moved. He had been ill for some time. Alan was Rector of Barham, Bishopsbourne and Kingston in the 1990s. He moved on to be Bishop's Chaplain and on his formal retirement moved back to Barham and for many more years, until recently, served the local churches as a retired priest with permission to officiate including in our own Benefice during periods of vacancy. The funeral will of course be in Lancashire and private but Mary would like there to be a commemoration service in the Barham Downs Benefice when the current emergency is over.

Please join us in praying for Mary and for Alan's family.

### Supporting your local church

Your local church relies on the generosity of those who regularly attend and take part in services and fundraising events which sadly cannot take place at this time. If you are financially able to do so, please consider making a donation to help the work and ministry of your local church. We have set up an online giving platform where you can make a donation securely via a debit or credit card on our church website [www.bridgechurchgroup.co.uk](http://www.bridgechurchgroup.co.uk) and this will be available to use in the coming days.

Thank you.

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