



The Bridge Group of Churches

Nackington - Lower Hardres - Bridge - Patrixbourne - Bekesbourne

Weekly Sheet for the Bridge Group of churches:

Sunday 23rd August 2020, 23rd Sunday after Trinity

Today's Readings: Isaiah 51:1-6, Psalm 138, Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20

Collect

God of glory, the end of our searching,
help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking
your kingdom, and to give all that we have
to gain the pearl beyond all price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Readings

Isaiah 51:1-6,

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which
you were dug.

Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made
him many.

For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of
the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice
of song.

Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to
the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone
out and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a
garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats;
but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Psalm 138

I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;
I bow down towards your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your
faithfulness;
for you have exalted your name and your word
above everything.
On the day I called, you answered me,
you increased my strength of soul.

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.
They shall sing of the ways of the LORD,
for great is the glory of the LORD.
For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly;
but the haughty he perceives from far away.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;
you stretch out your hand,
and your right hand delivers me.
The LORD will fulfil his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures for ever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Romans 12:1-8,

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to
present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which
is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be
transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what
is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Matthew 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Prayer Share

We give thanks for all our volunteers and those who give their time to help open our churches for private prayer and quiet time. We pray for those working through plans to reopen our churches for services and look forward to when we may gather together again.

We pray for all givers of care, those looking after family members, friends, neighbours or relatives, we thank you for their love and commitment to those they care for and pray for their peace and well-being.

Village News

Churches open for private Prayer until 31st August

Unless circumstances change, the churches of the Bridge Group Parish will be open for Personal prayer / Quiet time on the days and times listed below

Name of Church	Open Days / Times
St Peter's Bridge	Tuesday 10-12 Friday 2-4pm
St Peter's Bekesbourne	Sunday 10-12
St Mary's Patixbourne	Wednesday 10-12 Saturday 1-4pm
St Mary's Nackington	Wednesday 10-4 Sunday 10-4
St Mary's Lower Hardres	Monday 10-4 Thursday 10-4

- There may be someone present to welcome you when you visit.
- Please observe Social Distancing (2 metres) while inside the church building and follow any instructions given.
- You will be asked to leave a name and contact number (for track and trace purposes) but these details will only be held for 21 days after which they will be destroyed.
- You will also be asked to leave a notice on the seat you have used when you leave.
- If you would like to make an appointment for a pastoral visit please give Estella a ring on 01227 206272.

Contact Details: **Vicar:** Rev'd Estella Last Tel: 01227 206272 estellalast@gmail.com
(Estella is generally not available on Mondays). **Reader:** Mrs Margaret Clarke Tel: 01227 765 598 **Administrator:** Mrs Megan Shirley, bridgeoffice23@gmail.com