

**Collect:** (Page 205)

Almighty and everlasting God,  
by whose Spirit the whole body of the  
Church is governed and sanctified:  
hear our prayer which we offer for all  
your faithful people, that in their  
vocation and ministry they may serve  
you in holiness and truth to the glory  
of your name; through our Lord and  
Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and  
reigns with you, in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and for  
ever. Amen



**Sunday July 12<sup>th</sup> 2020**  
**The Fifth Sunday**  
**after Trinity**

**THIS WEEK AT**  
**HOLY CROSS, WOODCHURCH**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July - 8am**  
**short said service of Holy**  
**Communion in church**

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July – 10am**  
**short said service of Holy**  
**Communion in church**  
**– more information in the Notices**

*Welcome to Holy Cross Church.*  
*"Growing disciples of Christ"*

**Post Communion:** (Page 205)

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you,  
that the course of this world may be  
so peaceably ordered by your  
governance, that your Church may  
joyfully serve you in all godly  
quietness; through Jesus Christ our  
Lord. Amen

**We are opening the church**  
**buildings for private prayer**  
**during July 2020**

**Wednesdays 10.30am-12noon**  
**Saturdays 10am-12noon**

**Please pray especially for all who**  
**are affected by the coronavirus**  
**outbreak, especially those in**  
**isolation and all who care for**  
**them and for all who work in and**  
**for the National Health Service**  
**together with all other key**  
**workers.**

**READINGS FOR TODAY:**

**First Reading – Isaiah 55. 10-13**

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

**Psalm 65. (1-8), 9-18**

(You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem. To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, because of their transgressions. Our sins are stronger than we are, but you will blot them out. Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there! They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple. Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, O Hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away. You make fast the mountains by your power; they are girded about with might. You still the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the clamour of the peoples. Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvellous signs; you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.)

You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water. You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth. You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase. You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty. May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy. May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

**Second Reading – Romans 8. 1-11**

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you<sup>tu</sup> free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

**Gospel – Matthew 13. 1-9, 18-23**

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of

soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!

'Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

**In your intercessions this week  
PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

**THOSE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN:**

Sunday: Caldwell Drive Monday: Carr Bridge Road  
Tuesday: Carr Hey Close Wednesday: Cheshire Acre  
Thursday: Cheswood Court Friday: Cheverton Close  
Saturday: Childwall Green



**THOSE WHO ARE ILL:**

Emma, John, Duncan, John, Margaret,  
Allan, Neil, Carol, Chris

***Names from this list are normally  
transferred to the monthly prayer  
list after a few weeks***

**YEARS MIND:**

Robbie Sharkey, Sid Roberts,  
Sarah Jane Reid, Arthur Longworth,  
Alice Powell, Ethel Carr,  
Mary Roberts.

**THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:**

Colin Duckers  
Celia Holden  
Tony Westcott



**THE WEEK AHEAD**

Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	2.00pm – Interment of Ashes in churchyard
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	10.00am – Short said service of Holy Communion in church
	10.30am-12 Noon – Church open for Private Prayer <i>(volunteers to arrive at 10.30am)</i>
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	8.00pm - Bible Study via Zoom
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	10am-12 Noon – Church open for Private Prayer
	8.00am – Short said service of Holy Communion in church
	10.00am Sunday Service via Zoom

## **BIBLE READING FOR THE WEEK:**

### **Fifth Sunday after Trinity – Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

How many times have we seen this parable in action?! God's Good News is snatched away, provokes only a shallow response, or gets choked out with business. The religion called "secularism" surrounds us with an atmosphere of disbelief.

*Question: What can we do to prepare the soil for God's precious seed to germinate?*



**How many times have you washed your hands today?**

**How many times have you prayed today?**

We have been asked by the government to make sure we wash our hands frequently and for at least 20 seconds each time - but how do you know you have washed your hands for long enough?

How about **saying the Lord's Prayer every time you wash your hands?** This should take at least 20 seconds.



*Stay safe- and keep in touch with God! God bless you - Christine*

### **Pastoral Care at Holy Cross**

To enable us to initiate and co-ordinate our responses to all pastoral needs as speedily as possible, please get in touch with one of our Pastoral Workers, Paul Jackson (648 4291) or Jan Lupton (07835 063466) or the Parish Office on 0151 677 5352, or email at [parishoffice@holycrosswoodchurch.uk](mailto:parishoffice@holycrosswoodchurch.uk)

### **Our verse for the year**

"... let the little children come to me and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs"  
*Matthew 19 v 14*

Please see our **Website** ([www.holycrosswoodchurch.uk](http://www.holycrosswoodchurch.uk)) and **Facebook** page (**Holy Cross Church Woodchurch-Approved**) for further information regarding the life of this worshipping community. The Rector of this church can be contacted in an emergency by telephoning 0151 677 5352 (Parish Office) or 07766 031757 or emailing [parishoffice@holycrosswoodchurch.uk](mailto:parishoffice@holycrosswoodchurch.uk) Or [Christine.broad@holycrosswoodchurch.uk](mailto:Christine.broad@holycrosswoodchurch.uk)

### **Sunday Service via Zoom**

If you know any family or friends who would like to join in our online Sunday service please e-mail the Parish Office [parishoffice@holycrosswoodchurch.uk](mailto:parishoffice@holycrosswoodchurch.uk) to request the link

## NOTICES

In addition to the 10am Zoom service on Sundays there will be a short-said service of Holy Communion in Church at **8am every Sunday and at 10am every Wednesday.**

**If you would like to attend a service in church please let Revd Christine know in advance of the service on (Christine.broad@holycrosswoodchurch.uk or 678 4825) so that we know how many people to expect and are able to ensure compliance with current government regulations with regard to public worship, hygiene and social distancing.**



**We are reopening the church buildings for private prayer from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020**

**Wednesdays 10.30am-12noon  
Saturdays 10am-12noon**

**Regular Sunday services at 10am via Zoom, bible study group and meetings continue online.**

**For further information please see our website  
[www.holycrosswoodchurch.uk](http://www.holycrosswoodchurch.uk)**

or email: [parishoffice@holycrosswoodchurch.uk](mailto:parishoffice@holycrosswoodchurch.uk)  
or call Parish office: 0151 677 5352  
or Rector: 07766 031757

Find us on Facebook!  
Holy Cross Church Woodchurch- Approved

**Leadership Team Phone Calls** – From August the phone calls led by the Leadership Team to members of the congregation and parish will be going to monthly. If you are still isolating or would like a more frequent phone call, please let Sue 🐶 (Parish Office – 677 5352) know.

### **Bible Study Group**

We will be meeting via Zoom on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 8pm.** All are welcome. Please contact Josie on [josie.tuplin@holycrosswoodchurch.uk](mailto:josie.tuplin@holycrosswoodchurch.uk) for the Zoom link if you would like to be part of that.

**Where's Rosie?**... *there is a small picture of Sue's dog somewhere on this pewsheets – can you find her?*

## NOTICES (cont'd)

Would you like to access Church of England prayers, hymns and worship from the comfort of your armchair free of charge? **"Daily Hope"** is a new telephone service from the Church of England, specially designed to meet the needs of those who can't access the internet. Just phone **0800 804 8044** to hear a message from **Archbishop Justin Welby** and choose to listen to a range of resources from prayers and reflections on favourite hymns to full worship services. This is a free service and available 24 hours a day.

**Foundations for Ministry Course** - This course is open to anyone who wants to grow and develop in Christian ministry in the Church and the wider world. It forms the first year of training for Reader and Pastoral Worker ministries. The next course will begin in late September, running in an exciting new format from previous years with the inclusion of online learning sessions. Please speak to Revd Christine for further information regarding the course and how to apply.

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### A message from the Rector 5<sup>th</sup> July 2010

#### What is well-being?

Dear friends

Few people, if any at all, would argue with the observation that the Covid-19 pandemic has affected the **well-being** of individuals and communities across the globe. But what do we mean by "well-being" and why does paying attention to our own well-being matter? My dictionary defines "well-being" as "the state of being contented and healthy"<sup>1</sup> - and we could add to this "in our whole self". In fact we need to add "in our whole self" because well-being has at least 5 different aspects to it. In no particular order these are physical well-being, mental wellbeing, emotional wellbeing, social wellbeing and spiritual well-being.

I wonder which of these you pay most attention to? And which you pay least attention to? It's my guess that many people, when considering paying attention to well-being, might go for physical well-being first, that is, looking after the body by endeavouring to engage in regular exercise and eating a healthy diet. This is great and really important, and will go a long way to building a sense of well-being, but what about the other aspects? It seems to me that for many people the restrictions placed on us during the pandemic have probably impacted more on the mental, emotional social and spiritual aspects of our well-being than on our physical well-

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<sup>1</sup> Collins English Dictionary © Harper Collins 2006

being. Our mental well-being is about the ability to process information and we have had unprecedented amounts of information to process over recent months. Our emotional well-being is about controlling and expressing feelings, thoughts and behaviours-the pandemic has impacted on this aspect of well-being in innumerable ways eliciting fear, anger, powerlessness, grief and many more feelings as coronavirus has swept across the globe . Our social well- being is about our relationships- how have we maintained relationships when isolated from one another during lockdown? Our spiritual well- is about our connection with a being that is greater than ourselves that brings a purpose and meaning to our lives. <sup>2</sup> in Christian terms this is our relationship with God in Jesus Christ. Interestingly for many people the pandemic has led to greater attention to the Spiritual aspect of well-being as people have reached out to God in prayer.

Jesus said, “ I have come that they might have life, and have it abundantly, “<sup>3</sup> This indicates to me that Jesus cares about your well-being, every aspect of it, and about mine, and if Jesus cares about well- being then shouldn't we care too? about our own well-being and about one other's well- being. The Diocese of Chester well-being team ( of which Revd Christine is a member) have prepared a webinar, broadcast live on 9<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm and available after the broadcast on the diocesan website to share resources to inspire us all to take steps to care for the physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual aspects of our well-being, in order that we might thrive rather than simply survive, and flourish in the service of God and one another. On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July another Diocese of Chester webinar, this time on the subject of trauma, resilience and healing will be broadcast - if you would like to attend this webinar please use the link below to reserve a place

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/trauma-awareness-and-healing-tickets-112478582468>

Whether or not you are able to take a look at the webinars, may I encourage you this week to pray for the well-being of one another, and your own well -being, and may God bless you richly and abundantly with abundant life in Jesus' name.

With love in Christ,

*Christine*

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<sup>2</sup> [www.wellbeingpeople.com](http://www.wellbeingpeople.com)

<sup>3</sup> John 10:10