

## In Touch across North Barrow

### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>. July 2020 The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

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### Worship during the day, alone or with household members

In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.  
And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.  
*Philippians 4:6-7*

O Lord, open our lips.  
**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

#### **Collect for today**

Gracious God,  
you call us to fullness of life:  
deliver us from unbelief  
and banish our anxieties  
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord  
We ask this through Him who is alive and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

Readings : Wisdom 12:13, 16-19, Romans 8:12-25,  
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43  
or during the week from the daily prayer and readings.

#### The Bible Reading

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

**8:** <sup>12</sup> Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh - <sup>13</sup> for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. <sup>15</sup> For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' <sup>16</sup> it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ - if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. <sup>18</sup> I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; <sup>20</sup> for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; <sup>23</sup> and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup> For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Prayers**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
we thank you that you have brought us safely  
to the beginning of this day.  
Keep us from falling into sin or running into danger;  
order us in all our doings and guide us to do always  
what is righteous in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

God of grace,  
as we look forward to the glory you have promised,  
fulfil our hopes and transform our lives;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

### **Conclusion**

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil,  
and keep us in eternal life. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Hope in the face of a hopeless world.**

Hope is in the headlines. A prime-minister speaking of a return to normality by Christmas, a government "hoping for the best and planning for the worst" while the medics caution against unrealistic hope. Paul writes about hope, a hope that is at the foundation of Christian experience. A hope that is forged in suffering, not extinguished by it; that is founded firmly on the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

**HOPE MARKS US OUT.** *For... you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God. Abba, Father! It's Jesus special way*

of addressing his Father, charged with the intimacy of the love of God, and it's ours to use as well. It's a relationship that takes us right into the heart of the Trinity. God the Father stands with us, hugging us through the Spirit, and in a world when hugs are a no no, it's good to be hugged by the living God. We can hope because we are marked out by the Spirit of adoption, and NOTHING can separate us from God's love. That's hope even when all around is sickness, suffering and fear.

**HOPE BIRTHS GOD'S KINGDOM.** *I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. We live in a world where birth rates are falling and where the global population will start to fall from the middle of this century. Paul compares the birthing, the breaking in of God's kingdom as something akin to birth. It's not easy, it's pain-filled but the end result is worth it. True, looking out on the world often makes us groan with sorrow and pain, but the birthing of God's kingdom brings freedom and hope, not just to humanity, but to the whole of creation.*

**HOPE IS A CERTAIN VISION.** *For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. How can our brothers and sisters facing persecution across the globe live in hope? How can we as the moral and spiritual foundations of this country are eroded away by the storm of secularism? Because says Paul, there is a bigger picture, a greater vision. The victory of the cross is an eternal certainty even though we don't see it fully now. Equally Paul is clear that authentic Christian living includes pain as well as joy. Just as human selfishness and rebellion has inflicted suffering on the whole of the created order, so now, in Christ, our adoption, our salvation holds out the sure hope that God will renew and recreate creation.*

So let us resolve never to loose hope; to hold on to the bigger picture, and rejoice that God is birthing a living hope not just for us but for the whole creation.

With love and prayers,  
*Fr. Jack.*

**Psalm 86 verses 11-17**

11 Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth;  
knit my heart to you, that I may fear your name.

12 I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,  
and glorify your name for evermore;

13 For great is your steadfast love towards me,  
for you have delivered my soul from the depths of the grave.

14 O God, the proud rise up against me  
and a ruthless horde seek after my life;  
they have not set you before their eyes.

9 The river of God is full of water;  
you prepare grain for your people, for so you provide for the earth.

16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me;  
give your strength to your servant  
and save the child of your handmaid.

17 Show me a token of your favour,  
that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed;  
because you, O Lord, have helped and comforted me.

<b>SUNDAY</b>
<b>MONDAY</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b>
<b>Reflections during the week using Lectio Divina</b> <i>Use the verse, or verses, for each day following the pattern on the previous page. Each colour corresponds to a day of the week. Write any reflections, or ways in which you feel God is speaking to you in the boxes above</i>

## NEWS AND NOTES

### WORSHIP FROM THIS SUNDAY

**St. James :** Sunday 10.30am.  
Wednesday 10.00am.

**St. Francis :** Sunday 6.00pm.  
Thursday 10.00am.

There will be no singing, no sharing of the peace, and Communion will be given standing, in one kind, dropped into the hands. We are asked to keep a register of those attending for track and trace purposes.

**For your prayers :** Josie (St. Francis) is on Ward 6 and is peaceful. Please pray for her family as they visit her and continue to watch with her.

**Eddie** (St. James) is now back in Barrow, in Abbey View. Please continue to hold Delia in your prayers.

**Brenda** is recovering after a spell in FGH. Please continue to hold her in your prayers.

**Community Support HUB** 9am - 5pm Mon to Fri.  
Call 01229 444407.

**Resources :** Sunday Worship will be live streamed and available on the St. James facebook page from Sunday morning.

**Radio and TV :** Radio Cumbria Morning Service at 8.00am  
CandoFM (106.3) Faith in Furness at 10.25am

For those who are online, the Church of England website has daily and Sunday resources to watch, download and join in with.

The website is : [churchofengland.org](http://churchofengland.org)

**Daily Hope Prayer Line** - 0800 804 8044 - A Church of England resource with hymns, prayers and reflections for especially for those who are not connected to the internet.

## DAILY PRAYER and BIBLE READINGS

**SUNDAY** *We give thanks for the hope we have in Christ amid the uncertainties of this present age.*

**MONDAY** Micah 6:1-8, Matthew 12:38-42  
*Pray for our Schools, for those leaving for pastures new this September, and for all planning for the new school year.*

**TUESDAY** Micah 7:14-20, Matthew 12:46-end  
*Pray for the work of our local council and for the elected councillors who shape and oversee the town.*

**WEDNESDAY** Jeremiah 1:1, 4-10, Matthew 13:1-9  
*(St. Mary Magdeline) Pray the Church House Staff currently furloughed, and for those still working in the demanding roles they are filling at the moment.*

**THURSDAY** Jeremiah 2:1-8, Matthew 13:10-17  
*Pray for Pray for the Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma) and The Most Revd Stephen Than Myint Oo, Archbishop .*

**FRIDAY** Jeremiah 3:14-17, Matthew 13:18-23  
*Pray for our Bishops and their offices, for Bishop's Houses staff, and for our Archdeacons and Sarah their secretary.*

**SATURDAY** Jeremiah 7:1-11, Matthew 13:24-30  
*(St. James) Pray for the community of Hindpool and for our mission and ministry shared with our partner churches.*

### NEXT SUNDAY

### The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

1 Kings 3:5-12, Romans 8:26-39, Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52