

Sunday 24 May 2020

Thy Kingdom Come

Dear All

This week sees the start of Thy Kingdom Come – the prayer initiative started some years ago and now an annual and international event. It feels more important than ever that we should be praying across the globe for God's kingdom to come. There are some ideas below for how you might like to join in this year.

Sunday Services

As ever, the links for our service and for the service sheet will be on our [website](#) and this week we will be finishing our readings from 1 Peter and remembering the story of Jesus' ascension.

Praying for Leicestershire – Sunday Evening Online

If you are able, please also join in the evening service 'praying for Leicestershire'. This is an annual event, for the first time online, whereby churches in Leicestershire gather to pray for the county. Please do join in on YouTube 'Praying for Leicestershire' at 7pm on Sunday 24 May (streaming live from 6.45pm, event beginning at 7pm). Follow this [link to their channel which has a preview video](#)

Thy Kingdom Come (21-31 May)

Thy Kingdom Come this year has a different feel as we experience it alongside the restrictions placed on us by coronavirus. The virus won't stop us praying though - and we're suggesting three things:

1. **that we focus our prayers on our streets and neighbours** - you may have made new contacts through this time of lockdown, pray blessings for them and that they might come to know the loving presence of Jesus; if you are able to, walk your neighbourhood as you pray.
2. **that we use the national TKC prayer resources for inspiration** – print out the [prayer journal](#) and use it every day; take a look at the [Digital Family Prayer Adventure map](#) and app (looks great fun, and not just for children – see the Archbishop of Canterbury having a go!) We will also be posting daily prompts on [St Mary's Facebook page](#) each day, so please share and comment.
3. **that we each display a Loughborough Churches Partnership poster in our windows** – if Christians from all our churches do this, it will make a great statement of faith, please join in by printing the poster which can be found here: [Thy Kingdom Come Poster](#)

Flower Festival

This weekend, we would have been gearing up for our book-themed Flower Festival at the end of May. It's not happened for obvious reasons, but you can still visit - virtually - a blog about the Sing for Joy! Flower Festival held in 2016 <https://stmaryincharnwoodflower.blogspot.com/p/sing-for-joy-2016.html>

Some Reminders:

Wednesdays at 12

This coming week we will be discussing the second video in the series 'Exploring Prayer' by the Archbishop of Canterbury which can be found here: [Exploring Prayer 2](#). Everyone is invited to watch the video beforehand and then join a short and informal discussion via Zoom. If you can't use zoom, there may be a possibility to phone in, please let me know if that would help.

Forest Church

Please keep praying for Matt and Mary and the new people engaging through the [St Mary's Forest Church](#) page on Facebook and maybe take a look yourself – they led a wonderful barefoot walk last week along with some helpful little feet (thanks Eli and Zeph!)

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven."

With love in Christ

Adele