

THE PARISHES OF ST MARGARET AND  
ST MARK DUNHAM MASSEY

Easter 3 Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2020

## Newsletter and Weekly Prayer Sheet

Hello everyone,

I hope you're all keeping safe and well as we continue with lockdown.

The Diocese has been keeping in touch with parishes every week with a 'COVID19 Briefing'. For churchwardens this is an invaluable source of information about all things related to the running of the parish during this time of uncertainty. This week the Diocese has given permission for PCCs to have virtual meetings. These can be done with Skype, Zoom or Teams! In the coming weeks I will be seeking the views of PCC members about having a meeting via one of these mediums. Business still needs to go on even during these difficult times.

We are being encouraged by the Diocese, our Archdeacon, Ian Bishop and Bishop Keith to light a candle each Sunday evening at 7.30pm during the course of the pandemic.

The Church of England has also produced a very useful Time to Pray App which is free to download and has very useful prayer resources for day time and evening prayers.

In our parish this week I would ask you to continue to pray for Lynne Lloyd, Vernon Frost and their family along with Heather Deans and her grandson, Jackson. I would also ask you to remember in your prayers this week Christine Armstrong, who is mourning the passing of her aunt, Janice. As we continue to pray for all those affected by Coronavirus, front line NHS staff caring for them, key workers and carers in nursing homes we share together a prayer,

*Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy.  
Sustain and support the anxious,  
be with those who care for the sick,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may find comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your  
love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Have a peaceful and blessed week. Stay safe and well.

**Sue**

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### The Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such Knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

### Readings

1 Peter 1, 17-23

Luke 24,13-35

### For our short weekly service.

Please download link

<https://we.tl/t-z6y4zVTG2m>

## Just as I am, I come

In his Easter Sunday Reflection, the Revd Keith Hine said that one of the most meaningful verses in the gospel accounts of Easter is Matthew 28:6 'He is not here'. This reminded me of when, as a young Christian, I was feeling inadequate and unworthy. Reading the scripture for some enlightenment, I came across two words which deeply affected me. Those two words were 'And Peter'.

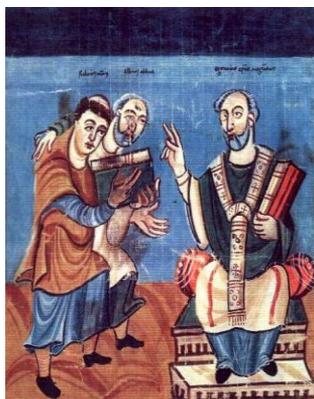
Peter was one of Jesus' disciples. Christ had declared him to be 'the Rock' upon which his church was to be built. But when Jesus was taken by the authorities Peter, challenged to admit that he was one of Jesus' followers, denied him three times. Peter then remembered Christ's words to him 'before the cock crows twice, you will deny me thrice' and he went out and wept bitterly.

St. Mark's account of the events on that first Easter Sunday morning, when the women went to the tomb with spices to anoint Christ's body, repeats the words in Matthew's gospel 'He is not here'. In Mark's gospel though, Chapter 16 verse 7 (KJV), the angel goes on to say, 'Go your way, tell his disciples, and Peter'.

'And Peter'. Why would those words be necessary? Surely Peter was a disciple. And then it hit me. If I had been in Peter's shoes and I had denied my Lord vociferously and aggressively three times, would I have considered myself still a disciple? Probably not. Therein is the love of our Lord. Knowing Peter as he did, the message via the angel had to include those words 'And Peter'. I think of them whenever I feel I have not come up to the mark and am glad that my Lord knows me better than I know myself.

## Christine Armstrong

### Commemoration Alcuin; Deacon and Abbot 804.



Alcuin was born near York about 735. He was a pupil of Aelbert the Archbishop of York who took him on journeys to the continent. The school Alcuin ran in York attracted pupils from far and wide. He met Charlemagne in 781 and became Charlemagne's minister of education. He established a primary school in every town and village and established libraries and scriptoria for the storage and copying of books. It was Alcuin who pioneered 'cursive script' (joined up writing) to enable faster copying. His impact on the western church was enormous. He finally became Abbot of Tours where he died in 804.

### A personal prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples,  
'I am with you always'.

Be with me today, as I offer myself to you.  
Hear my prayers for others and for myself,  
and keep me in your care.

**Amen.**

Should you need the help of a Minister  
Reverend Keith Hine can be contacted at :-

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**Hope to see you soon.**