

THE PARISHES OF ST MARGARET AND
ST MARK DUNHAM MASSEY

Easter 5 Sunday 10th May 2020

Newsletter and Weekly Prayer Sheet

Hello Everyone,

I hope you're all keeping safe and well and enjoying the lovely May sunshine.

This week I hope you have managed to have some form of celebration to mark VE Day. It is 75 years since the end of the 2nd World War. There were still some restrictions in place, rationing remained and rebuilding work had to begin, but the mood of the country was upbeat, and a new era dawned with peace. Back then there were joyous celebrations. Church bells rang out as people took to the streets to proclaim and celebrate the end of the war in Europe.

Seventy-five years on we can't ring the church bells or celebrate in the way that many villages, towns, cities and countries had planned. However, VE Day coincides with the day when our own government will decide upon measures to ease lockdown. Hopefully, this will give us some cause for celebration.

Once the government has informed us if restrictions are lifted the Archbishops of Canterbury and York will issue direction to the Bishops and clergy. We will then have some idea of when we can come back to church. What a joyous day that will be and then the bells will ring in celebration!

Sue

sueelves@btinternet.com +447710109562

Readings

John 14, 1-14

The Collect

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of
everlasting life;
grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our mind's good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Please log onto the church website
www.dunhamchurch.com

for our short weekly service.



VE DAY
75TH ANNIVERSARY



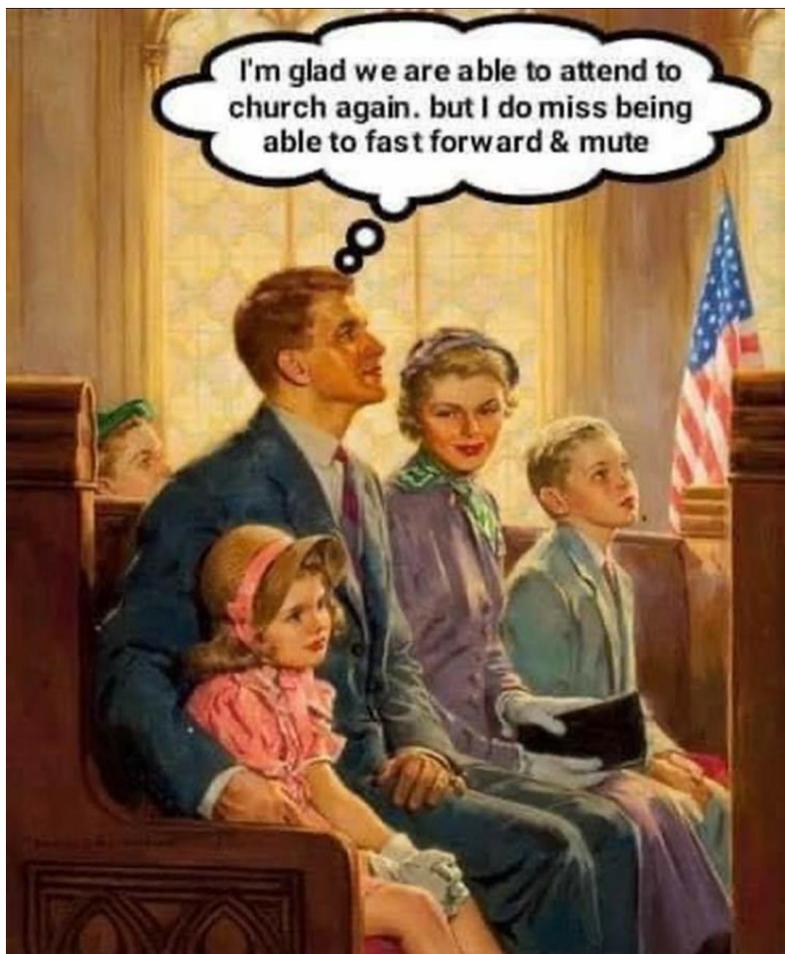
Thoughts for this week....

One of the problems of the present lockdown is finding something useful to do. Wendy and I are fortunate; we have a garden, a good collection of films on DVD, a considerable number of books, and an accumulation of much-loved jig-saws. She has her art, I have my music, and there are a number of D.I.Y. jobs still waiting to be done. But with the very real prospect of the lockdown extending for many months, even if we have gardens, books, DVDs and jig-saws, we'll probably all find that we're running out of resources. So I have a suggestion to make. What about taking a new look at the Old Testament?

It's a mixture of material, some of it revealing profound insights into the nature of God and into the very real problems of being human. Other parts of it, such as the gleeful accounts of genocide or the lists of unpronounceable names are, to say the least, unhelpful and better ignored. Some of the narrative is about as historical as our tales of King Arthur or Robin Hood, but other parts reveal people and events precisely as they were - coping with many of the problems that still beset present-day society. We tend to think of the ancient Greeks as the start of human culture, but some of the finest Old Testament passages date from before the Greeks were even thought of.

What I can offer is a weekly e-mail guide to reading the Old Testament, taking a passage, explaining its meaning and suggesting why I feel it can still be helpful to us despite its ancient origins. If you feel this might be of interest to you, please e-mail me at maxmrmsay@gmail.com and I'll send you the first instalment. You can always unsubscribe!

Max Ramsey



A prayer for Peace

*Heavenly Father,
Prince of peace,
inspire all those who will be in a position
to make a difference for world peace,
and grant us the will to live in peace with
all people.*

Amen.

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

keithehine@gmail.com

01925 752213

07521 291815 (also on Whatsapp)

Should you need help or support :-

Pastoral Care Team

Dr Jackie M Campbell

campbellj@btinternet.com

0770350 1836

Hope to see you soon.