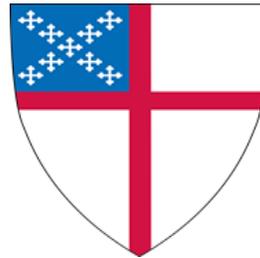


**Holy Trinity
Episcopal Church
Prayer List &
Newsletter**



May 24, 2020



**Memorial
Day**
*Never Forget
Ever Honor*

MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER

Heavenly Father,

On this Memorial Day, we pray for those who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. May the example of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with your strength and peace.

Embolden us to answer the call to work for peace and justice, and thus, seek an end to violence and conflict around the globe.

We pray through Christ our Lord.

Amen



LESSONS FOR THE 7th SUNDAY OF EASTER

1. Psalm 68: 1-10, 33-36
2. Acts 1: 6-14
3. 1 Peter 4: 12-14 & Peter 5:6-11
4. John 17: 1-11

Psalm 6

For the director of music. Of David. A psalm. A song.

- 1 May God arise, may his enemies be scattered; may his foes flee before him.
- 2 May you blow them away like smoke—as wax melts before the fire,
may the wicked perish before God.
- 3 But may the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; may they be happy and joyful.
- 4 Sing to God, sing in praise of his name, extol him who rides on the clouds;
rejoice before him—his name is the Lord.
- 5 A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling.
- 6 God sets the lonely in families, he leads out the prisoners with singing;
but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.
- 7 When you, God, went out before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 the earth shook, the heavens poured down rain, before God, the One of Sinai,
before God, the God of Israel.
- 9 You gave abundant showers, O God; you refreshed your weary inheritance.
- 10 Your people settled in it, and from your bounty, God, you provided for the poor.

Psalm 68:33-35 New International Version (NIV)

33 to him who rides across the highest heavens, the ancient heavens,
who thunders with mighty voice.

34 Proclaim the power of God, whose majesty is over Israel, whose power is in the heavens.

35 You, God, are awesome in your sanctuary; the God of Israel gives power and strength to his people.
Praise be to God!



Acts 1:6-14 New International Version (NIV)

6 Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” 9 After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. 10 They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. 11 “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas

12 Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day’s walk[a] from the city. 13 When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. 14 They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

1 Peter 4:12-14 New International Version (NIV)

Suffering for Being a Christian

12 Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. 13 But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. 14 If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

1 Peter 5:6-11 New International Version (NIV)

6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 8 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. 10 And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. 11 To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

John 17:1-11 New International Version (NIV)

Jesus Prays to Be Glorified

17 After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed:

“Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. 2 For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. 3 Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. 4 I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

6 “I have revealed you[a] to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. 7 Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. 8 For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. 9 I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. 10 All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. 11 I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of[b] your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.



A friend loves at all time

Proverbs 17:17



THE JOYS AND BLESSINGS OF FRIENDSHIP

“A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.” (Proverbs 17: 17)

In these challenging and highly uncertain times, we have quickly learned that the normal rhythms of work, education, and leisure no longer follow the same assumptions which prevailed prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The cumulative sorrows of unemployment, disrupted learning and diminished chances for simple recreation have impacted almost everyone in ways large and small. It is quite easy, under these conditions, to feel disoriented and somewhat depressed. The longing for the simple pleasure of communal worship is akin to being adrift on a stormy sea, being totally unsure of how to navigate ourselves back to a safe and familiar port. Clearly, the pain and anxiety experienced by Homer's Odysseus resonates deeply in the present day.

Though we are presently away from the warm confines of our parish home, many of us have discovered that the assurance of the company of good friends forms a substantive buffer against our current adversity. Perhaps those whom we care for and who also have affection for us cannot alone solve our problems. However, no doubt is left that the presence of good friends is a powerful reminder that we need not bear our burdens alone. Undoubtedly, the writings of St. Paul concerning God's to preserve a benevolent social order are very clearly stated:

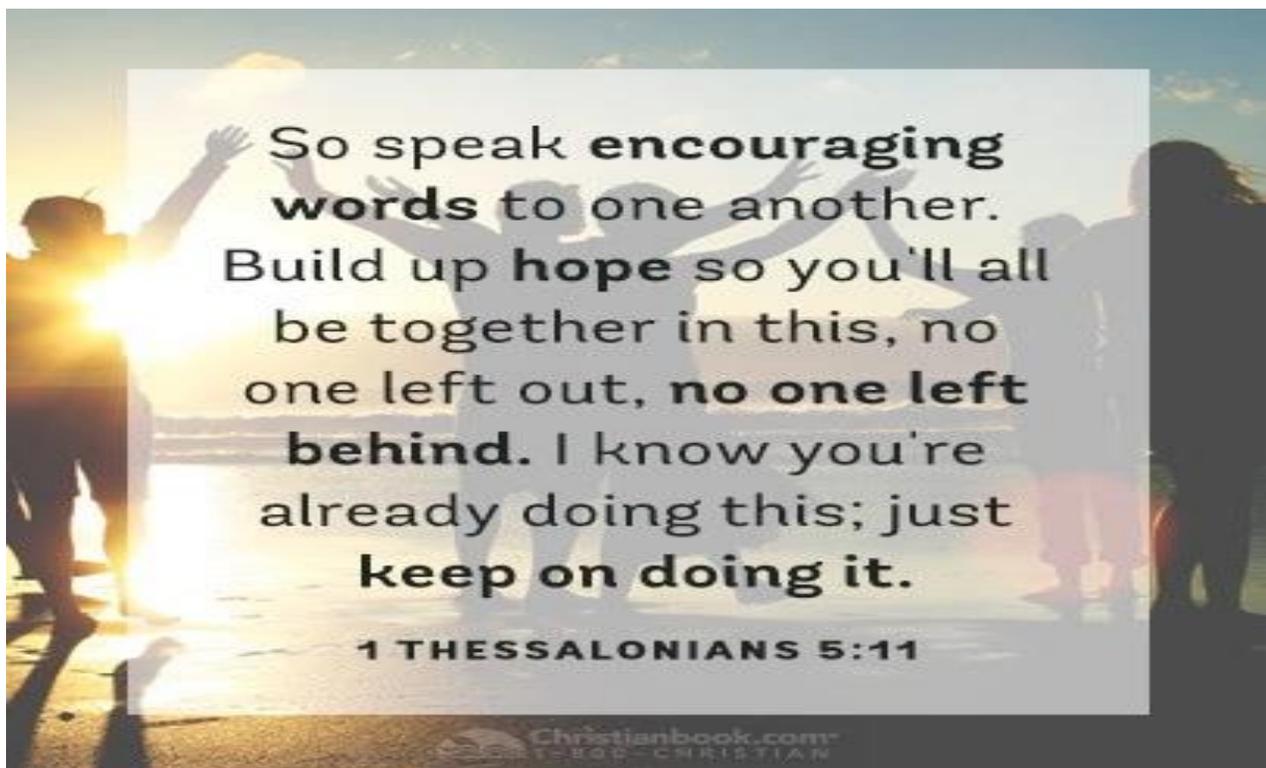
“Therefore , as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion , kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another. If any of you have a grievance against someone, forgive as the Lord forgave you, and over all those virtues put on love, which binds them all in perfect unity.” (Colossians 3: 12-14).

All great friendships are rooted deeply in the fruitful soil of equity, from which the most enduring form of love is cultivated over time. Jesus understood this enduring truth intuitively, from which the best qualities of human nature are allowed to flourish:

“No longer do I call you servant, for the servant does not know what his master is doing, but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.” (John 15:15)

Friendship is unmistakably a labor intensive business. When done on person or mediated by technology, there is no substitute for a warm smile, an expression of sympathy, or a kind offer of support or encouragement, wrapped up together in tears and laughter. People from all different ages and backgrounds have seen their lives dramatically upended over the last few months, and the familiar touchstones of the past may be forever altered beyond recognition. If we are to emerge unbroken from this crisis, it will probably be due to our willingness to walk down these bumpy roads together, side by side. To assuage the fear of the unknown, there is nothing more comforting than knowing that we do not have to bear the burden of our problems alone:

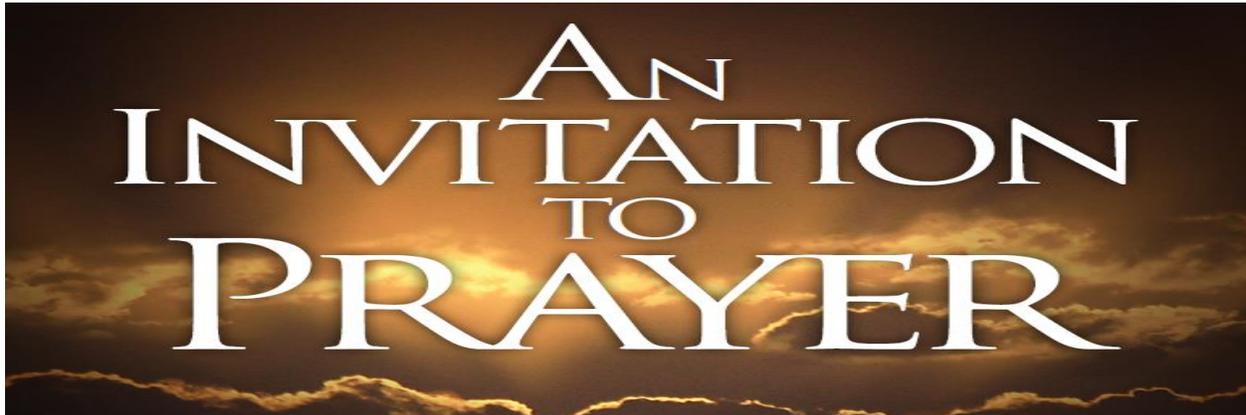
“So beautiful, and resonant, then, is the timeless advice in ¹Thessalonians 5:11, “therefore encourage one another, and build one another up, just as you are doing.”



Despite the virtual assurance of turbulent tomorrows to come, we are confident, with every passing day, that we will find the strength to witness the renaissance of goodness and kindness in the lives which we lovingly and collectively share.

God's Peace, Carl Bucking May 2020

My Parish Family & Friends Prayer List



George & Marilyn Bacon Karen & Victor Sarah, Selina

Marsha Baldwin

Carl Bucking Scott Bucking

Mary Cranmore

Theresa Dowd John Dowd

Desmond Foster Anthony

Carmen Grant

Flo Hayward Nicole, Adam & Justin

Edwin Hilbrandt

Ellen James Hillman Jennifer, Catherine & Louie, Oliver

Anne Hogan

James Ifill

Bob Imbriani Robert & Samantha, Dylan, Kate, Reid

Doreen Imbriani Brian & Heather, Violet, Noah

Debra Jacobs

Diane Jacobs

Evelyn Jacobs

Anthony & Ngozi Kanu Chudi, Ike, Uzo

Paul & Susan Kaszubski John, Jaclyn

Lizette Kendrick Timia Moore

Dorothy McGlynn

Carol & Donald Russer David & Family

Karen Russer

Andrea Sabbatini

Betty Sabbatini Beth & Family

Joann Schneiderman Cheryl Lesley, Robert & Gabriella Lesley Robbie

Amy & Lisa, William, Shane, Corey Schmidlin

Lynn Shortell Billy Gun

Annmarie & Randy Thomson Joshua, Logan

Renee Tolliver

Paul Taylor

Arlene Vrede

Lorraine & Everest Campbell Andrew Ryan Shawn

Susan & Michael Breidenbach Michael, Christopher, Matthew

Joyce & Hugh Butler Kim & Craig Paul, Grace, Julie Heather, Thomas & Joanne, Sam

Beth & Chris Lent Zander, Tina

Oddie & Karla McLaughlin Cody, Shyla

Margaret Moorhead

Ifoma & Goodwin Onyeikl Chi Chi, Collins, Chishar

Robert & Emily Ring

Lexia & Shain Reece Shannon, baby

Desiree Giddings

Ola Akinyemi

John Akinyemi

Toyin Akinyemi

Yolanda Ochiobi

Megan & Jimmy Dascoli

Renee Giddings

FROM THE BISHOP

To all the People of God gathered in the Diocese of Long Island, the Episcopal Church in Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk:

Regardless of the misinformed and politically-motivated direction coming from the White House, the Church will continue to be the Church, caring for the safety of all people and protecting the health and well being of our parishioners.

The Church will continue to be the Church and our buildings will remain closed until we can begin to safely gather in person. We will continue to pray, worship, share in formation and education through online platforms, and other electronic communication. We will care for God's people and minister to their needs and not put them at risk. We will honor the loyal and selfless dedication of our hospital workers and essential workers by avoiding reckless ideas and uninformed options in the face of medical science.

St. Augustine taught us that God's grace builds on nature. We will count on God's grace and rely on sound science.

The Right Rev. Lawrence C. Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island

May 22, 2020

Dear Clergy and Members of the Diocese of Long Island,

This morning, the day after our commemoration of the Ascension of our Lord, I was brought to tears by a New York Times front page 12-minute online news video about the demanding and extraordinary coronavirus work by the medical and support team at our St. John's Episcopal Hospital in Far Rockaway. We all have "read" about the devastating pandemic. The video powerfully shows us the cost to the victims of the disease and the cost to our hospital personnel.

Please find time to watch: "Lord Have Mercy" - "Inside One of New York's Deadliest Zip Codes," on the New York Times website:

<https://www.nytimes.com/video/us/100000007097093/coronavirus-st-johns-hospital-far-rockaway.html>.

As I sat and watched this report, I prayed "Lord have mercy" over and over again as tears ran down my face in gratitude for the selfless care of our doctors, nurses and staff, and in sorrow for the pain and anguish this virus inflicts on victims and their families. I could not be prouder of our people at St John's Episcopal Hospital. Regardless of their faith backgrounds, I see the gospel being lived out one patient at a time, one family at a time - over and over again. This is for real. "Lord Have Mercy" Amen.

Bishop Larry Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island

and Chair of the Board of St John's Episcopal Hospital, Far Rockaway, Queens, NY