

Second Reading John 3: 1 – 17

¹ There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: ² The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. ³ Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. ⁴ Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? ⁵ Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. ⁸ The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit. ⁹ Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be? ¹⁰ Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things? ¹¹ Verily, verily, I say unto thee, We speak that we do know, and testify that we have seen; and ye receive not our witness. ¹² If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things? ¹³ And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven. ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: ¹⁵ That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. ¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Service Cover

Unfortunately, we are having difficulty finding service cover for all our services in June and July for various reasons. At the moment there is no cover for Holy Spirit next Sunday, 19th June. We are doing all we can to resolve this but we may need to join together for some services. If in doubt if there is a particular service taking place, please contact Andy King on **07708590704** or via **andy@saintmarys.org.uk**

Books For Sale

There is a bookcase situated between the choir vestry and the desk where the Sidespeople hand out the service books. The top 2 shelves contain books available for sale in aid of the Flush Fund. The paperbacks are 50p each and the large or hardback books are £1 each. The bottom shelf contains various Christian books available to borrow. Please have a look and make use of this useful resource.

Exploring Prayer

Angie Andrews has set up a new prayer group at The Church of The Holy Spirit which started on 21st May, and meets on the third Saturday of each month at 10am. All are welcome. It will look at exploring prayer and how we talk to God in different ways. The next one is on 18th June.

Plymouth Foodbank

Plymouth Foodbank still requires several essential items and are appealing for donations of the following: Long life fruit juice, long life milk, tinned rice pudding, tinned custard, tinned fruit, tinned meat (especially things like minced beef, curries, stewed steak), large size nappies (size 6 or 7), cereals, shampoo, deodorants (men and women's), tea and coffee. Perhaps you could buy an extra item when you do your shopping. A box will be at the back of St Mary's for collecting any donations. Thank you.

Prayer List

Please can you review the list of names on the front of this Church News and advise Andy King of any names that you have added that can now be removed from the list. Thank you. Contact **andy@saintmarys.org.uk** or **07708590704**

Changes to Holy Communion

We have been asked by the Diocese to consider the Church of England's Covid Recovery Group's guidance on the administration of Holy Communion. The House of Bishops have updated their Covid-19 policy and have now provided guidance that Holy Communion should be administered in both kinds, unless there is a clear and objective reason why there would be a significant risk in doing so. St Mary's PCC met on Monday evening and debated a range of issues raised by this guidance but concluded that the prime concern was that each individual was provided with the opportunity to decide for themselves. Various suggestions for managing this were discussed. The consensus point of view was that the vicar would offer the bread or wafer, intincted or not, once the recipient had indicated their preference to receive the intincted host, host only or a blessing. The congregation will be informed at each Holy Communion service until the practice is well known. In any scenario, the vicar will take communion after all congregation celebrants have received.

Amazon Echo

If you have an Amazon Echo, you can access prayers, church and Bible information by saying "Open the Church of England".