

Morning Service Patronal Festival Sunday 28th June 2020

You may wish to light a candle.

Introduction

Welcome to our online service on what is a very important day in the life of St Peter's – not only is today our Patronal Festival and I am delighted that our preacher is the Rt Rev Paul Bayes, Bishop of Liverpool. But today our thoughts and prayers are with our new Curate, Simon Macaulay, who will be licensed later today. I can assure him of a very warm welcome as he starts his ministry in St Peter's.

A warm welcome to those who may be joining us for the first time and we hope this gives a flavour of who we are in St Peter's and do encourage others to join us online. We welcome those joining us from Cambridge and Manchester as well as here in Formby. Wherever you are we hope that our time together will help you feel the joy and peace that comes from worshipping together. The children's Sunday Club session is on our website as well as the details of the Bible Study on St Peter on Monday evening. If you have any prayer requests or we can help in anyway do contact us. And I ask as restrictions ease for some we do not forget to keep caring for those still isolating.

Before we sing our first hymn Bishop Paul will say a few words of welcome.

Welcome - Bishop Paul

Hymn For all the saints. https://youtu.be/VHVv79W_EpA

The Collect

Almighty God, who inspired your apostle Saint Peter to confess Jesus as Christ and Son of the living God: build up your church upon this rock, that in unity and peace it may proclaim one truth and follow one Lord, your Son our Saviour Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Bible Readings

Epistle – Acts 11: 1-18

read by Sue Parkes

Peter's Report to the Church at Jerusalem

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, 'Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?' Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth." But a second time the voice answered from heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved." And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?' When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, 'Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'

Gospel – Matthew 16: 13-19

read by Patrick Parkes

Peter's Declaration about Jesus

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.'

Sermon – The Rt Rev Paul Bayes, Bishop of Liverpool

Hymn **O Jesus I have promised.** https://youtu.be/Oti-K_VvyCI

Prayers

by Peter Shaw

Let us focus our bodies, minds, hearts and wills as we pray to the God of all creation.

Holy God, you are the focus of our love and worship, because you alone are the Lord who has made us and rescued us.

You have given us a job description that doesn't change: to go in peace, to love and serve the Lord. When we go out this week to a bewildered vulnerable world, help us to lead God-shaped lives that speak peace and hope into the lives of others. Lord in your mercy.

Lord of the Church, thank you for this our church of St. Peter. The place, the people, the history and what it's meant to generations of people living near. Thank you for the people who have flowed in and out through the doors, faithful or searching, joyful or sad, hopeful or anxious. Thank you for the part this church has played, and continues to play during this ongoing pandemic, in the lives of so many and the way the love of God has been made known in both live, and more recently, virtual worship. Lord in your mercy.

Holy God, though the world may often reject you, you never fail to believe in us all and love us with tenderness. We pray for all areas of conflict, deceit, mismanagement and greed, and for all who are drawn into the chaos of evil.

Creator God we pray for our planet and particularly the movement of people across continents seeking safety and a better life. We hear of hard nationalism and fierce resistance to the plight of refugees and asylum seekers, but you have given us intellects, wisdom and compassion. Help us to use these gifts to find solutions that honour people's aspirations and promote common ownership of the planet. Lord in your mercy.

Holy God, our daily lives provide such rich ground for acts of loving kindness, self-discipline and courage. Remind us of the opportunities, and strengthen us to use them.

As we remember that all are our neighbours, we pray especially for those that live near us. Give us the spirit of friendship, sympathy for their needs and willingness to help them, particularly at this very difficult time. Make us considerate in our living, patient when there is strain, ready always to take the way of peace and reconciliation. This week make us alert to the possibility of making a difference in some way, to somebody

In our cycle of prayer, this week we pray for the residents of Mersey Avenue, The Birches, Fisherman's Close and Stanlawe Road.

We give thanks for our preacher Bishop Paul and welcome and pray for Simon Macauley, being licensed today, as he begins his ministry with us as our new curate.

On this, the festival of our patron saint, St. Peter, we offer our prayers for our congregation here in Formby, our patronal church in Walton on the Hill Liverpool and our outreach project of St.Peter's, Kalule, Uganda. Lord in your mercy.

Holy God, we thank you for all key workers who lovingly look after those in nursing homes, hospitals, nurseries and prisons, and we pray for all who need such care and rely on others' help. Gracious God, all of us carry a number of suffering people in our hearts, and as a church we carry many more. As we pray for them now, we reach out to them in love, knowing that you will use our love for their benefit. These, then, are the people we bring to you Barbara, Graeme and Mike and all those known to us that require our prayers at this time. Give to each the peace, light and healing of your loving presence. Lord in your mercy.

Lord of life and death, we pray now for the few we know, and the many we don't know, who are having to face the full bewilderment of bereavement- the regrets, the stabs of memory, the aching absence. Help them to find their own way and to resist the blueprints and kindly advice of others. May they know it's OK to feel as they do. May they be kind to themselves and only do what they can manage. We hold before you now those whose anniversary of death falls at this time. We also pray for the families and friends of James Furlong, Joe Ritchie-Bennett and David Wails so cruelly stabbed to death in Reading and Joshua, Coby-Jay and Skylar Flynn tragically killed in Dalton-in-Furness. Lord in your mercy.

Holy God, we thank you for our human potential for good, and for your gift of grace that makes such goodness a real possibility.
Merciful Father.....
accept these prayers for the sake of your son
our saviour Jesus Christ, Amen

The Peace

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace.
If we live in the Spirit, let us walk in the Spirit.
The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you

Taking of the Bread and Wine

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should always sing of your glory,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord:
And now we give you thanks
That your glory is revealed in St Peter and all the saints.
In their lives you have given us an example of faithfulness to Christ.
In their holiness we find encouragement and hope.
In our communion with them we share the unity of your kingdom.
So, with the saints and angels around your throne
we join to glorify your name, for ever praising you.



**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.
So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
We proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Jesus Christ is Lord:
**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with St Peter and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Wherever you may be let us pray together with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in the one bread.

Prayer after Communion

Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: by the power of the same Spirit strengthen us to witness to your truth and to draw everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.. **Amen**

Hymn **Lift high the cross.** <https://youtu.be/GbcBXYP4AIE>

The Blessing

God give you grace to follow his saints in faith and hope and love;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and all whom you love this day and always. **Amen.**