

**ST JAMES' METHODIST & UNITED REFORMED CHURCH  
WOOLTON L25 7RJ**

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**MINISTER:** Rev. Peter Hughes  
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Peter's day off is Friday - messages and emails left on Fridays will not be received by him until Saturday.



**NEWS FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 17th 2020**

Dear friends –

Isn't it strange how memory suddenly brings things back to you? Many years ago, when I was a schoolboy, the morning radio religious slot (sharp at 7.50) was called "Lift up your hearts" – rather more pointed than "Thought for the Day". So at breakfast most mornings it was possible to hear through the party wall the large lady next door roaring up the stairs to her daughter "Lift up yer 'arts!" – meaning that it's time to get up or you'll miss your bus.

*Sursum corda!* It must be one of the oldest lines of Christian liturgy and it still introduces the main part of our Communion service. And it contains in it everything from Christmas to Easter. As Isaac Watts wrote "Religion never was designed to make our pleasures less". Now if ever is the time to be cheerful. Lift up your hearts!

Derek

**The Collects for the Sixth Sunday of Easter**

God of mercy, as we rejoice in the resurrection of your Son, the Bread of Life, feed us with your plenty and increase in us compassion for the hungry; 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. Amen.

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and give more than either we desire or deserve. Pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask save through the merits and mediation of 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. Amen.

## **NEWS**

**DAVE & MADGE TILLEY** would like to thank everyone at St James' for all the cards, phone calls, thoughts and prayers following the sad loss of their daughter Lynne, whose funeral is on Wednesday 20th May.

### **SHOW IN A WEEK**

Further to the government's latest announcement, it is with a heavy heart that we have taken the decision to postpone Show in a Week 2020, which would have been our 10th Anniversary.

This is for a number of reasons but most importantly the safety and health of all the children and adults involved is paramount. We also feel that a large gathering such as the end of the week performances is not safe and we would be unable to comply with social distancing measures.

Huge thanks to all our church family who have supported us in the past. We have been able to extend the licence for Madagascar Junior, so will hopefully be able to perform it in 2021.

Thanks from the Show in a Week Team.

**NOTE** - I made such a mess of last week's offering that I will now return to sending this as an attachment – just as normally with the weekly news sheet. Please remember that several people do not have email, and pass on the news to them if you can. I would like to send next week on Wednesday evening: if you have messages for inclusion, please be in good time.

## **CHRISTIAN AID**

Jane Laverty has circulated a message about how we can all keep up our contributions to Christian Aid. If you haven't received it, please let me know and I'll send it round again.

### ***ST. JAMES' CHURCH PRAYER CIRCLE ON YOUR MOBILE PHONE***

We have promoted this in our notices on occasion for anyone to join in but just want to make everyone aware what it actually is. The people who are in this prayer circle share and pray for anyone or any situation that is in need of our collective prayers. It is not exclusive; anyone who has access to a mobile phone and has an app called 'WhatsApp' on it is very welcome to join us in our growing list of 'prayerees'.

It is a lovely way to prayerfully keep in touch and to combine our prayers. For more help or information please contact Jayne McLaren.

**CHURCH FACEBOOK PAGE:** Our church Facebook page which Amy keeps updated daily is accessible to anyone who has access to the internet (you don't have to have Facebook). If you have access to the internet, go to the church website <https://www.stjameswoolton.org/> and in the bottom left hand corner; there is a Facebook symbol, click on that and you can see all that is shared.

Amy has started "sing together A worship song a day" when lockdown began. Every day I upload a song (a mix of traditional and new) that people have sent her for everyone to sing along to- if you would like to nominate a worship song/hymn please get in touch with her via mobile, email or via social media.

We may not be able to be together, but we can still sing together (albeit in our own homes).

Thank you – Amy

### ***DEMENTIA ACTION WEEK 2020 - THEME: A LITTLE DOES A LOT***

Dementia Action Week 2020 was due to take place this week (11-17 May), but following Government advice about the Coronavirus, the Alzheimer's Society has had to take the difficult, but necessary decision to postpone the date until sometime later in the year.

As in previous years, the 'Dementia Team' at St Mary's were planning a variety of events for Dementia Action Week, including a Dementia Information Session and a 'Special' Afternoon Tea and Singalong. Unfortunately, these events have now been postponed, but once the Alzheimer's Society has released the new date for this year's Dementia Action Week: *A Little Does A Lot*, we will hopefully be able to host a week of interesting and enjoyable events.

In the meantime, we are deeply aware of the challenges many of our parishioners are facing due to the Coronavirus lockdown, and especially those living with dementia and their carers. With this in mind, please find some useful links below that maybe of support and enjoyment for people with dementia and their carers/families.

Please do share these links as widely as possible and once we have a date for Dementia Action Week 2020, we will be back in touch.

[www.stmaryswoolton.org.uk](http://www.stmaryswoolton.org.uk) (please select 'Dementia Awareness' from the menu).

<https://www.liverpoolcatholicresources.com/dementia>

<https://email.alzheimers.org.uk/57EL-77AY-3D2799TH43/cr.aspx>

<https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/get-involved/dementia-action-week>

Take care everyone.

With all good wishes.

Ann O'Neill, Parish Administrator, St Mary's Church, L25 5JF

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## ***RAINBOWS OF PROMISE***

Our windows are now looking so happy! Thank you to two of our Girl's Brigade members who sent in pictures and to one family who left us some lovely messages. THANK YOU to Woolton County Primary Hub who submitted 24 Rainbow messages from children of key workers who now have a 'Window of Promise' pictures. Grateful thanks to Jayne for supplying the pictures below.

Please think about what YOU could draw as a Promise Rainbow and add to our windows looking out on Woolton and our community. These Rainbow pictures are not only a Thank You to our wonderful NHS workers, our carers, delivery drivers, postmen, waste collection operatives, teachers, and many other community workers but they remind us too of God's promise to Noah. Read Genesis Chapter 9.

## ***CAN YOU BE KIND?***

KIND distributed over three hundred Easter Food Packs for families across Merseyside, paid for by a very generous local trust. As a result of the conversations with various referrers, KIND has begun a twelve-week Crisis Food Programme, committed to providing a minimum of 150 large family-sized food hampers, which will be delivered to vulnerable/disadvantaged families across our Merseyside community.

Providing 150 hampers over twelve weeks will cost £54,000.00. KIND have begun approaching numerous trusts, individuals and funds to see if they can support this local initiative. If you, your friends and contacts are willing support this local initiative, please make a donation directly into KIND's account:

KIND: Sort code; 20-51-43: Account No.: 70037273

## ***JIMMY***

Jimmy has had a haircut (lucky thing!). Roy has been giving him a good trim, but he could still do with more plants; if you have any low evergreen plants that would suit, please make the offer. He has also been celebrating VE Day, as you can see, and appeared in the Echo!

