

Matthew 18.20 "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

Sunday 25th April 2021

This week's reading is Acts 4:1-12

Reflection

In the name of Jesus

Peter and John continue to show boldness after experiencing the power of the Holy Spirit. They now demonstrate the true source of their authority. The powerful men of the Sanhedrin were not bothered about the lame man. They were bothered by the challenge to their sad lack of belief in the resurrection and the threat to their power. When asked how such uneducated men had healed the man they explained that he had been healed in the name of Jesus whom they had crucified. He was now resurrected from the dead and had become the chief cornerstone.

They pointed to Jesus not themselves and said "salvation is found in no-one else, for there is no other name under heaven by which we must be saved." His name brings salvation because he is risen. His name also brings healing and forgiveness.

They refused to be silenced and prayed for more boldness.

In Colossians 3 we read that whatever we do, whether in word or deed, we should do it all in the name of Jesus. Let the peace of God rule in your heart. In other words when in doubt let the forgiveness Christ brought, shape our actions and words towards others and ask for his presence to guide us. What a beautiful name Jesus, a name that brings forgiveness, healing and guidance. We do not need great learning to understand but we do need to turn to him and follow him.

Alan Lewney

Prayer

Please pray for: Donald Gallagher, Simon Hulme (Headteacher of St Michael's School), Lisa Stone, Vicky Birkett, Marg Houghton, Christine Burridge, Gill Billington, Thomas Dent (parents Jess and Andy), Finley, Eloise (parents Anna and Pete), Gaynor, Tom Dowd, Sophie, Jean Stevenson, Malcolm Molyneux, Carol Ranson, Lyndsey Moore, Maureen Mitchell, Tracey, and all those who are suffering with COVID-19, feeling vulnerable or self-isolating.

Pray for the family and friends of Iain Elliott (Simon Elliott's father, Iain used to be curate at St Luke's and at ASSF), Elaine Ormond, Bill Bromilow and Marjorie Seed, who have recently passed away.

Prayers for this week,

Sun... "Lord of creation, whose glory is around and within us open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you with reverence and know your peace at our lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord." Amen (Cof E)

Mon... all who work at Queen Elizabeth Children's Hospital Blantyre, Malawi, pray also for those children being treated at the hospital and their families. For St Luke's mission link partners Liz & Malcolm Molyneux.

Tue...the people of India where coronavirus cases are rising rapidly and medical facilities are almost at capacity, the health system itself is starting to crack. Vaccine stocks, hospital beds and even oxygen supplies are running short

Weds...the people of Brazil, where coronavirus cases and deaths continue to rise – overwhelming their fragile health system. Pray that God would give their leaders wisdom and resources to protect their people. Pray that those who have lost loved ones know God's peace.

Thurs... the people of Myanmar and for a peaceful resolution to the ongoing situation.

Fri...the people of Afghanistan. Afghanistan is one of the world's most complex humanitarian crises. It is characterised by conflict, displacement, natural hazards, and this year the Afghan people face a new crisis – hunger. The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic have heightened the situation.

Sat... "Loving God, we do not understand why nature sometimes seems so cruel and harsh, and why people suffer from floods, earthquakes and man-made disasters. Help us to trust in your promises and to rest in the certainty that not even the smallest sparrow lies outside your loving care. Help us to do all in our power to relieve suffering and make us willing and eager to share the good things you have given us, for the benefit of all." (Green Christian Prayer)

Mission focus this month is for Malawi

Prayer for Malawi - May you be made strong in the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience...' Lord of life, Thank you for our brothers and sisters in Malawi. Amen **Donations** can be given by using the Donate tab on the church website www.stlukecrosby.org.uk and selecting Malawi in the drop down menu.



This Sunday

Online Sunday Service is online at 10am every week across our digital platforms; www.stlukecrosby.org.uk , church [YouTube channel](#) by searching for stlukeschurchcrosby & church [Facebook](#) There are children's resources on www.stlukecrosby.org.uk/resources/

Freephone Dial-in Service - you can listen to the weekly Sunday service on the phone by ringing 0808 501 5040.



Virtual Coffee Morning on Zoom every Sunday at 10.45am. If you are not able to be online, you can also join in by ringing 02030512874 then 84676603954 # then # when prompted, followed by the password. Ring

Paul 07855 727196 to get the passcode.

Forthcoming online events – book via www.stlukecrosby.org.uk/events or ringing 931 3119 (please leave a message)

Malawi Mission Evening – Mon 26th April at 7.30pm Our St Luke's contributions to Malawi focus mainly on two Funds based in the national Queen Elizabeth Central Teaching Hospital – the Chira ('get well') Fund for adults and Friends of Sick Children (FOSC). We are having an evening to learn more, please do join us!

Book Club returns - Following on from the successful meetings held during Lent, the book club will resume online on Monday 26th April at 4pm looking at Henri Nouwen's book 'The return of the Prodigal Son'. Colin Stephens can obtain the book for you if you wish by contacting him at stlukesbookstall@gmail.com Those who were at the last book club will be sent the link directly but if you would like to be included then please register on the events page.



Notices

Wednesday Holy Communion @ 10.30am in church – Midweek Holy Communion is starting again on the 5th May, if you would like to attend, please book in from our events page. If you have any problems, please ring Gaynor at the office.



Malcolm Molyneux is using his artistic talents to create small inscriptions/paintings (as per photo) on pieces of an oak tree that had to be felled. There are various designs, pictures of which are on the church website, where you will also find details of how to order, all proceeds will be to the Malawi Mission funds. **Donations** can be given by using the Donate tab on the church website stlukecrosby.org.uk/homecraft

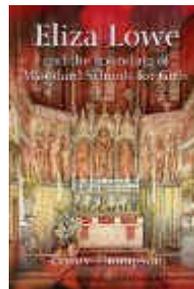
and selecting Malawi in the drop down menu.

Penny Thompson has written a book about a 19th century lady who ran a private school for girls in Everton, Bootle and Seaforth and her influence upon her much younger brother who founded the school Penny went to in Abbots Bromley. It is published by Lutterworth; details may be found here:

www.lutterworth.com/product/eliza-low-and-the-founding-of-woodard-schools-for-girls/

Penny is entitled to an author's discount and is about to order copies. The normal price of a paperback copy is £20.00 but Penny can get them for £15.50. So if you would like to order a copy please let Penny know. If you were to prefer a hardback copy it would cost £31.00. Email:

penelopethompson@btinternet.com or phone 07736523951



The Eco Church North West conference 'Continuing Our Pilgrimage to Net Zero' is on 24th April 10 am- 3pm. Join us for a day of inspirational speakers exploring the topic of Net Zero and practical workshops on how as a church we can develop a more sustainable future. Click [here](#) to book.

Climate Change: Science and Faith Responses (27th April) - Part of the Gilbert Scott Lectures on Science and Faith 2021. Speakers will be Prof Ric Williams, Associate Pro Vice-Chancellor and Chair in Ocean Sciences, University of Liverpool and Liz Atherton, Arts Coordinator for Interfaith and Environmental Development, Faiths4Change. This is viewable on the cathedral's Facebook page [@LiverpoolCathedral](#)



The Time Is Now - This week the UK Government made a big announcement. They are ramping up ambition to reduce the UK's carbon emissions by 78% in the next 15 years - including flights and shipping which hasn't been the case up to now. This is the climate leadership we expect from the UK as hosts of the UN climate talks. Almost 150,000 people have already signed our Declaration to the Prime Minister, to send a message that the time is now to unleash investment and decisive action to create a cleaner, greener future. Will you join them? Click [here](#) to sign the declaration



This week's shortages - though as always, all donations are welcome!- tinned tomatoes, tinned vegetables, tinned potatoes/ instant mash, tinned tuna, rice pudding + jam,- UHT juice / squash, instant coffee, men's toiletries & deodorants.

APCM 2021 - If you would like to stand for the **PCC, Deanery Synod or Churchwarden**, the nomination forms are available on the webpage. stlukecrosby.org.uk/apcm these will need to be printed signed and then posted through the office door. All forms also are available in church on Sunday. The meeting will be held by **zoom** on **Wednesday 12th May 2021** and **not** as a physical gathering in church due to the pandemic. **Electoral Roll DRAFT** – is now at the back of church, due to GDPR we will only show your name. If your name isn't on the roll and you would like to be, pick up a form from church, or call the office.

Home Lateral Flow Tests – Can now be ordered from www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests Amanda and some of the staff are testing regularly and before services, so we keep everyone in church safe from COVID as best we can. Every little we can do will help stop the spread of COVID and keep everyone safe and well.

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