

Welcome to our worship especially if you are a Godparent, Godchild or a visitor.

Opening Hymn 654 *The Lord's my shepherd*
Hymns are not sung at 8.30 service

During the 10 am service we will welcome the Dunbar family whose children were baptized during their parents' recent wedding blessing service.

The Collect (prayer for the day)

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Hymn 564 *Praise him, Praise him*

Gospel *John 10.22-30*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John . **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' ²⁵Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Fr. David Pycock

The Intercessions are led by
8.30am Janice Wones
10am Mark Reynolds

including **A Prayer for Godparents**

Lord, we pray that you will guide and support all godparents. Give them your wisdom and your love. Help each to be a good example of Christian living and keep them mindful of their precious godchild.

Offertory Hymn 337 *I will sing the wondrous story*
During this hymn the collection is taken

Hymns during the administration of Holy Communion **156, 575**

Post-Communion Prayer

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn (Tune 972)

Thank you, O Lord, for the gift of this day:
a time to count blessings, to think and to pray, support us, inspire us, and call us anew,
help us to be faithful in following you.

Bless us in keeping our promise to care,
our loving commitment to always be there,
we'll smile at each moment of joy and success,
and when life is bitter, our love is no less.

Bless us with patience, with care and with time
to listen, to challenge, to open our mind,
exploring life's questions in wonder and awe,
and sharing the wisdom that loves to learn more.

Guide us, O Lord, as we walk on life's way, Discov'ring
together fresh blessings each day, O Lord of our
journey, we ask you to show the paths we might
follow, the ways we may go.

Words by the Revd Ally Barrett

NOTICES

Christian Aid Week begins Today! There is a bake and plant sale after our services this morning. We are one or two house to house collectors short, so if you are able to deliver and/or collect envelopes please see Gerardine or Miles this morning. It would be great to beat last year's total.

Mothers' Union Tomorrow, 2pm in the Pastoral Centre. Speaker: Canon Janet.

Choir Rehearsal Tomorrow in CHURCH 8pm.

KYCKYN - Canon Fred Rattley will be helping us to move ahead with this process in May. We are planning another 'all together' day similar to the one we held last June when there was such a buzz in church. This is on **NEXT SUNDAY** and the format will be:

8.30am Shortened Holy Communion *with Sunday School in the Pastoral Centre linked to KYCKYN process*

9.00am Coffee

9.15am KYCKYN is re-introduced and workshops begin

(We will be working in groups and there will be a group for children aged c 6+ but there will not be separate provision for younger children)

10.30am Workshop concludes and more coffee

10.45am Shortened Communion – concluding c 11.30am

KYCKYN continued. We are nearing the end of the process but there is also a mapping exercise to do by a small group. We are planning to do this in church on Saturday 25th May from 10am -12noon. If you like coloured pens and sticking things then this is your chance.

Tenpin Bowling Evening Thursday 16 May at Hollywood Bowl Great Park Rubery with optional meal to follow. Come and enjoy the fun. Details on the notice board in the Church Porch

Mothers Union Cream Teas Saturday 18 May 2pm – 4pm in the Pastoral Centre (£5)

Spots! St. Laurence Stitch and Knit starts Monday 20 May 10am – 3pm in the Pastoral Centre. All Welcome. You can drop in for as short or long a time as you wish.

Churches Together in Northfield AGM 7.30pm in St Laurence CHURCH. We have speakers to help explore setting up High Street Chaplaincy/ Street Pastors. All welcome, especially if you have a couple to hours a month to spare and are interested in this ministry.

Holy Dusters

We will be cleaning our lovely church
On Tuesday 21 May at 9.30am. All welcome to help.

Look-Out Group leaders.

There will be a meeting on Tuesday 4 June at 7.30pm at the Rectory to move on with this initiative. Please could leaders work out the name of their group by then?

People & Places Day for PCC members on Saturday 18th May 9.30am at St Barnabas, Erdington. If you would like to go please notify Canon Janet by Wednesday.

Afternoon Tea Come along to Bromsgrove Golf Club on Wednesday 19 June at 2pm for an afternoon tea of sandwiches and scones! Cost £10.50 per person. Please sign up on the list in the porch - £5 deposit is required to book a place. I will try and arrange lifts if required. Please let me know if you have dietary requirements (they cater for gluten free diets). Rowena

Thank you to all who supported and helped

- the Organ Recital. It was a great occasion and we were pleased to receive £291.35 in donations which after the organists expenses and heating costs gives a surplus of £241.35 for church funds.
- the blessing of the marriage of John Young and Emily Chapman last Sunday. The church looked marvellous, the singing was wonderful and as for the hats....
- The Craft Fayre and Art Sale yesterday.

St Laurence Church - 100 Club May Draw
1st Debra Steggall, 2nd Valerie Arthurs, 3rd prize Pamela Woodman. Congratulations to all.

Our wonderful churchwarden Debbie has a day job as school librarian at St Thomas Aquinas School on Wychall Lane. An opportunity has arisen to win her library £5000 in book tokens. Please help her to win by completing the form at <https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools>

Great News! St Laurence Scout Group has been chosen as the Cross City Hero community group for Northfield <https://www.westmidlandsrailway.co.uk/about-us/news-desk/cross-city-heroes-receive-railway-station-recognition>

Do you want to improve your knowledge of the New Testament and Jesus? This course may be for you. **Equipped: Studies on Jesus in His Context and Culture** Thursday evenings, from 23 May – 11 July 2019, 7–9pm. In Selly Oak Cost £140 but bursaries reducing it to £100 available. More information in the porch.

We are currently in the season of Easter so the 'church colour' is white. We change to RED for Pentecost (Whitsun) so do wear something red that day – 9th June.

Weekly events

- **'Stay and Play'** (Parent/carer & baby/toddler group) Mondays term time 9.30-11am in Pastoral Centre.
- **St. Laurence Community Choir (back) in Church** Monday's 6-7pm
- **Gridiron Coffee Morning Pastoral Centre** Tuesdays 10 – 11.30am. Coffee, Board Games & chat.
- **Church Open** on Saturdays 10-11.30am.

For your prayers

Those who are ill including: Richard Barber (Steph and all the family)

Those who have died:

Stephen Bignell, Jean Olive Jones
Prayer requests may be left on the request forms by the prayer candle stand. They are included in Morning and Evening Prayer several times a week.

Baptism & Wedding Enquiries

Please come to Parish Surgery Wednesdays
5.45 – 6.30pm in the Pastoral Centre
173 Church Road, Northfield, B31 2LX

Contact Details

Parish Office – stlaurence@btconnect.com
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