

# THE PARISH OF ST. JOHN BAPTIST, BROUGHTON

## Pause and Pray

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020

### Pause

*As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still: to breathe slowly to re-centre my scattered senses upon the presence of God.*

Father, we come to you with empty hands to receive from you.

We come with heavy hearts that you might carry our burden.

We come with our self-satisfaction, that you might open our eyes to the needs of others.

We come with our self-centredness, that you may deal with our deafness to the cries of our neighbours.

We come with our hopes and fears, our joys and sorrows.

We come as we are, longing to be made new.

We come in the name of Jesus, because he first came to us.

**Amen.**

### Rejoice

*I rejoice in God's care of me today, joining with the ancient praise of all God's people in the words of Psalm 61 verses 1 to 3*

Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer. From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the foe.'

### Reflect

*I reflect today on the words of scripture found in 1 Timothy 6 verses 6 to 10*

'But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.'

I ask myself am I content with what I have? What is my relationship with money?

### Ask

*Today we pray for*

#### **Kirkham Deanery:**

WESHAM Christ Church

ANSDELL and FAIRHAVEN St Paul

FRECKLETON and WARTON

ST ANNES ON SEA St Anne (Heyhouses)

KIRKHAM St Michael

LUND St John the Evangelist

LYTHAM St Cuthbert

LYTHAM St John the Divine

RIBBY CUM WREA St Nicholas and WEETON St Michael

ST ANNES ON SEA St Margaret of Antioch

ST ANNES ON SEA St Thomas

WESHAM Christ Church and TREALES Christ Church

TREALES Christ Church

Lytham St Annes Clifton Hospital

HMP Kirkham

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020

### Pause

*As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still: to breathe slowly to re-centre my scattered senses upon the presence of God.*

Lord, we come as we are. We make no pretence. We come acknowledging the weakness, poverty and emptiness of our lives.

We come confessing our failed attempts to change our lives and our determination to be different, which has come to nothing.

We come, asking that by your grace we can be made strong and that through your power we can be made new.

We come in our weakness, that in you we may be made strong and that we might give you all the glory.

**Amen.**

### Rejoice

*I stand in awe of God's provision, joining with the ancient praise of all God's people in the words of Psalm 65 verses 8 and 9*

The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders; where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy. You care for the

land and water it; you enrich it abundantly. The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with corn, for so you have ordained it.'

### **Reflect**

*I reflect today on the words of scripture found in Luke 12 verses 32 to 34*

'Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.'

I ask myself where is my treasure and therefore where is my heart? Am I willing to sell my possessions for the sake of the poor?

### **Ask**

*Today we pray for*

#### **Chorley Deanery:**

COPPULL and COPPULL ST JOHN THE DIVINE  
ADLINGTON St Paul

APPLEY BRIDGE and PARBOLD

BRINDLE St James

CHARNOCK RICHARD Christ Church

CHORLEY All Saints

CHORLEY St George

CHORLEY St James

CHORLEY St Laurence

CHORLEY St Peter

CROSTON, BRETHERTON and MAWDESLEY  
with BISPAM

ECCLESTON St Mary the Virgin

EUXTON

HEAPEY St Barnabas and WITHNELL St Paul

SHEVINGTON St Anne

STANDISH St Wilfrid

WHITTLE-LE-WOODS St John Evangelist

WRIGHTINGTON with HESKIN St James the  
Great

ECCLESTON St Mary the Virgin and

CHARNOCK RICHARD Christ Church

CROSTON Bishop Rawstorne Church of England  
Academy

CHORLEY St Michael's Church of England High  
School

Chorley and District Hospital

Wrightington Hospital

Wrightington Wigan & Leigh NHS Trust

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2020**

**Pause**

*As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still: to breathe slowly to re-centre my scattered senses upon the presence of God.*

Father, we come as your children, knowing you love us.

We come with no hope of proving our worth.

We come as those who through grace you have already accepted to worship you, our saviour and Lord.

We come knowing our strengths and our weaknesses to the one who holds all things by the power of his word.

We come to sing glory for the life, love and joy of knowing Jesus the Saviour of all.

**Amen.**

### **Rejoice**

*I rejoice in being part of the continuing family of God, joining with the ancient praise of all God's people in the words of Psalm 78 verses 1 to 4*

My people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from of old – things we have heard and known, things our ancestors have told us. We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done.'

### **Reflect**

*I reflect today on the words of scripture found in Proverbs 19 verse 17*

Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done.'

I ask myself how can I show kindness to the poor? Where can I see the kindness of God in my life?

### **Ask**

*Today we pray for:*

#### **Lancaster and Morecambe Deanery**

COCKERHAM with WINMARLEIGH and  
GLASSON

DOLPHINHOLME with QUERNMORE and  
OVER WYRESDALE

ELLEL St John the Evangelist

SHIRESHEAD St James

HEYSHAM St Peter

LANCASTER Christ Church

LANCASTER St Chad Skerton in plurality with

LANCASTER St Luke Skerton

LANCASTER St Mary (The Priory)

LANCASTER St Paul Scotforth

LANCASTER St Thomas

MORECAMBE St Barnabas  
MORECAMBE St Christopher Bare  
OVERTON St Helen  
POULTON-LE-SANDS Holy Trinity with  
MORECAMBE St Laurence  
SANDYLANDS St John  
TORRISHOLME The Ascension  
LANCASTER Ripley St Thomas. A Church of  
England Academy  
Lancaster Royal Infirmary Hospital  
Morecambe Queen Victoria Hospital  
St Johns Hospice Lancaster  
Lancaster Prison  
HMP Lancaster Farm  
University of Lancaster  
University of Cumbria (Lancaster Campus)

### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020**

#### **Pause**

*As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still: to breathe slowly to re-centre my scattered senses upon the presence of God.*

Lord, we come to you because you are strength for us when our strength fails;  
You are hope for us when our hope is gone;  
You are love for us when we are cold and empty;  
You are forgiveness for us when we go wrong;  
You are peace for us when we are afraid;  
You are beginning again when it feels like the end.  
We come to worship you because you are worthy.

**Amen.**

#### **Rejoice**

*I praise God for his majesty, joining with the ancient praise of all God's people in the words of Psalm 93 verses 1 to 4*

The LORD reigns, he is robed in majesty;  
the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength; indeed, the world is established, firm and secure. Your throne was established long ago; you are from all eternity. The seas have lifted up, LORD, the seas have lifted up their voice; the seas have lifted up their pounding waves. Mightier than the thunder of the great waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea – the LORD on high is mighty.'

#### **Reflect**

*I reflect today on the words of scripture found in Hebrews 13:15 and 16*

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise – the fruit of lips that

openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.'

I ask myself what can I share today? What will my sacrifice of praise look like today?

#### **Ask**

*Today we pray for*

#### **Leyland Deanery:**

BUCKSHAW VILLAGE  
BAMBER BRIDGE St Aidan and WALTON-LE-DALE St Leonard  
BAMBER BRIDGE St Saviour  
HESKETH WITH BECCONSALL All Saints  
HIGHER WALTON All Saints in plurality with  
HOGHTON Holy Trinity  
HOOLE St Michael  
LEYLAND St Ambrose  
LEYLAND St Andrew  
LEYLAND St James  
LEYLAND St John  
LONGTON St Andrew  
LOSTOCK HALL St James and FARINGTON  
MOSS St Paul  
NEW LONGTON All Saints  
PENWORTHAM St Leonard  
PENWORTHAM St Mary  
RUFFORD AND TARLETON  
LEYLAND Balshaw's Church Of England High School  
HUTTON Church of England Grammar School  
Lostock Hall St Catherine's Hospice  
Garth Prison  
Wymott Prison  
Runshaw College

### **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020**

#### **Pause**

*As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still: to breathe slowly to re-centre my scattered senses upon the presence of God.*

May the Father's hand  
keep you from stumbling,  
the footprints of Jesus  
give you confidence to follow,  
and the fire of the Spirit  
keep you warm and safe  
in your walk with God this day.

#### **Rejoice**

*I praise God for his faithfulness today, joining with the ancient praise of all God's people in the words of Psalm 92 verses 1 to 4*

It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High, proclaiming your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night, to the music of the ten-stringed lyre and the melody of the harp. For you make me glad by your deeds, LORD; I sing for joy at what your hands have done.'

### **Reflect**

*I reflect today on the words of scripture found in 1 Timothy 6 verses 17 to 19*

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. <sup>19</sup> In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.'

I ask myself where is my hope based? How can I encourage others to trust in God's provision?

### **Ask**

*Today we pray for*

#### **Poulton Deanery:**

CLEVELEYS St Andrew

FLEETWOOD St Nicholas

LITTLE THORNTON St John the Evangelist

POULTON, CARLETON and SINGLETON

THORNTON-LE-FYLDE Christ Church

FLEETWOOD St Peter and St David

Fleetwood Hospital

## **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

### **Pause**

*As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still: to breathe slowly to re-centre my scattered senses upon the presence of God.*

Father, help me to know You more and to love You better and I pray that I may learn to spend more time simply sitting at Your feet, listening to Your word and communing with You in Your presence. Thank you for wanting a relationship with us and that we are able to spend time with you.

### **Amen**

### **Rejoice**

*I praise God for his righteousness and justice, joining with the ancient praise of all God's people in the*

*words of Psalm 97 verses 1 to 6*

The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice. Clouds and thick darkness surround him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne. Fire goes before him and consumes his foes on every side. His lightning lights up the world; the earth sees and trembles. The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth. The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all peoples see his glory.

### **Reflect**

*I reflect today on the words of scripture found in 2 Corinthians 9 verses 6 to 8*

Remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.'

I ask myself what am I deciding in my heart to give as a one-off sacrificial gift at this time? Have I discussed this with the Lord?

### **Ask**

*Today we pray for*

#### **Pendle Deanery:**

BARROWFORD St Thomas and NEWCHURCH-

IN-PENDLE St Mary

FENCE-IN-PENDLE St Anne and HIGHAM St

John the Evangelist

BRIERFIELD St Luke in plurality with BURNLEY St Cuthbert

COLNE Holy Trinity & St Bartholomew

GREAT MARSDEN St John the Evangelist with

NELSON St Philip

NELSON Little Marsden

FOULRIDGE LANESHAWBRIDGE and

TRAWDEN

Pendle Community Hospital

## **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

### **Pause**

*As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still: to breathe slowly to re-centre my scattered senses upon the presence of God.*

Eternal God, you are our rock, you are the firm foundation for everything we build. You give gifts

to your people for the good of the church. You equip and train your people to carry out the good works you have prepared for us in advance.

**Amen.**

### **Rejoice**

*I praise God for who he is, joining with the ancient praise of all God's people in the words of Psalm 111 verses 1 to 3*

Praise the LORD. I will extol the LORD with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly. Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them. Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures for ever.'

### **Reflect**

*I reflect today on the words of scripture found in Matthew 6 verses 1 to 4*

Be careful not to practise your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honoured by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.'

I ask myself who knows about my giving? Is God's reward and blessing enough for me?

### **Ask**

*Today we pray for*

#### **Preston Deanery:**

ASHTON-ON-RIBBLE St Andrew  
ASHTON-ON-RIBBLE St Michael & All Angels  
BROUGHTON St John Baptist  
FULWOOD Christ Church  
GRIMSARGH St Michael  
INGOL St Margaret  
LEA St Christopher  
LONGRIDGE St Lawrence with St Paul  
PRESTON All Saints  
PRESTON Emmanuel  
PRESTON St Cuthbert Fulwood  
PRESTON St John and St George the Martyr  
PRESTON St Oswald with St Jude  
PRESTON The Risen Lord  
PRESTON St Stephen  
RIBBLETON St Mary Magdalene & The Ascension

PRESTON Archbishop Temple School, A Church of England Specialist College  
Guild Lodge Whittingham  
Longridge Community Hospital  
Preston Royal & Sharoe Green Hospitals  
HMP Preston - Prisons  
Preston College  
University of Central Lancashire

## **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

### **Pause**

*As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still: to breathe slowly to re-centre my scattered senses upon the presence of God.*

'I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart: I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.' Open my heart and mind to hear and receive from you today I pray.

**Amen.**

### **Rejoice**

*I praise God for the way he restores, joining with the ancient praise of all God's people in the words of Psalm 126 verses 1 to 3*

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed. Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, 'The LORD has done great things for them.' The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.'

### **Reflect**

*I reflect today on the words of scripture found in Mark 12 verses 41 to 44*

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few pence. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything – all she had to live on.'

I ask myself would I give God the balance of my bank account? Who can I learn from about giving?

### **Ask**

*Today we pray for*

## **Whalley Deanery:**

CLITHEROE St Paul  
GREAT HARWOOD St Bartholomew and St John  
HURST GREEN and MITTON in plurality with RIBCHESTER St Wilfrid  
LANGHO St Leonard  
READ St John and SIMONSTONE St Peter  
RISHTON St Peter and St Paul  
SALESBURY St Peter  
WADDINGTON  
WEST PENDLESIDE All Saints, Pendleton, St Nicholas Heyhouses, Sabden & St Mary & all Saints Whalley  
CHIPPING St Bartholomew  
WHITEWELL St Michael  
BOWLAND Benefice  
BALDERSTONE, MELLOR and SAMLESBURY  
CHATBURN Christ Church and DOWNHAM St Leonard - Benefice  
CHIPPING St Bartholomew with WHITEWELL St Michael  
CLITHEROE St James - Benefice  
CLITHEROE St Mary Magdalene

### **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

#### **Pause**

*As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still: to breathe slowly to re-centre my scattered senses upon the presence of God.*

You are the King and we will praise you.  
You are holy and we will bow before you.  
You are the saviour and we will trust you.  
You are almighty and we will serve you.  
You are the Lord and we will adore you.

#### **Amen.**

#### **Rejoice**

*I rejoice in the way God knows me utterly and completely, joining with the ancient praise of all God's people in the words of Psalm 139 verses 1 to 6*

You have searched me, LORD, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely. <sup>5</sup>You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.'

#### **Reflect**

*I reflect today on the words of scripture found in Mat-*

*thew 19 verses 21 to 24*

'Jesus answered, 'If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.' When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth. Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Truly I tell you, it is hard for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.'

I ask myself what have I given up to follow Jesus? Is there anything he is still calling me to give up to follow him more closely and deeply?

#### **Ask**

*Today we pray for*

#### **Tunstall Deanery:**

BOLTON-LE-SANDS Holy Trinity  
CARNFORTH Christ Church  
CATON WITH LITLEDALE St Paul in plurality with OVER KELLET St Cuthbert  
HORNBY with CLAUGHTON & WHITTINGTON with ARKHOLME & GRESSINGHAM  
SILVERDALE St John  
SLYNE with HEST St Luke and HALTON St Wilfrid with AUGHTON St Saviour  
EAST LONSDALE: Tunstall, Melling & Leck, Holy Trinity, Wray, St James the Less Tatham, The Good Shepherd, Tatham Fells  
WARTON St Oswald with YEALAND CONYERS St John

### **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

#### **Pause**

*As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still: to breathe slowly to re-centre my scattered senses upon the presence of God.*

Almighty God, King of all creation, Sovereign over all things, you hold the universe in the palm of your hand. Enable us to keep our hearts fixed on you and our minds on your truth, for we have come to worship you as Lord of all.

#### **Amen.**

#### **Rejoice**

*I rejoice in God's compassion, joining with the ancient praise of all God's people in the words of Psalm 145 verses 8 and 9*

The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

**Reflect**

*I reflect today on the words of scripture found in Philippians 4 verses 15 to 19*

Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.'

I ask myself who is serving Jesus in ministry that I could support both prayerfully and financially? How have I seen God meet all my needs in the past? As I prepare to give my sacrificial gift tomorrow am I looking forward to how God will meet all our needs as a church and as a diocese?

**Ask**

*Today we pray for*

All church treasurers within our diocese as they fulfil their role

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020****Pause**

*As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still: to breathe slowly to re-centre my scattered senses upon the presence of God.*

Lord, we have heard the good news of the life, death and resurrection of your Son. We have come now to experience its power, to hear your call and to be sent out as disciples of Christ. Lord, so fill our thoughts, our lives and our lips with songs of praise that others will long to bring glory to home.

**Amen.**

**Rejoice**

*I rejoice in God's guidance, joining with the ancient praise of all God's people in the words of Psalm 25 verses 4 to 7*

Show me your ways, LORD, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in you all day long. Remember, LORD, your great mercy and

love, for they are from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you, LORD, are good.'

**Reflect**

*I reflect today on the words of scripture found in John 3 verses 16 and 17*

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.'

I ask myself how can I say thank you to God for the greatest gift of generosity ever seen, the sending of Jesus Christ his Son into the world to be saviour? Who do I know who needs to know that Jesus is their saviour, how can I be generous in sharing this incredible news with them?

**Ask**

*Today we ask God to pour his blessing upon all those who will give a sacrificial gift to their church at this time.*

© Many of the prayers are taken from: 500 More Prayers for All Occasions, David Clowes, 2010, David C Cook and from the Lectio365 App, by 24 7 Prayer