



**UNITED BENEFICE OF CORLEY PARISH  
CHURCH & ST MARY & ALL SAINTS  
CHURCH, FILLONGLEY WITH FILLONGLEY  
METHODIST CHURCH**

*Anglicans and Methodists in Unity.*



Dear Friends,

It is back to school week. I don't know about you, but when I was a child the 'back to school' signs in the shops were always displayed too early. It seemed as if term had only just ended when they started to appear. A stark reminder that summer holidays were fleeting and that autumn was just around the corner.

This year's school holiday has been very different for all our children. The summer term was non-existent for most and the new term has been complicated by new regulations and ways of being that none of us could have imagined a year ago. But children are by nature resilient. They make the best of the situations they find themselves in. Children tend to live in the moment. I know that is a sweeping generalisation and there are, unfortunately, some children who aren't so resilient due to family circumstances or difficult environments. But seeing the children interviewed on the news about their return to school, most were excited to be going back, to see their friends and to welcome new challenges.

I visited Bournebrook School this week and it was really heartening to see the display boards ready to be populated with new work. The classrooms bright and cheerful ready to welcome back the children. Our teachers work so very hard to make the environment as comfortable as possible despite having to change the layout of the rooms to make them more Covid secure. I am really looking forward to going back when all the children have returned and have settled back into their 'new normal'.

The 'new normal' is something that we are all getting used to. Whether it is visiting public places that have only recently opened such as cinemas, wearing our facemasks in public or getting used to a new routine when spending time with people that we don't live with. As a physically demonstrative person, I have found it difficult to get used to not shaking hands, sitting close to someone I am talking to, or hugging people if they need comfort. But these tiny personal discomforts are all ways that we demonstrate love for each other.

Regrettably, this horrible virus is going to be with us for some time to come. So, part of us 'loving our neighbour as ourselves'\* means taking the time and effort to comply with the new guidelines and regulations. Being patient, when a simple visit to the shops takes longer than before, trying to get to grips with new ways of operating when we need to access healthcare or other support services and finding new ways of keeping in touch with our family and friends, when popping round isn't an option.


*Stop press*

*Services on Sunday next*

*10:30 am Fillongley Church*

*9:00 am Corley Church*

*Please bring and wear a face covering*



A phrase that has been bandied around during the pandemic is that 'we are all in the same boat'. I would disagree. We are all in the same storm, but we all have different circumstances and life experiences that mean we are being tossed around in the same storm in very different boats.



Whatever our boat, we can offer a lifeline to those whose craft may be smaller than or not as robust as ours. A kind word, an offer of help, a telephone call or Zoom conversation maybe just the lifeline that is needed. And if your boat feels like it is taking on water and we might be able to do something to help, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me, Revd Jane or any of the other church leaders. We might not be the RNLI but we might just know how to come alongside and help to bail until things get better.

With a virtual hug, love and prayers

Ali

\* *Matthew 22:36-40*

## **LECTIONARY Readings and Prayers for Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2020 ~ Trinity 13**

### **Collects**

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Almighty God, you search us and know us: may we rely on you in strength and rest on you in weakness, now and in all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **Readings**

Exodus 12: vs 1-14 ~ Psalm 149 ~ Romans 13: vs 8-end ~ Matthew 18: vs 15-20

### **Talk / Reflection**

Revd Ali's reflection for today is included in the full Orders of Service attached to this bulletin. If you would like to worship along at home with the gathered congregations at the churches, the Service at Fillongley will start at 10:30am and the Service at Corley at 9:00am. If you would like to only read Ali's reflection for Sunday it is also available as an attachment. The reflection will be shared in the sermon slot at both services.

## **HYMNS & WORSHIP SONGS**

*Here are the Hymns that we would have been singing in Church on Sunday ~*

I, the Lord of sea and sky (StF 663)

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want (StF 481) Stuart Townend version

One more step along the world I go (StF 476)

*For you to sing along with and perhaps dance, it has got to be this worship song ~*

Teach me to dance (StF 477)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JdjgRnfNQpQ>

## **PRAYERS**



*Sundays @ 7pm.*

*A reminder that we are lighting a Candle every Sunday at 7pm during this time and putting it in our windows to be a sign of our solidarity and hope in the light of Jesus Christ that can never be extinguished.*

### **A Prayer for all children returning to school**

*Dear Jesus, who, as a child, questioned and listened to his teachers,*

*and, as a teacher, raised as many questions as answers,*

*Give to those who work in our schools patience, compassion and creativity,*

*so they might support children to explore what will benefit them in mind, body and spirit*

*to help them become the best God intended them to be. Amen.*

### **A Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*Lord, as I participate in the all-too-consuming activities that require my attention today, I pray that I would not lose sight of You. Give me this day a heart of gratitude.*

*Give me a heart of gratitude which looks beyond my appreciation for things, for comfort, for peace, for prosperity.*

*Give me a heart of gratitude which is ever and always thankful for the Giver, thankful for the One who has provided, thankful for the One who, unlike His gifts, will never fade away.*

*Give me a heart of gratitude which refuses to surrender to frivolous complaint, to seek more than you have given, to succumb to the annoyances and frustrations of this world.*

*Give me a heart of gratitude which is so filled with thanksgiving that worry and concern have no room.*  
*Give me a heart of gratitude which remembers you as the present Giver who is my refuge and my portion.*  
*Give me a heart of gratitude which cries out thanksgiving and praise even in the midst of anguish, pain, and frustration.*  
*Give me a heart of gratitude which is capable of love, hope, and peace despite the tensions, hurts, and foolishness of this world.*  
*Give me a heart of gratitude which is ever and always Yours. Amen.*

## RESOURCES

Attached to this Bulletin are these items ~

- ✚ Service of Holy Communion Corley Parish Church  
 Sunday September 6<sup>th</sup> 2020 at 9:00am
- ✚ A Service of the Word Fillongley Church Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>  
 September at 10:30am
- ✚ A Reflection from Revd Ali Massey  
 for Trinity 13
- ✚ When this is over – a poem by Harry Baker
- ✚ Macmillan Coffee Morning Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September –  
 details of this year’s event at Suzanne’s home



***Socially distant blessing? No problem!***

## AND FINALLY DON'T FORGET .....

If there is anything that you need or know of someone who would appreciate being contacted or added to the mailing list for this weekly e-bulletin, please do not hesitate to contact Revd Ali, Revd Jane or any of the Churchwardens and Church Stewards listed below. <sup>i</sup>

<sup>i</sup> **Contact Details:**

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