

A B Church NEWS



This Sunday, Simon's sermon is entitled "Present reality – Future Glory" based on readings from Romans 8:18-24a and Genesis 3.

Simon begins by explaining our perilous position can be traced right back to Genesis 3 where Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit. At that catastrophic moment sin entered the world and, like a parasite, began to eat away in the world. And this parasitic sin affected everything – our intellects, spirituality, education, lifestyles, morals, ethics, bodies - even creation itself was cursed, 3v17-19. In Romans 8 we read that 'the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.' Simon goes on to say that despite our precarious nature of our present reality, we can anticipate a glorious future that is coming our way. Yes creation is aching, decaying and failing, but this will stop on the day when we receive the redemption of our bodies - namely when we receive our resurrection bodies, v23, and finally be like Jesus, Philippians 3v21!

Our Sunday morning service will go "live" at 6pm on a Saturday evening. However, if possible, we would like you to join us on Sunday in prayer at around 10.20am before watching the service at 10.30am as normal. Please pray for your church family and for all the frontline workers who are keeping us going in these difficult times. Please pray too for our prime minister and the cabinet who have the unenviable task of piloting the UK through troubled waters. It was good to see Boris Johnson back leading the daily briefing on Thursday but he will need God's guidance as he tries to balance the needs of the economy with the health of the nation. It is becoming clear that, as the lockdown continues, people will become more agitated, so, as we said last week, we need to keep our eyes firmly fixed on Jesus.

You <u>Click here</u> to go directly to the service page.

Our midweek service this week will continue with our theme of "Repercussions of the Resurrection". This week's message will be brought to us by Derek and is entitled, "From doubt to belief" based on John 20:19-31. This will go live at 6pm on Wednesday.

If you missed any of earlier services these can be viewed online services by going to http://www.aldwickbaptist.co.uk/latest-news/online-sermons

The response from you has been very encouraging so far but please do send in your reactions to contact@aldwickbaptist.co.uk.

SERMON' NOTES – We will be emailing Simon's notes for today and from last week, together with the news sheet. If you don't have an email address, then we will be hand delivering both the news sheet and the notes to you early next week.

PASTORAL CARE TEAM – We now have a team of 15 people who are committed to contacting you all at least twice a week whilst this crisis continues and probably beyond. I know from listening to your feedback how much this is appreciated by you all. If for any reason you have not been getting a call, please phone me on (01243) 866238 and I will make sure you are on our contact list. Also, if you have any particular problems, please tell a member of the pastoral team and they will report back to me. We will then do our best to help. We also have three people who can help with your shopping if you are unable to get out. Again, please tell any of the pastoral team and we will sort it. Derek.

PLEASE THANK GOD – For the 4 people who have been delivering the news sheets and Simon's notes to those people without internet access. This has also been a great blessing to many people.

Our resident poet

Did you know that one of our congregation, Arthur Magee, is a well know local poet? He isn't too well at the moment and would value your prayers for himself and for Eileen his wife, who is also been unwell recently. He has kindly given us permission to print some of his poems. If you are still finding our enforced isolation difficult, then this week's poem will remind you that you are never alone.

My all

Lord how I realise more and more how much you are to me. You are my all; you are my hope; you are my destiny. Nothing else matters in this world that's only temporary. You are for ever and ever, for all eternity. Some live for possessions and gain, but in the end it's all the same. Lord, you give me purpose every day. Only you are the life, the truth and the way.

UPDATE ON PAT PARKER – Pat is back in hospital and Mick reports that she possibly came out of hospital too soon last week. Please pray for her doctors to make the right decisions, for Mick to keep positive and for healing for Pat.

UPDATE ON MARIE STONEHAM – Marie unfortunately has had a bad couple of days and has been anxiously trying to get hold of her medical team in Southampton to discuss her next move. She was concerned that her shunt operation may not have been as successful as we had all hoped. Fortunately, she has now spoken to the medical registrar and she is beginning to feel slightly better. Please pray that for healing and peace of mind.

UPDATE ON KATE MOSS – Kate is feeling better and she has been able to go out this week for a short time. She does feels most strongly that the Lord is still protecting her and is so grateful for your prayers.

(SMALL) CD PLAYERS WANTED – For people without internet access we would like to produce a monthly CD of the sermons that go out online. If you have a CD player that you no longer use, can you let me know. It would really help. Derek **DID YOU KNOW**? – That Morrison's are delivering basics to vulnerable people. If you call 0345 611 6111, choose option 5 and they will give a time slot for the following day. Louisa.

FRIDAY NIGHT IS QUIZ NIGHT – Every Friday at 7.15pm, Jon Robinson (my son) is organising a quiz through his church website and on Facebook. It lasts around 20 minutes and is really good fun. If you want to take part then join via <u>www.stjohnssouthbourne.com</u> or through the We Love Southbourne FaceBook page (facebook.com/welovesouthbourne). Derek.

PLEASE JOIN SIMON FOR PRAYER - On Monday, Simon intends to pray for the church at 9.30am. He would like us all to set this time apart to join him in prayer before he sets out on his rounds.

A WORD ABOUT PRAYER - Prayer is an opportunity to journey hand in hand with the one who went to the cross and prays day in day out on the right hand of the Father for us. Angela

URGENT PRAYER REQUESTS - If you have, or know of, an urgent need for prayer then please contact Simon as first responder. He will then activate the prayer chain as appropriate.

PLEASE PRAY FOR JIM MCALPINE - Jim has a real problem with his tooth and cannot get a prioritised dental appointment. He is experiencing pain which has just been treated by antibiotics. He would appreciate prayer for an easing of the pain but more importantly for the opportunity for a dental surgeon to deal with the root cause (blame Clive for the pun).

PLEASE PRAY FOR MICHELLE AND JOHN - Especially pray for Michelle's father Harry who is in intensive care with pneumonia. Pray for his healing and wisdom for the staff treating him. Please also pray for John's elderly relatives in Michigan who feel very vulnerable at this time and are very concerned about catching the coronavirus as it sweeps across the USA. Please also pray for Michelle and John themselves as they both have ongoing health issues of their own.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR – Kate Moss, Brian Goldsmith, Joy Smith, Pam Brown, Stella Filby, Maureen Jones, Joan Brett, John Richardson, Joy Puffett, Marion Bryant, Pat and Mick Parker, Val Collett, Pam Ryan, Tony Brock, George Woods, Sid Evans, and for any others in our fellowship who are unwell at this time. Please also pray for all of us who have to self-isolate over the coming weeks.

AND DON'T FORGET – Thursday 8pm – open your doors and clap for the workers of the NHS.

Contact and Church office information

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