

*The Benefice of St Mary the Virgin,
Higham Ferrers with St John the Baptist,
Chelveston-cum-Caldecott*



MEETING POINT

Sixth Sunday after Trinity

11th July 2021

Online Worship



***Welcome to our Online Worship –
Meeting Point***

As Sunday Services take place in our churches, our Online Worship continues in their summer format – each week we are joined together in our worship at home and in church through the seasons of the Church Year and the themes of the Gospel.

Sunday Meeting Point helps us deepen our faith as we explore both readings from scripture and also experiences from our day to day lives. Today our theme is ‘Keeping Faith in Sport’ - appropriate as we approach the Euro 2020 Football Final with England bidding for glory for the first time in 55 years as well as the Wimbledon Finals weekend and the summer Cricket season.

Thanks to all who have made today’s service possible including members of the Ministry Team and their families, and to Fr Roger Knight as he share memories of his time as Chaplain at Rushden & Diamonds.

The Welcome

Michelle & Paul introduce today's service.

Hymn

**Fight the good fight with all thy might;
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right:
lay hold on life, and it shall be
thy joy and crown eternally.**

**Run the straight race through God's good grace,
lift up thine eyes, and seek his face;
life with its way before us lies,
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.**

**Cast care aside; upon thy Guide
lean, and his mercy will provide;
lean, and the trusting soul shall prove,
Christ is its life and Christ its love.**

**Faint not, nor fear, his arms are near;
he changeth not, and thou art dear;
only believe, and thou shalt see
that Christ is all in all to thee.**

Words: John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811-1875)

Music: DUKE STREET attributed to John L Hatton (d.1793)

from Boyd's Psalm and Hymn Tunes, 1793

Greeting *Michelle & Chris*

Welcome in the name of Christ.
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you
and also with you.



Opening Acclamation

God in Christ has revealed his glory.
Come let us worship.

From the rising of the sun to its setting
the Lord's name is greatly to be praised.

Give him praise, you servants of the Lord.
O praise the name of the Lord!



Collect for The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Creator God,
you made us all in your image:
may we discern you in all that we see,
and serve you in all that we do;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Readings – read by Chris & Michelle

1 Corinthians 9: 24 – 27

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore, I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.



2 Timothy 4 : 7

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

2 Timothy 2:5

Anyone who competes as an athlete does not receive the victor's crown except by competing according to the rules.

Philippians 3: 13 – 14

Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.



Hebrews 12: 1

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Interview with Fr Roger Knight



Hymn

**I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven
and I danced on the earth;
at Bethlehem I had my birth.**

***Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.***

**I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John -
they came with me and the Dance went on.**

**I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
the holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped
and they hung me on high,
and they left me there on a cross to die.**

**I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black -
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;
but I am the Dance, and I still go on.**

**They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that'll never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me -
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.**

words: Sydney Carter (1915-2004)

music: Shaker melody, adapted by Sydney Carter

Reflection – Paul



Anthem

Sung by St Martin's Singers

A Prayer of St Richard of Chichester

*O holy Jesus,
most merciful redeemer,
friend and brother,
may I know thee more clearly,
love thee more dearly,
and follow thee more nearly,
and follow thee more nearly.
Amen.*

Words: St Richard of Chichester (1197-1253)

Music: L J White

Prayers – led by Linda

We pray for our own families, for the family of the Church and the whole human family of the world.



The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour has taught us, so we pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us;



**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Peace – Michelle & Chris

Blessed are the peacemakers; they shall be called children of God.

We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.



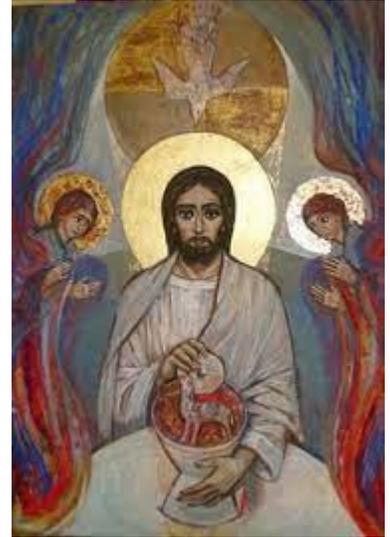
Hymn

**Lord, the light of your
love is shining,
in the midst of the
darkness shining:
Jesus, Light of the world,
shine upon us;
set us free by the truth
you now bring us:
shine on me, shine on me.**



***Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word, Lord,
and let there be light!***

**Lord, I come to your awesome
presence,
from the shadows into your
radiance;
by the blood I may enter your
brightness:
search me, try me, consume all my
darkness:
shine on me, shine on me.**



**As we gaze on your kingly brightness
so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory:
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story:
shine on me, shine on me.**

Words & Music: Graham Kendrick (b.1950)

Final Prayer – Michelle

God of our pilgrimage,
you have led us to the living water:
refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ
our Lord.
Amen.



Blessing – Michelle

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you.

May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.

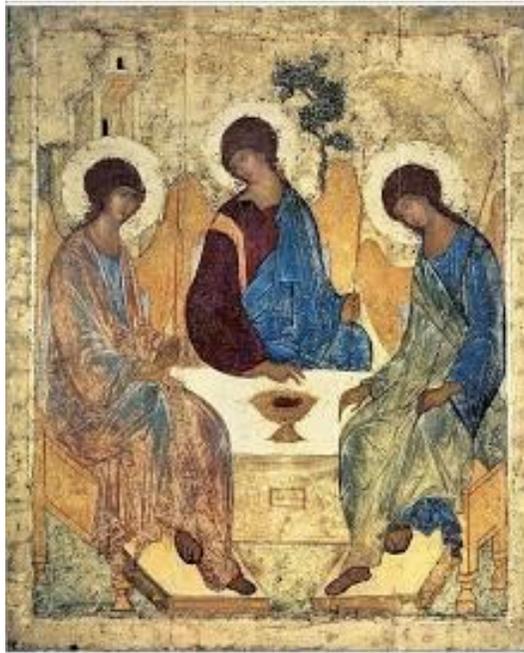
and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,

come down upon you this day, and remain with you always.

Amen





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