

# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, SPRINGFIELD

## 18th OCTOBER 2020 – LUKE THE EVANGELIST

[www.allsaintsspringfield.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsspringfield.org.uk)

[www.facebook.com/all-saints-church-springfield-134443059966603](https://www.facebook.com/all-saints-church-springfield-134443059966603)

in touch for OCTOBER is available in church and online

### TODAY

*Available from 8.00am*

#### **Holy Communion online**

<https://youtu.be/KYaIMfrpBtk>

president: The Rector  
preacher: The Rector  
readings: Isaiah 35:3-6  
Luke 10:1-11

#### **10.30am Morning Service in church**

*For those who have booked*

leaders: Keith & Pat Otter  
readings: Isaiah 35:3-6  
Luke 10:1-11

*Starting live at 4.00pm*

#### **Virtual Sunday Special Holy Communion**

People join the service as a Zoom video conference. If you would like to be 'invited' to future 'Virtual Sunday Specials', please email [vic.leverett@gmail.com](mailto:vic.leverett@gmail.com)

president: The Rector

### • THIS WEEK

We21 10.00am Holy Communion service in church  
11.00am Church open for personal prayer  
7.30pm Christianity Explored Course on zoom

#### **Su 25 Last Sunday after Trinity - Bible Sunday**

**From 8.00am Holy Communion online**

president: The Curate  
preacher: Robin Stevens

#### **10.30am Holy Communion in church**

president: The Rector  
preacher: Dave Gauld

#### **10.30am Virtual Sunday Special online**

leader: Roger McFarland

#### **For your prayers:**

*Those who are unwell:* Ron Smith, Jonathan Thompson, Nikki Mallett, Peggy Mann, Rosemary Tufnell, Lesley and John Mann, Roy Alexander, Gerald, Vic and Toni Lawrence, Doreen Cornish, Grahame Payne, William Bunby, Margaret Clay and Diane Hewes.

*From the Christians Together in Chelmsford Prayer Rota:* we pray for the Presbyterian Church, Old Moulsham, and the Revds Darren Moore and Steffen Jenkins.

**Now that Essex is 'Tier 2':** We are advised that there is only one small change required to the arrangements for services at All Saints'. We can now only sit people together at services if they are from the same household or from two 'linked' households – i.e. in a support bubble. We continue to take all reasonable measures to limit the risk of transmission of coronavirus, and to follow the required guidance and limitations as identified in our risk assessment.

**Here to help:** If you or someone you know would like a friendly phone call, help with shopping or collecting prescriptions, or advice on basic computer or email queries, please call 01245 263112 and we at All Saints' will do our best to help. For transport to medical appointments including flu vaccinations please call Springfield Good Neighbours 01245 267093.

**A good home needed:** A mobility scooter needs to find a 'good home'. Please contact Mr or Mrs Bell on 01245 347327 to find out more or to offer help.

**A reminder:** If you would like to donate to support the continuing work of the Church, please use BACS to make a payment to

SPRINGFIELD ALL SAINTS PCC,

Sort Code, 20-19-95,

Account No 00863572, with the reference 'Donation'.

If you're unable to use BACS please contact our treasurer – email: [treasurer@allsaintsspringfield.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@allsaintsspringfield.org.uk), tel: 264124

If you're in church, you can use your debit or credit card with our contactless card machine at the crossing.

For more information please see the church website [www.allsaintsspringfield.org.uk/what-we-do](http://www.allsaintsspringfield.org.uk/what-we-do).

Thank you for your support.

**The font:** The font was originally laid in this church 800 years ago. We can see from the records how many thousands of children and adults have been baptised here. The Bishop of Bradwell will join us at 10.30am on Sunday 1st November to preside at our Holy Communion service in which he will bless the font and baptise a candidate. We commit to our own baptism vows and to sustaining our faith even in these most challenging of times.

**For all activities in the church, please email [services@allsaintsspringfield.org.uk](mailto:services@allsaintsspringfield.org.uk) to book. If you have no Internet access, then phone the Rectory on 356720. You will need to let us have your name and phone number and the number of places you want to book. Please wear a face covering (not visor) in church.**

# Thoughts for St Luke's Day by the Rector

## Luke 10:1-11 – The Mission of the Seventy

The Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace to this house!" And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you." But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, "Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near."

Who do you know that are essential workers?

What happened at the height of the pandemic was that people in all walks of life as essential workers were getting on with the job. Some of their colleagues had no choice but to 'shield' due to age or health risks and yet many stepped up in big and small ways to respond to our needs to be served in the crisis.

Religious workers were even identified as essential – sadly because at that time I think the government realised that we were needed to care for the dying and the bereaved. With many colleagues shielding, Simon and I helped staff the rota at the Crematorium. Keith and Pat did all the coordination of it from the safety and comfort of their home.

Yet what is Jesus telling us about the kingdom of God in his instructions about the sending out of the 70? Jesus was sending them out before him to go and prepare the people for his arrival. I wonder if Jesus was planning to adjust where he went based on early soundings from the 70.

Maybe Jesus would follow on to visit the towns and people that were more resistant or the more receptive ones that he could target his own message where the listeners had already been prepared. Either way the message they were to take was the same offer peace and tell people *The kingdom of God has come near to you*. Only when the offer of peace is rejected were the disciples told to leave even the dust of the town behind. Yet when the message of

peace is received, they are instructed to heal the sick.

The message from Jesus was to encourage his followers to heal the strangers they met. He called them to heal both the sick of body and of spirit.

We are all sick. Many still reeling from the shock of the first phase of the crisis and utterly sick of the unending sense of it. Yet I urge you to hear the message of Jesus to give thanks for those willing to put themselves out there amongst the risk to bring health and wellbeing to all those they serve.

Tragically some have died as a direct or indirect result of the virus. We have been deeply grieved by the death of essential workers in all walks of life who have put their own health and wellbeing on the line to help us during the national lockdown. NHS staff, care home staff, taxi drivers, bus workers. We cannot thank them enough for all they have given. Those who have struggled to work and those who have looked after their children in school so that the other essential workers can serve our immediate needs.

Remember too that we are the 70 nowadays. We go out in partnership with Jesus, to the places that he wants us to be, to prepare the ground for his message of love, forgiveness and peace. To spread healing of body and spirit move rapidly that the virus. If you need any encouragement to be an encourager today then listen to the follow up verse in Luke 10:17.