



The United Benefice of St Helen, Burghwallis and St Mary Magdalene, Campsall

21st June 2020

It was a delight to be able to open the churches for prayer this week and I feel it was much appreciated by those who came. It feels strange to have physical restrictions in church but the main message is that we are open and have never gone away and offer a welcome to stranger and friend alike.

This week we shall be open for
Private Prayer
at these times:
Campsall: Monday 22th June 2.00pm – 4.00pm
Burghwallis: Thursday 25th June

Today's Gospel reading speaks of Jesus preparing the apostles for difficult times ahead. Looking back, they will say to themselves, "He didn't tell us it was going to be easy!" I think that sometimes we yearn for times when life was a bit easier for the church. To a time when income wasn't a problem, when the church always seemed full. But the truth is that we didn't use those good times to strengthen the church as much as we should so it is left to us in this generation to strive even harder than before for God's Kingdom in this place.

Jesus' words are as challenging to us as they were to the apostles, but underpinning it all are words of comfort and encouragement. Jesus speaks about God's love and care for each one of us. He says, "Do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows." We must hold fast to this encouragement knowing that when we are separated as we are now, God cares for each one of us. Use the time of prayer either in church or at home to feel the closeness of God. Turn to him and know that his face is always turned towards you.

Fr Richard

*Consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in
Christ Jesus.*

Contacts

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