

## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT PRAYER MEETING 13 MAY 2020

*Anyone who is not yet on the Prayer Group WhatsApp group, please send me a WhatsApp message to 07715 905103 and I will include you in the group, where people are sharing uplifting prayers, videos etc.*

### We gave thanks:

- For the recovery of Katarina's family from coronavirus
- For all our everyday blessings – food, shelter, health.
- For last Friday VE day celebrations – the sense of community and joy
- For the life of Fr Douglas Perkins, former PPP at Holy Angels and Holy Family in the 90s
- For the provision of work in answer to prayer
- For the inspiration of isolated people's positive reaction to phone calls
- For the recovery of a Covid patient who was expected to die
- For God inspiring Jenny and Giles to offer a telephone healing ministry at the perfect time
- For the word last week about listening to Jesus

### Reflections on last Sunday's Gospel John 14:1-12

- "Believe in the evidence of this work" – what is this work and how can we do it. In the book "Going to Mass" by Fr Jim McManus he explains: "to do what Jesus did we must become the Eucharist we celebrate." In other words break ourselves open to live and love and serve others as Jesus did.
- All the bad habits we have allowed to develop in ourselves need to be broken: they have already been put to death by Jesus on the cross, and we overcome them in ourselves by uniting ourselves with his death and resurrection through the Eucharist.
- "I will take you to myself" We don't need to work so hard in our own strength, or to worry – it's comforting that we just need to trust and surrender to Jesus, the way the truth and the life, who will bring us to the Father.
- "I go to prepare a place for you" Jesus has prepared a special place for each one of us, and will come and take us to it – this is such a joyful and comforting thought.
- Just as we read that Philip and Thomas had a different relationship with Jesus, so each of us has a unique relationship with him.
- "There are many rooms in my Father's house" – we have a tendency of narrowing down who is or is not saved, but Jesus is saying that God is Father of all mankind and Jesus will (in some way we can't imagine) reconcile the whole world to God. We pray for the whole world, without making our own judgments.
- Jesus and the Father are one – this central truth need to be shared with the world, which does not believe that Jesus is God.
- "I will do whatever you ask in my name so the Father will be glorified in the Son" – when we have answered prayer, we need to glorify God.

### Intercessions. We prayed:

- That people from a wide range of denominations and faiths will put aside any personal prejudice against Catholics and follow Pope Francis's invitation to all faiths to pray against the virus on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>
- For all who have become unemployed or whose income is reduced or job threatened that God will provide for them and their families
- That we may be able to retain the good things that are coming out of this crisis: people becoming more caring; an appreciation of family and time; improvement in the environment etc.
- That more people will discover God and a real purpose in life as their lives are turned upside down

- For all those who are technologically isolated without access to phones, computers, zoom, streamed services etc. That the Lord will comfort them directly
- That the daily routine, especially for those who can't go out, rather than being boring, can be an opportunity to discover God living within us
- For all those who have lost loved ones
- For healing of many individuals we know who are currently suffering from coronavirus in hospitals and care homes, and for all others in this situation. Particularly Reuben, Christine, Catherine
- For all front line workers – not just NHS but all unsung heroes providing services, that God will keep them safe
- For all residents and staff at Woodlarks Care home for disabled adults, for their continued protection and the encouragement of all staff and comfort of the residents.
- That we all surrender to God's will, especially in those cases where our prayers don't appear to have been answered.
- That the missing man from Bentley will be found.
- For Valentina Dorsa who lost her mother Jenny recently

***And we thank God that 21 people were able to participate in our meeting this week***