

# St Patrick's Parish Bulletin



**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**  
**19<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

## Reading – Matthew Chapter 4 verses 1-11

### Address

Temptation is very much part of the human experience: Oscar Wilde famously said "*...I can withstand anything but temptation...*". For Christians especially it is a real struggle, and it is therefore something we need to pray about: Jesus teaches us "*...Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil...*".

So far, we have prayed "*...Heavenly Father...*", reminding us that God is God. What follows is a call to worship with the "*...hallowed be thy name...*", and a call to trust with "*...give us this day our daily bread...*". This is followed by a prayer for forgiveness, as we acknowledge our failure to worship and trust, and say "*...forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us...*". Jesus teaches us to pray "*...lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil...*". The words follow on from the prayer for forgiveness: it is almost a second part to it. However, the words also grow from the themes that we have picked out of the Lord's Prayer as a whole; themes of 'lordship', worship and trust. What does it mean when we pray "*...forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil...*"? The two lines fit neatly together: a call for forgiveness and an acknowledgement of wrongdoing, and then a prayer for a new life in the light of that forgiveness.

Last week we talked about the assurance of God's forgiveness so that we become a forgiven people. Now we have a prayer to live as a forgiven people, as new creations, living obedient lives and trusting in God. Friends, forgiveness and repentance go together. When we ask for God's forgiveness, we do so with the desire to live as forgiven people: to live for him and acknowledge that he is God and we are not. When we pray these two lines of the Lord's Prayer, we remind ourselves of that link, and seek to live in the spirit of it.

This way of life is the mark of a forgiven people, which builds themes of 'lordship', worship and trust. We see it in St Matthew, an account of Jesus' temptation in the desert, a cosmic battle between Satan and Jesus. The verses tell of temptation and trust. Jesus had been in the desert for forty days and must have been 'famished', and then temptation came. The Devil urged Jesus to doubt, tempting Him to turn stones into bread. Ultimately, this was a denial that God would provide His daily bread, a denial of trust in God. In response, Jesus said "*...it is written...*" and then He quoted Deuteronomy "*...man must not live only on bread...*". This was Moses' call to the Hebrews to trust God, to remember that it was God who provided and cared for them. Moses called the Hebrews to trust God, and in the face of temptation, Jesus trusted that God was God. Then the Devil took Jesus to the top of the temple and urged him to jump to prove that God would protect him. This was a

denial of God's promise in Psalm 91, an attempt to make God prove himself; ultimately a denial of trust in God. In response, Jesus repeated the words "*...it is written...*" going back to Deuteronomy "*...do not test the Lord your God...*". The words are a warning against a lack of trust, and they charge us to acknowledge the goodness of God. In the face of temptation, Jesus refused to turn away from God. Finally, the Devil took Jesus to a high place and showed him the kingdoms of the world and promised that if He would worship him all of them would accept Jesus as Lord and King. It was quite an offer: superficially, it looked like Jesus' mission would be completed. Of course, it would have been a betrayal: to worship Satan would have been a denial that God is God. It would have been a denial of "*...our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed by your name...*". For a third time, Jesus responded with "*...it is written...worship the Lord your God. He is the only one you should serve...*". Moses had warned the Hebrews not to turn away from God or replace him. In the face of temptation, Jesus refused to turn away, but trusted that God is God.

In this cosmic battle of temptation Jesus not only quotes verses which, in the face of temptation, call us to trust, but models that trust as well. Three times Jesus was tempted, and three times he responded by quoting the Bible and three times he trusted in God's word and God himself. Jesus modelled the trust that we look for when we pray "*...lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.*". This model is one of fulfilment of the prayer, so we live new lives in the light of being God's forgiven people, trusting that God is God. Of course, it is incredibly difficult: withstanding temptation is immensely hard, but Jesus calls us to deny ourselves and pick up our Cross to follow him. But He does so as one who knew what it was to be tempted. St Matthew tells us Jesus underwent our temptation and then drew comparisons with those faced by the Hebrews during the Exodus. It was an authentic experience of human temptation. So much so that in Hebrews we read "*...because he was tested by what he suffered, he can help those who are being tested...*" and "*...for we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who, in every respect, has been tested as we are, yet without sin...*". We do not worship a God who is aloof and distant from us, but one, who experienced our struggles and fought our battles. When we pray "*...lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil...*" we are praying to the one who knows our temptation from experience.

The words of prayer about temptation call us to repentance, to live as a forgiven people in obedience to God, our heavenly Father. They call us to place our trust in his word and rule, and in Jesus, who knows our struggles, so He will walk with us, as we try to live in the light of the truth that God is God, and we are not.

**Amen**



## Prayers

Blessed are you, Lord our God, for you have given us a world full of beauty and wonder and have created it in your image. Yet we have abused the world and marred your image. Lord, in your goodness, heal your world and restore us. Blessed are you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

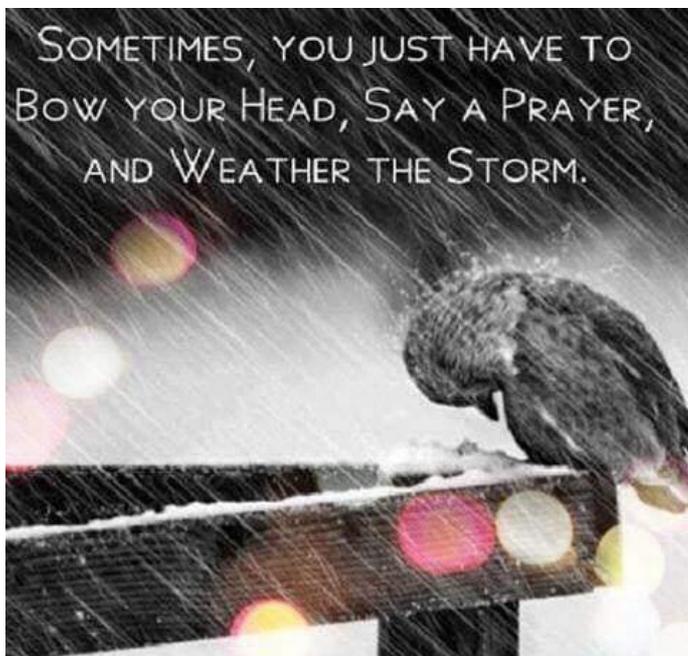
We give thanks that you have called us to work for you. Through your Spirit give us the gifts of wisdom and love in all our dealings. We ask your blessing upon the Church where it is working among the oppressed and rejected peoples of our world. Give your Church courage to stand against evil and work for the good of all.

We give you thanks for the balance and harmony of your creation. We pray for all who are working to stop pollution of land, sea and air; all who work to protect the species and the harvests of our world. We ask your blessing upon those who seek to care for the rain forests. We pray for all who strive for justice and for the social welfare of all people.

We give thanks for our loved ones and our homes and ask you to bless and protect us. We pray for all whose relationships have broken down, especially those full of anger or guilt. We remember those trapped in their homes though fear of COVID 19, and we ask that you would use us, your Church, to support and strengthen them.

We pray for the sick remembering particularly Freda, Jean, Katie, David, Helen, Kate, Eleanor, Derek and Desi. We also remember those who have been bereaved, be their pain recent or long ago, remembering the Sneddon, Black, Ramsey, Foster and Douglas families.

***Merciful Father, accept these our prayers for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen***





We are on **Facebook Premiere** through our Facebook page and on **Zoom at 11.30am**. If you would like to join us on Zoom please email the Rector on [revdrapcampbell@gmail.com](mailto:revdrapcampbell@gmail.com)

You can catch up on **YouTube**

[www.youtube.com/channel/UC6tcPjZbMe0muLYrskLvbbQ/videos](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6tcPjZbMe0muLYrskLvbbQ/videos)

Listen to the Service on the **telephone** after 1pm on Sunday on **028 2517 0014** (*calls are charged at local rate*)



And every **Monday** at 12 noon on **Facebook** for readings and prayers.



**If you would like to contribute, please contact the Rector.**

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Our new Midweek Talks, **Heroes of Incredible Faith** continue this Wednesday (22<sup>nd</sup> July) at 12noon looking at **Cyril & Methodius**.

The talks will continue with **P.T. Forsyth** (29<sup>th</sup> July).

Do join us on Facebook as we look back at what these great figures of the Christian faith can show us.



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**Sunday Club is online!**

Join in on **Zoom** at 10:30am on Sunday. For login details speak to the Sunday Club leaders or email Andrew at

[revdrapcampbell@gmail.com](mailto:revdrapcampbell@gmail.com)

**JustGiving™** is a way to financially support the ministry and mission of St Patrick's Broughshane as we share God's love with the community. Click the link on the Facebook page or Google Just Giving & search for:  
'St Patricks Church, Broughshane'

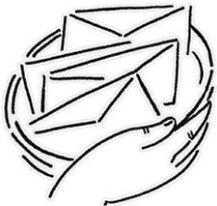


## Weekly Collections - Standing Order, Cheque or Envelopes?

Would you consider setting up a Standing Order instead of envelopes? If so, please contact Desi at [darmstrong56@outlook.com](mailto:darmstrong56@outlook.com) or the Rector at [revdrapcampbell@gmail.com](mailto:revdrapcampbell@gmail.com)



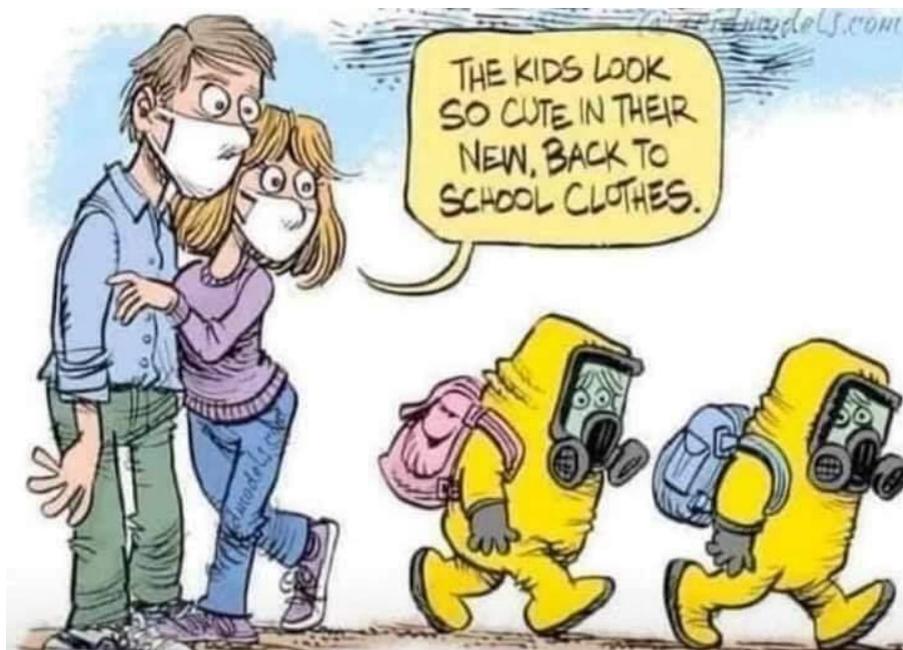
You could send your usual offerings by cheque.



Of course, you can continue to put your offerings in the Church envelopes and hand them in later.

## HELP

**Do you play a musical instrument and/or sing?**  
**We would love to enhance our morning worship with music but can only do this with your help.**  
**If you can help, please contact the Rector**

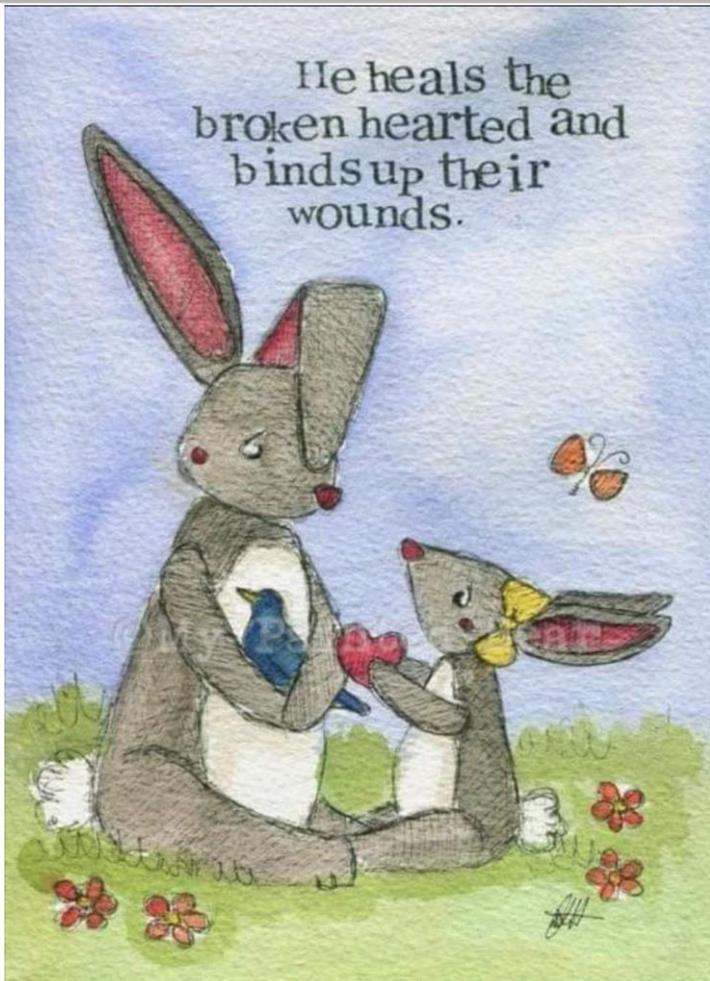


**Dear God,  
Be with my family  
and friends who are  
in quarantine. Cover  
the ones who are going  
to their jobs. Please,  
God, show an end to  
this storm and put Your  
peace in our heart.**

**Amen -Shelby Condo**



**Great Costume, Noah!**



And Lead us  
Not into Temptation

