

# **CUTTING EDGE CAMELOT, No 172**

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

**‘Virtually Church but with some way to go...’**

## **Welcome**

Today’s edition has a somewhat different format as we mark and remember the death of our Queen during this period of national mourning.

Following short comments on some scripture passages that we are using this Sunday I have drawn together some prayers and readings that seem appropriate for this time. You may wish to use some or all of these for the purposes of your own reflections and prayers.

## **Some Scripture Passages that we are using this Sunday**

*Psalm 121*

I lift up my eyes to the hills –

from where will my help come?

<sup>2</sup> My help comes from the LORD,

who made heaven and earth.

<sup>3</sup> He will not let your foot be moved;

he who keeps you will not slumber.

<sup>4</sup> He who keeps Israel

will neither slumber nor sleep.

<sup>5</sup> The LORD is your keeper;

the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

<sup>6</sup> The sun shall not strike you by day,

nor the moon by night.

<sup>7</sup> The LORD will keep you from all evil;  
he will keep your life.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in  
from this time on and forevermore.

*John 6: 35-40*

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. <sup>36</sup> But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. <sup>37</sup> Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; <sup>38</sup> for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. <sup>39</sup> And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. <sup>40</sup> This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day."

Psalm 121 is one of the psalms sung by pilgrims as they journeyed towards the Temple in Jerusalem in Old Testament times. As they did so they looked to the hills as an encouragement to seek God's help and protection in times of need.

What does death mean? Many of us will find that the Queen's death brings back to our minds our own past losses and bereavements. In this context the promise of eternal life proclaimed in John's gospel is a timely one. All that we need to do is to come to Christ and, as we do so, we are assured that we will never be driven away. For we are promised that all who believe in Christ will have eternal life and share in Christ's resurrection.

## Prayers and Readings

**God Knows by Minnie Louise Haskins (1875-1957). Quoted by King George VI on his 1939 Christmas Broadcast, at the suggestion of his daughter Elizabeth.**

“And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: “Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.” And he replied: “Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.” So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East. So heart be still: What need our little life Our human life to know, If God hath comprehension? In all the dizzy strife Of things both high and low, God hideth His intention. God knows. His will Is best. The stretch of years Which wind ahead, so dim To our imperfect vision, Are clear to God. Our fears Are premature; In Him, All time hath full provision. Then rest: until God moves to lift the veil From our impatient eyes, When, as the sweeter features Of Life’s stern face we hail, Fair beyond all surmise God’s thought around His creatures Our mind shall fill.

**From the Queen’s 21<sup>st</sup> birthday broadcast to the British Empire.**

I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong. But I shall not have strength to carry out this resolution alone unless you join in it with me, as I now invite you to do: I know that your support will be unfailingly given. God help me to make good my vow, and God bless all of you who are willing to share in it.

**From A Little Book of Private Devotions, read by the Queen in preparation for her coronation Quoted in, Her Majesty the Queen, Our Faithful Queen - 70 Years of Faith & Service**

‘All that has been good in my life and helped to build me into the Peace of God... But above all God has taken me into his peace and I praise him for his being what he is, for his goodness, his enabling power, the certainty of his unfailing love.’

**From the Queen’s Christmas Speech 2011**

Although we are capable of great acts of kindness, history teaches us that we sometimes need saving from ourselves - from our recklessness or our greed.

God sent into the world a unique person - neither a philosopher nor a general, important though they are, but a Saviour, with the power to forgive.

Forgiveness lies at the heart of the Christian faith. It can heal broken families, it can restore friendships and it can reconcile divided communities. It is in forgiveness that we feel the power of God’s love.

In the last verse of this beautiful carol, O Little Town Of Bethlehem, there’s a prayer:

O Holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us we pray.  
Cast out our sin  
and enter in.  
Be born in us today.

It is my prayer that on this Christmas day we might all find room in our lives for the message of the angels and for the love of God through Christ our Lord.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas.

### **A prayer for our late Queen**

O Lord our Heavenly Father, Almighty and Everlasting God, by whom kings reign and princes decree justice: We remember before thee our late Sovereign Lady QUEEN ELIZABETH, in thankfulness for the blessings which thou hast bestowed upon us by her reign; for the example she set of unwearied devotion to duty; for her steadfast courage; and for the love and loyalty borne to her by a great family of peoples in all parts of the world. And we beseech thee to give us grace that, having these thy mercies in remembrance, we may with one heart and one mind set forward the welfare of this land, and hasten the coming of thy kingdom of peace and goodwill among men; through Jesus Christ our Lord. All Amen.

### **A prayer for our new King**

Almighty God, whose kingdom is everlasting, and power infinite: Have mercy upon the whole Church; and so rule the heart of thy chosen servant Charles, our King and Governor, that he (knowing whose minister he is) may above all things seek thy honour and glory; and that we, and all his subjects (duly considering whose authority he hath) may faithfully serve, honour, and humbly obey him, in thee, and for thee, according to thy blessed Word and ordinance; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

## **Hymn**

One hymn often used on royal occasions is 'Praise my soul the king of heaven.'

## **Services today**

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September                      9.30 am Communion, Galhampton

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September                      9.30 am Communion, North Cheriton

Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	9.30 am Matins, Blackford
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	11 am Sunday Worship, Holton

## **Next week's services**

In the light of the period of national mourning the decision has been made to postpone the Harvest services planned for next Sunday and to replace them with special commemorative services. So the schedule now reads:-

Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	9.30 am Communion, Compton Pauncefoot
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	11.00 am Commemoration Service, North Cadbury
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	11.00 am Commemoration Service, Maperton
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	6.30 pm, Commemoration Service, Yarlinton

## **Excalibur**

Excalibur is back in paper form. It contains details of Camelot people, a record of baptisms, weddings and funerals undertaken through the church in the Camelot Parishes. The September edition of Excalibur has now been published online at [camelotparishes.co.uk](http://camelotparishes.co.uk).

## **The Parish Office**

If Rob is not in the Office during normal office hours please contact him via email ([office@camelotparishes.org.uk](mailto:office@camelotparishes.org.uk)) or on 01749 850934.

*Growing as a worshipper, a servant and a family*

*We pray that 'we might live in love,  
as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us'*

(Ephesians 5: 2)