

**Collective Worship while we are apart  
for the week of Sunday 7th June 2020**

*Even though we cannot be all together at the moment, we know that God is always with us, in his love. As you start to pray, please light a candle and remember how we light our Easter candle at the start of St Mary's School collective worship services in the church and the hall.*

*Today is Trinity Sunday, so you might also like to remember the Trinity candle we light when we hold St Mary's School collective worship in the hall.*

*Remember how it feels to know that God is with us even in times of worry. Remember that your friends and family might be doing the same thing at the same time. You are with them when you pray, and are held together in God's love.*

*One person says:* The Lord is here

***Another person replies:* The Spirit is with us**

**O Lord open our lips, our lips, our lips;  
O Lord open our lips,  
And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

*You might like to sing along to the version of this greeting that we have been singing at St Mary's School collective worship. It is to the tune of London Bridge is falling down. You can find some free music at <https://tinyurl.com/y8ly4evh>*

*Today's reading is* **Matthew 28.16-20**

The eleven disciples went to the hill in Galilee where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him, even though some of them doubted. Jesus drew near and said to them, "I have been given all

authority in heaven and on earth. Go, then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age.”

*Christians talk a lot about believing. In the Church of England we recite words of belief in every Sunday service and at many of our other services too. We call some of these special phrases ‘The Creed’, and that name comes from the Latin word that was used to begin this statement of belief in very old church services: ‘Credo’, which simply means ‘I believe’.*

*And so every Sunday and much more often than every Sunday I will recite ‘I believe in God the Father ... and in his Son Jesus Christ ... and in the Holy Spirit’. I will state that I believe in the Holy Trinity, in whose name lots of churches celebrate this coming Sunday.*

*Lewis Carroll, who happened to be an Anglican minister as well as a mathematician and children’s author, had his character Alice try to believe a lot. She tried to believe 6 impossible things before breakfast in ‘Alice Through the Looking Glass’. You can hear a free recording of ‘Alice Through the Looking Glass’ at <https://tinyurl.com/yaezohfu>, and watch out for the phrase. Alice may have tried to believe in the Jabberwocky, but that surely is a ridiculous and impossible task.*

*To believe in the Holy Trinity isn’t to believe in something impossible, however. It’s not even to believe in something daft or confusing—though when vicars try to explain the Holy Trinity they often make themselves look both daft and confused.*

*To believe in the Holy Trinity means believing that God is real. And that because God has reached out to humanity to show Himself to us as three persons, we can trust in each of these who are the same one God of love. When Christians talk about the Holy Trinity, that is our way of holding together our understanding that all our experiences of God have an authenticity far beyond our own efforts of believing.*

*It means that the God who created the universe, and revealed himself to Abraham, and rescued the Israelites from slavery is real.*

*And it means that the God who became one of us humans 2000 years ago as*

*Jesus, and healed the sick, and blessed the poor, is real.*

*And it means that the God who continues to inspire our worship and prayer, and is with us now, is real.*

*And it means that this same God is really revealing his realness each and every time and in each and every person by whom he has poured out his love for the world: As one God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, He has not put anyone else between these persons and the world. He has shown Himself to us, completely*

*That is why I can say*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

Let us pray:

God of love and hope, you made the world and care for all creation, but the world feels strange now. The news is full of stories about Coronavirus. Some people are ill. Some people are worried that they might get ill. Others are anxious for their family and friends. May your peace be with us all, and help us to be aware of your love. We pray for everyone who is ill. We pray for doctors and nurses and scientists, and everyone who is working to help those who are ill. Thank you that in these anxious times,

you are with us. Help us to put our trust in you. **Amen.**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

*You might like to sing **Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty.** You can find words and some free music at <https://tinyurl.com/ydedxd38>.*

*For each of you, Alec will be praying that*

The almighty and merciful Lord,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
will bless and keep you.

**Amen.**

God has blessed us : **God has blessed us.**

Go in peace : **Go in peace.**

Love and serve each other : **Love and serve each other.**

Everyday : **Everyday.**

*You might like to sing along to the version of this ending that we have been singing at St Mary's School collective worship. It is to the tune of Frere Jacques. You can find some free music at <https://tinyurl.com/mtosn7a>*

To explore more fun resources, please ask your parents or carers to follow us on Twitter, Instagram or Facebook **@Smaryeastbarnet** or view our new website [stmaryeastbarnet.org.uk](https://stmaryeastbarnet.org.uk)

For more information, or to join St Mary's **Sunday Club** for children which meets every Sunday at 11:30 on zoom, please ask your parents to contact the parish office: [administrator@stmaryeastbarnet.org](mailto:administrator@stmaryeastbarnet.org)

And if you require urgent care at any time, please ask them to contact the