Welcome to Sunday 22nd March 2020 Virtual Thought for Sunday type Morning worship from

Church of Our Saviour Chelmer Village.

This is Mother’s Day.

Sorry there is no normal Mothers day Service at Church of Our Saviour with the usual flowers etc. But in these strange times we are not having Church gatherings or Church Services.

I will do any Notices at the end.

Let us pray.
**A gathering prayer**

Jesus, light of the world,

shine your light into our hearts, that we may see

with your clarity, with your truth and with your compassion,

that no one’s worth may go unacknowledged,

and no one’s gifts go unused,

but that all, the first and the last, the least and the greatest,

may be one, as you are one, with the Father.

We pray in your name.

Amen.

**A prayer of Approach** :
Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples,
‘I am with you always’.
Be with me today, as I offer myself to you.
Hear my prayers for others and for myself,
and keep me in your care.

Amen

Prayer of Confession Together
Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbours and friends. In thought, word and deed,
Through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.

We are truly sorry,
and repent of Our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
Who died for us,
Forgive us all that is past,
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life,
To the glory of your name. Amen.

A good reading for Mothers Day 23rd Psalm.

Parents are usually good Shepherds. Many of you have or had Children.
In this passage God – the Lord our Father in heaven is modelling good parenthood.

Parents Mums especially herd their children all the time:

Ensuring they have enough to eat, getting them up in the morning and ensuring they get enough rest at night.

Making sure they eat, have a balanced diet and sensible drinks, with a few treats here and there that perhaps are not so healthy. Getting them out of the door in the morning for school in warm clothes, or cooler clothes depending on the season. Weather proofs done up, hat on etc, and leaving them at the school gate with a ‘try not to loose your gloves again’ message as you say good bye at the school gates. Getting them home for play, homework and ‘Me time’ to restore or focus their minds and souls. Stories and prayers before sleep.

Guiding them along the right paths can be a nightmare can’t it. Doing school work, getting homework done, getting them pay attention in class, come home with everything. If you’ve not got at least one of your Children that has a long list of appointments with teachers on parents evening , then you’ve got children that are too perfect.

Children take note – they are doing all of this for your own good – honest.

God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit is there for us as adults or children.

Prayers and some bible reading is how God talks to us, guides and restores our souls. Long convoluted prayers are not essential, brief – keep it simple prayers are ideal. That’s why Jesus gave us the Lords Prayer – which we will say in a moment. I often thing this psalm is an excellent prayer to calm and restore my soul, bring me some peace.

We are to be reassured that as we go through darkest valleys’ God is with us.

The country, the whole world is going through a dark valley at the moment. Be comforted in your faith that Prayer, the Word of God and being open to God’s wonderful power or Energy is going to be there for us. That’s not to say this next few months are going to be easy, things may not be perfect, we may go through some suffering of the disease, there may be some great sadness but as this passage says ‘I will fear no evil, for you are with me, your rod and your staff they comfort me. The Scientists, the medical people and the government have warned us some folk will die before their time.

Remember what verse 6 is telling us through this trial – Surely ‘Goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.’ That’ through this life and our life in glorious heaven.

Let us say the Lord Prayer together.

Lord’s Prayer (Together)
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

A prayer for those who are self isolated because of the Corona Virus:

God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Let us say the Grace together:

**Grace: Together**

May the Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ
The love of God
And the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
Go with us all, now and forever more.
Amen

A transcript of this service is available on the Church of Our Saviour website – in the same place you may have found this recording.

The only 2 Notice I have for you is that the Church building will be open on a daily basis for private prayer for everyone, whether you are the normal congregation or just a passing member of the community. This is the local Church for all of us.

The other is that the building is closed to groups and those wishing to hire at the moment too.
We are guided by the Church of England Arch Bishops and the government.

So For Prayer, keeping 2 meters or 6ft apart we will have our doors open every day from

Monday 23rd

Everyday: Morning 10.00 am to 11.00 am

Then again Evening 7pm to 8pm.

If you are self isolating, or because you are in a vulnerable group please do not feel obliged to come. Pray together at home.

Don’t forget you can contact Revd Mandy on 01245 287710. Or Church Officers on 07942 233615. Email hello@churchoos.org.uk