

**Readings for 21st March, The Fifth Sunday of Lent:**

*Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 5:5-10;  
John 12:20-33.*

**Collect:**

**Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection  
of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him  
who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power  
of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

**Next Sunday's readings, 28th March:**

**Palm Sunday:**

*Mark 11:1-11; Philippians 2:5-11;  
Mark 14:1 – 15:end.*

**Verse for the week**

*'Very truly, I tell you,  
unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth  
and dies, it remains just a single grain;  
but if it dies, it bears much fruit.'  
(John 12:24)*

**St Aidan's Verse for 2021**

*'My grace is sufficient for you,  
for my power is made perfect in weakness.'  
(2 Corinthians 12:9)*

**Two Vacancies at St Aidan's**

Keith Bevell will be stepping down from two roles at this year's APCM, as Treasurer, and Hall Bookings Secretary. If you are interested in finding out more about either of these roles, please speak to Keith or Gordon or one of the wardens. Thank-you.

**Right Reverend Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani** will become the **next Bishop of Chelmsford** on **19th April**, but will not move until the summer. In early September it is hoped to hold a public Welcome and Installation service for Bishop Guli in the Cathedral. Do pray for her as she prepares for the many challenges we face as a diocese.

**National Day of Reflection, 23<sup>rd</sup> March**, a year on from the beginning of the first lock-down. There will be a minute's silence at 12 noon to create a moment that shows support for the millions of people who've been bereaved.

A Prayer to use:

*God of Love, as we think about all that  
has changed this year,  
help us to trust that you are always  
with us.*

*As we remember those who have died,  
help us to trust they are at peace with  
you.*

*As we reach out to others with  
kindness and care, may hope shine out  
in every heart and home. Amen*

**In our intercessions, we are asked to remember those in need:**

Lucy and Katharine Watts, Julie Shute, Margaret Taylor, Tony Usher, Tony Mabbatt, Stuart Greenway, Callum Turner, Linda Chambers, Kim Herd, Elaine Turner, Lynee Wells, June Hipworth, John and Brenda Mangion, Violet Doyle, Dennis and Jean Pogose, Audrey Pegrum, Lee Jackson, Robert Saint, Anmarie Ayoub, Tammy Bartlett, Helen Bartlett, Muriel Hill, Lydia Petitt, Karen Kelidi, Alan and Eunice Walker, George and Hilda Pipes, Cara Japon, Christine Robinson, and all those affected by the coronavirus.

**and those whose anniversaries occur this week:** Marion Welch, Sue Hall.

**We also remember those living in residential care or who are housebound or shielding and less able to get to Church:** Joyce Rippin, Dennis and Jean Jones, John Jones, Betty Burton, Pat Welch, Margaret Brooks, Dot Bartlett, Joyce Edghill.

