

Church Without Walls

Issue 54 May 2nd 2021

Click here to join us on Sunday morning at 10.30 for All-Age worship



The Electoral Roll for 2021 will be published next week (Sunday 9th) so this is your last chance to check with Pat to make sure you are included. You will only be able to vote at the APCM on the 23rd if you are on it. This is when we elect our Churchwardens and PCC members, who are the Trustees of this church family, so it is important to ensure you are able to vote.



'...the "Sword of the Spirit" [the Bible], placed in the hands of the congregations, in their own tongue, will do more... than all our preaching, teaching and meetings of so many years put together'

– Samuel Ajayi Crowther

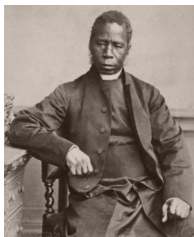
Dr Samuel Ajayi Crowther was the first African bishop in the Anglican Church and the first African Bible translator of the modern era.

At the age of 12, Ajayi was captured by Fulani slave traders from his home town in Nigeria. He was sold to Portuguese traders who put him on a ship.

This ship was then attacked by a British anti-slavery warship. Of the 189 enslaved people on board, 102 died in the attempt to rescue them, but Ajayi survived and was taken by the British navy to Freetown, Sierra Leone. Here he was placed in a CMS school, where he learnt English and was taught the Scriptures. Along with many others, he decided to follow Christ and, in 1825, was baptised. At that time it was common to take a new name at baptism. Indeed, missionaries were known to insist on it. It was at this point that Ajayi took the name Samuel Crowther after a CMS pioneer.

In 1889, the 80-year-old Crowther celebrated 25 years as bishop.

[You can read more of his story here](#)



A devastating second wave of coronavirus in India has seen hospitals and crematoriums overwhelmed and widespread shortages of oxygen and medicines. This situation is desperately in need of prayer - but how to pray? Here's a suggestion from Pete Greig:

Wondering how to pray about the Covid19 crisis in India? The scale of the tragedy is devastating and it's good that [#PrayForIndia](#) is trending. But how?



The framework I find helpful in these overwhelming situations, which isn't perfect but does provide 4 simple hooks on which to hang my prayers, is the 4xP's:

- 1. PEOPLE SUFFERING:** Those in hospital with Covid-19. Those sick at home. Those suddenly bereaved. *'Mourn with those who mourn'. (Rom.12:15)*
- 2. PHYSICIANS:** nurses and key workers labouring every waking moment under impossible conditions. *'He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.' (Is.40:29)*
- 3. POLITICIANS:** overseeing the roll-out of the vaccine, trying to support hospitals, businesses and hold the nation together. *'I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all those in authority'. (1 Tim 2:1-2)*
- 4. PASTORS & PRIESTS:** seeking to shepherd churches through this crisis, facing unprecedented challenges themselves but also with unprecedented opportunities to proclaim the hope of the gospel. *'The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers' (Luke 10:2)*



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HEARING • BECOMING • SERVING



We're looking forward to seeing you at this year's Summer Convention which will be held between the 17th July and the 6th August. Although we're all hopeful that restrictions will be easing,

we're also mindful that, due to Covid, it will be a different year than normal.

As usual there will not be a charge for the convention, but this year we are asking you to register, to give us an idea of numbers wishing to attend.

We are planning to hold Morning Bible Readings, Seminars, Keswick Lectures and Evening Celebrations.

To create the distanced seating, as a Covid safeguard, we plan to have a main venue supported by a small number of relay venues.

The Morning Bible Readings, Evening Celebrations, and Keswick Lectures will be livestreamed and available for catch-up afterwards. The seminars will be available for catch up.

We're holding a Families Together morning slot for children under the age of 11 and their families. This includes Bible teaching, songs, and activities around tables for families to enjoy. This will be in place of our usual Keswick4Kids morning programme.

[You can register to attend or find out more about the convention here](#)



This week please pray for the people living in Brixey Street

Safe Families are looking for a part-time Community Volunteer Manager



Facing life alone is hard, and when you feel there is no one there to support you it is a scary place to be.

Therefore, at Safe Families we exist to create relationship and connection, offering support, hope and belonging to improve the lives of those in our communities because everyone deserves to belong.

The position of Community Volunteer Manager offers a great opportunity to join the staff team in our fast-growing charity. This will be a demanding but also highly rewarding role offering the successful candidate the opportunity to make a real impact in the lives of isolated families.

Closing date for applications is Tuesday 4th May.

Interviews will be on the 13th May.

[More details can be found here](#)

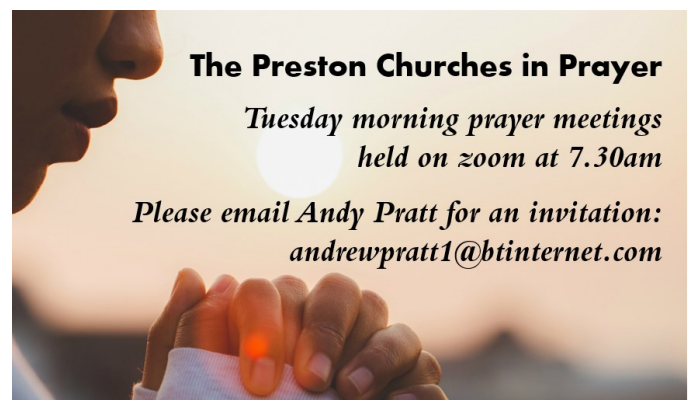
Thy Kingdom Come - 13th-23rd May

Thy Kingdom Come is all about praying for people to come to know the amazing, life-transforming love of Jesus. We encourage everyone to choose 5 people they know, and pray for them throughout the 11 days and beyond!



When you've chosen your 5, why not pray for one of them each time you have a cup of tea or coffee? Or whilst going for a walk? You could tie 5 knots in a cord around your wrist to remind you, or write names on a card and keep it with you.

Why not watch [this video](#) from The Rt Revd Dr John Sentamu as he encourages us to pray for 5.



The Preston Churches in Prayer

Tuesday morning prayer meetings held on zoom at 7.30am

Please email Andy Pratt for an invitation: andrewpratt1@btinternet.com

