

Parish of St Peter & St Paul  
Tonbridge

**Prayer card # 55**

A resource to share  
as we support one another  
and reimagine church  
without walls.

Scattered and gathered  
people of God.  
Each day we encourage you  
to read, reflect, pray and sing.

You are encouraged to pray  
for the ongoing process for  
the appointment of a new  
Vicar for this parish.



[www.tonbridge  
parishchurch.org.uk](http://www.tonbridgeparishchurch.org.uk)



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**Monday 17/5**

**Read:**

**Luke 13: 18-21**

**Reflect:**

We are in the period of *Thy Kingdom Come* between Ascension and Pentecost. This reading demonstrates how *the Kingdom grows*, often silently and from small beginnings. Reflect on the times you have seen this happening in the past year.

**Pray:**

Pray for the Kingdom to grow not only in our own hearts but in this town and beyond. And that we may be witnesses to sow small seeds with the potential to grow.

**Hymn/song:**

We plough the fields  
and scatter

**Tuesday 18/5**

**Read:**

**Luke 18: 15-17**

**Reflect:**

*The Kingdom is for the child-like.*  
How do these verses speak to you about how we should come to Jesus? What does receiving the Kingdom like a child really mean?

**Pray:**

Give thanks that we can come to Jesus just as we are. Take this opportunity to pray for families and for young children and for the work with them in this parish and town.

**Hymn/song:**

Jesus take me as I am

**Wednesday 19/5**

**Read:**

**Luke 12: 22-34**

**Reflect:**

*The Kingdom will provide.*  
Do you worry about things unnecessarily? If so, why not turn to this passage more often in the knowledge that God knows what we need and loves us.  
Read also 1 Peter 5:7.

**Pray:**

Pray for all those who are anxious at this time as we gradually emerge from lockdown. And grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change.

**Hymn/song:**

There are hundreds  
of sparrows

**Thursday 20/5**

**Read:**

**Luke 18: 18-30**

**Reflect:**

*The Kingdom is costly.*

Following Jesus comes at a price. Are there times when we, as Christians and citizens, put other things ahead of doing God's will and working for the furtherance of his kingdom?

**Pray:**

Pray that we will be willing to make the necessary sacrifices to focus on God as our priority and that this will also be the motive of all those in public life.

**Hymn/song:**

Just as I am, without one plea

**Friday 21/5**

**Read:**

**Luke 19: 11-27**

**Reflect:**

*The responsibility of the Kingdom.*

This story tells of the reward for work well done but that reward seems to simply be more work to do. Does this seem like a just reward?

**Pray:**

Pray that we will exercise, and use to God's glory, the gifts he has given to us. That gifts and talents will not be wasted and that, in this parish, we can work together well over the coming months.

**Hymn/song:**

All to Jesus I surrender

**Saturday 22/5**

**Read:**

**Luke 21: 29-36**

**Reflect:**

*The Kingdom is coming.*

Does this passage resonate given the events of the last year? Reflect on how individually, and collectively, as Christians, we can make ready for the second coming at a time unknown to us.

**Pray:**

Pray for the coming of God's kingdom throughout the world and that, today, his will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

**Hymn/song:**

Thy kingdom come, O God

**Collect for  
7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

