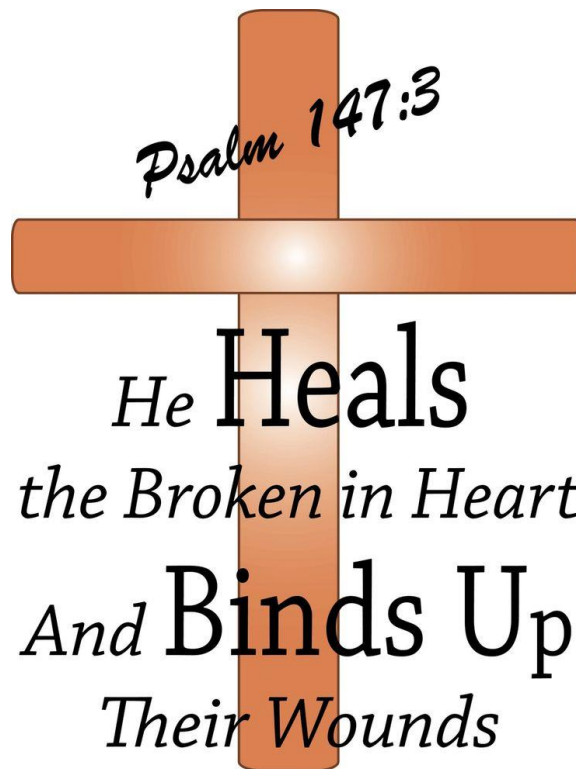


**St Bartholomew's Norbury**

**Parish Mission**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019**



**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

**Discovering Healing**

**Good evening everyone. Welcome to the first evening of our parish mission on healing.**

**Our opening hymn is: “Amazing Grace”**

### **Introduction:**

**Healing was an integral part of Christ’s ministry and was continued by the apostles as the Holy Spirit worked through them in the same way he worked in Christ. It is always Christ who heals and his healing involves the whole person. The fullness of life which Christ wishes for us is only possible if we accept ourselves as Christ made us and are convinced that we are precious in God’s sight. This is called healing of the self-image. It is the first step in healing our relationship with others through forgiveness. It is also the way to the healing of our memories through changing the way we remember the past. There is no question of a special technique; it is simply a matter of willingly and honestly bringing all our past hurts and resentments before Christ and asking him to heal them while giving us the power to forgive.**

**There are things that happen to us during our life which make it difficult for us to totally open our life to God. Tonight, we want to reflect on three areas of healing which God wants for us all. They are the healing of memories, the healing of relationships and spiritual healing.**

**Let us begin by joining in our mission prayer:**

### **Mission Prayer**

**Father pour out your Spirit upon us. Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your word, and a new consecration to your service, that your love may grow among us and your kingdom come. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Let us listen to the healing word of God.**

## **A reading from the Prophet Isaiah 57: 14-19**

**It shall be said: Open up, open up, clear the way,  
Remove all obstacles from the way of my people. For  
thus speaks the Most High, whose home is in eternity,  
whose name is holy. I live in a high and holy place, but  
I am also with the contrite and humbled spirit, to give  
the humbled spirit new life and to revive contrite  
hearts. I will not quarrel for ever nor be always angry.  
For then the spirit would give way before me, the  
very souls I have made. Angered by his wicked  
brutality, I hid my face and struck him in anger. Like a  
rebel he went the way of his choice but I have seen  
the way he went. But I will heal him and console him;  
I will comfort him to the full, both him and his  
afflicted fellow, bringing praise to his lips, Peace,  
peace to far and near, I will indeed heal him, says  
Yahweh.**

**The word of the Lord**