

**St Bartholomew's Norbury**

**Parish Mission**

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



**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

**Mercy of God**

Our opening hymn is: “God forgave my sins in Jesus’ name”

1) God forgave my sin in Jesus’ name. I’ve been born again in Jesus’ name.  
And in Jesus’ name I come to you to share his love as he told me to.

He said: ‘Freely, freely, you have received, freely, freely give. Go in my name, because you believe, others will know that I live.’

2) All pow’r is given in Jesus’ name in earth and heaven in Jesus’ name.  
And in Jesus’ name I come to you to share his pow’r as he told me to.

He said: ‘Freely, freely, you have received, freely, freely give. Go in my name, because you believe, others will know that I live.’

3) God gives us life in Jesus’ name he lives in us in Jesus’ name.  
And in Jesus’ name I come to you to share his peace as he told me to.

He said: ‘Freely, freely, you have received, freely, freely give. Go in my name, because you believe, others will know that I live.’

### **Introduction:**

Tonight, we are going to reflect on the wonder of God’s loving mercy. We have a God who cares and loves us and who sends his son to save us. John in his Gospel (3:16) reminds us “Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, not to condemn the world so that through him everyone might be saved.” Jesus not only preached this message but lived out of it through the way he dealt with sinners. His greatest joy is seeing sinners turn to him. He receives them with open arms. As he himself says “It is not those who are well who need the doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the virtuous to repentance but the sick.

Let us join 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. Amen.

## **Let us now listen to the word of God**

### **A reading from the Gospel according to Luke (Luke 15:1-3,11-32)**

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say:

Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.” So he left the place and went back to his father.

‘While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.” But the father said to his servants, “Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found.” And they began to celebrate.

‘Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. “Your brother has come” replied the servant “and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.” He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, “Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening.”

‘The father said, “My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.””

**The Gospel of the Lord**