



"BUT YOU ARE A CHOSEN PEOPLE, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, GOD'S SPECIAL POSSESSION..." – 1 PETER 2:9

...so declares Peter in today's passage capturing much of what we have covered in the series so far. We are a 'chosen people' saved by God's grace. We are a 'royal priesthood' living in a special relationship with God because of the good news of the Gospel. We are a 'holy nation,' a community of love reflecting God in all we do. We are God's special possession – He loves us! Hallelujah!

We look forward to hearing from Tim Geddes this morning as he speaks to us from this text and the surrounding verses. We'll also share in a time of communion around our 'family table' where we remember what Christ has done for us.

The pastoral team met yesterday to do some summer planning. We are excited to have arranged some special times of fellowship together as a church family in the coming months. We have a planned a walk, a family afternoon, and a church picnic throughout the summer months and will announce these in due course.

Starting next week Grace Church Brooklands will be meeting in our back hall for their weekly worship times on Sunday afternoons. We are pleased to be able to bless them with this and we continue to pray for them as we work together for the good of the Chruch in the Brooklands community. Please be in prayer for Pastor Dan Cook and his team.

Peace, Mick

READINGS AND PRAYERS WEEK COMMENCING 8 MAY 2023

DATE	BIBLE READING	PRAY FOR
Mon 8 May 2023	Luke 22:47-71	David and Christine Hoolihan
Tue 9 May 2023	Luke 23:1-25	Gladys Hoolihan
Wed 10 May 2023	Luke 23:26-56	Pauline and Peter Howells
Thu 11 May 2023	Luke 24:1–35	Tim and Alison Ingram
Fri 12 May 2023	Luke 24:36-53	Josh Jenkinson and wife Molly, and Miley, Jonah and Ezra
Sat 13 May 2023	Catch Up	Michael and Debbie Kane, and Mikey
Sun 14 May 2023	John 1:1-28	Eden Lai and Daisy Chen, Samson and Sammu

THIS WEEK'S TEXT - 1 PETER 2: 2-10

2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, 3 now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. 4 As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— 5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house[a] to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame."

7 Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone," 8 and, "A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

CHURCH CALENDAR

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sun 7 May 2023	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship with Tim Geddes
Tue 9 May 2023	10:00 AM	Digital Inclusion Group
Tue 9 May 2023	12:00 PM	Digital Drop In
Wed 10 May 2023	10:00 AM	Toddle-In
Wed 10 May 2023	10:30 AM	Prayer meeting on Zoom
Wed 10 May 2023	7:00 PM	Manchester Gospel Choir rehearsal
Thu 11 May 2023	11:00 AM	Community Café
Sun 14 May 2023	10:30 AM	Sunday Worship
DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sat 13 May 2023	9:30 AM	Prayer Breakfast
16-20 Aug 2023		Breakthru Holiday

CHURCH PRAYERS

- Continue to pray for Vera, Ingrid and the wider family following the death of John Packard.
- Continue to pray for Jean and Lucy following the death of David Hall.
- Pray for Gert's new grandson who was born premature. We praise God for continued improvement in this little one's life.
- Barbara Donnelly's brother, Barry is safely home from holiday after taking seriously ill. Pray for him as he continues to receive treatment.
- Pray for Sylvia Findlay following the death of her brother, Ron.

 The funeral took place this Wednesday and we continue to pray
 for Sylvia and the whole family.
- Pray for Anna Holme as she continues in her chemotherapy. Pray that she will remain well during the treatment and that it will work well to contain her cancer.
- Pray for Ava Marshall who is 6 years old and has leukaemia.
- Pray for Peter Howells as he continues to recover at home. He is due to go back for further meetings with the doctor. Please pray for his wife, Pauline, too.
- Pray for Ron and Jenny Hearne. Jenny is now in a care home and doing much better. She would very much welcome visitors – speak to pastor Mick, pastor Lucy or Margaret Webb if you would like to. Ron is due for surgery to repair a hernia on the 19th May. Please be in prayer for his recovery.
- Pray for Jean Walker's sister Barbara Edwards, in Germany.
 Barbara is finding it difficult to communicate after suffering from a stroke.
- Pray for Marie Vickers, a family member of David and Chris Hoolihan. Marie has underwent immunotherapy and is vulnerable to infection.
- And finally, give thanks for answered prayer. Claire Walker's friend Cheryl, was diagnosed with lung cancer. Doctors have removed a lung and Cheryl has been declared free from cancer. Cheryl would like to thank everyone who prayed for her.

CHURCH NEWS

YOUNG ADULTS SMALL GROUP

Our young adults small group takes place every other Thursday from 7:30pm. Next one is happening on 27th April. If you would like more information, please speak with Pastor Lauren or Tim Geddes.



BROOKLANDS YOUTH GROUP

Brooklands Youth Group met for the first time last Sunday. They have planned a program of events over the coming weeks and months. If you would like to know any more information please speak with Pastor Lauren.



COMPUTER SUPPORT SESSIONS

If you need help with computer related issues, you might want to join our computer support sessions, on Tuesdays from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. This is followed by a Digital Drop In from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. Talk to Margaret Webb if you would like to know more about this.



YOUNG ADULT WEEKEND

Left to right Tom Bolton, Tim Geddes, Pastor Lauren and Cameron Preece, who attended the recent Nazarene YA Weekend in Derbyshire, along with young people from other Nazarene churches in England and Wales.

