

Sunday 7 July 2019

Thinking of the mission of the 70 and the planning for the future work of our Parish, this is a prayerful meditation on the work of God. There won't be any responses until the end.

Lord, we are your **workmanship**. Heavenly Father, we thank you that you have made us, redeemed us and given us your Holy Spirit.

We are your **workforce**, the staff that you use to bring your kingdom increasingly on Earth. Lord Jesus, as you sent out the 70 to preach, to heal and bring others to yourself, so equip us individually and as part of your body, the Church, to minister to those around us. So, as it was promised through Isaiah "it shall be known that the hand of the Lord is with his servants"

As your workforce, we thank you for our **wages**, or rather, the salvation which we cannot earn, but which you give freely. We thank you for the life which you give so abundantly.

Lord, this place is our **workshop**, where we meet with you and are built up in your service. Here we meet with our **workmates** and we pray that we may learn increasingly to work together in your service. We thank you for the supervisors you have set over us, our Bishops, our Rector, Martin, our Readers Scott and Gillian and the members of the PCC. We pray for them as they work out the way forward in your service through prayer and discussion. May this church indeed be a people and a place where love **works**.

Richmondshire is our **workplace**, where we are called to make a difference, bringing your word to all and compassionate assistance for those in need. We thank you for the authority you have given us. Help us to be faithful in our work and witness and return to you with joyful reports.

Lord, you are also at **work** in the world. We pray for those you have called to work in the hard places of the world, where they face opposition from Islam and other faiths. Also for ourselves and others working in this country, where even offering to pray for someone may be regarded as an offence.

Lord, we know that we are a work in progress. We have confessed our sins and trust that you will help us not to repeat them, but put on the whole armour that will fit us for your **work**. May we not grow weary in doing what is right.

Lord, help us not to neglect our spiritual **workout**, our daily prayer and Bible study, that we may be daily renewed and be made more like our Saviour day by day. In this way we will be spiritually fit for the work to which you have called us.

We pray for those whose work is limited by age, frailty, disease and disability especially Adam Gedye, Eva and those listed in our pew sheet. Be with them and comfort them, heal them when it accords with your will and perhaps lead them into other forms of service. We pray, too, for those whose **work** is healing.

We pray for those whose **work** is done,
Laura Simpson and Alison Coutts

..... praying that they may have entered into the joy of their Lord and asking that you will comfort those who mourn their loss.

Merciful Father... *accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ*