

## **Daniel 6. 1-28**

Darius reorganized his kingdom. He appointed one hundred twenty governors to administer all the parts of his realm. Over them were three vice-regents, one of whom was Daniel. The governors reported to the vice-regents, who made sure that everything was in order for the king. But Daniel, brimming with spirit and intelligence, so completely outclassed the other vice-regents and governors that the king decided to put him in charge of the whole kingdom.

The vice-regents and governors got together to find some old scandal or skeleton in Daniel's life that they could use against him, but they couldn't dig up anything. He was totally trustworthy. They could find no evidence of negligence or misconduct. So they finally gave up and said, "We're never going to find anything against this Daniel unless we can cook up something religious."

The vice-regents and governors conspired together and then went to the king and said,

King Darius, live forever! We've convened your vice-regents, governors, and all your leading officials, and have agreed that the king should issue the following decree: For the next thirty days no one is to pray to any god or mortal except you, O king. Anyone who disobeys will be thrown into the lions' den. Issue this decree, O king, and make it unconditional, as if written in stone like all the laws of the Medes and the Persians."

King Darius signed the decree. When Daniel learned that the decree had been signed and posted, he continued to pray just as he had always done. His house had windows in the upstairs that opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he knelt there in prayer, thanking and praising his God.

The conspirators came and found him praying, asking God for help. They went straight to the king and reminded him of the royal decree that he had signed.

"Did you not sign a decree forbidding anyone to pray to any god or man except you for the next thirty days? And anyone caught doing it would be thrown into the lions' den?"

"Absolutely, written in stone, like all the laws of the Medes and Persians."

"Daniel, one of the Jewish exiles, ignores you, O king, and defies your decree. Three times a day he prays."

At this, the king was very upset and tried his best to get Daniel out of the fix he'd put him in. He worked at it the whole day long. But then the conspirators were back:

The king caved in and ordered Daniel brought and thrown into the lions' den. But he said to Daniel,

"Your God, to whom you are so loyal, is going to get you out of this."

A stone slab was placed over the opening of the den. The king sealed the cover with his signet ring and the signet rings of all his nobles, fixing Daniel's fate. The king then went back to his palace. He refused supper. He couldn't sleep. He spent the night fasting.

### ***The Gospel***

#### ***Matthew 6, 6-8***

But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do. For they think that they will be heard because of their many words.

Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

### ***The Collect for today***

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

***Olivia's Licencing*** Service will be held in Epping on Monday 18th June. We are hoping to arrange a coach from Rayne, Black Notley and Gt Notley for anyone who wishes to attend. Times and place of departure will be announced soon. Please add your names to the list at the back of church if you would like a seat on the coach. Thank you

### Rayne Coffee Spot

Meet Old Friends      Make New Friends  
Refreshments   Bring and Buy Stall   Scrabble   Hobbies  
Every Tuesday in The Old Schoolroom from 10-00am

#### Bible Study

The Bible Study group are taking short break, anyone interested in Study of Scripture please see Roman with any ideas of what subjects can be covered in future



**Next Sunday being Pentecost** we are holding a combined Benefice service at Great Notley starting at 10-30am. This is also Olivia's final Service with out Benefice so a good time to celebrate her time as Curate to Black Notley Rane and The Church at Great Notley. Please remember that parking is restricted so please share lifts if possible.

**Stop the Clock** - Guess the time the clock will stop and win £50. Buy a minute for £1.00. or take a sheet of minutes and sell to others. The clock is fully wound up and sealed in a box. It will be opened and the winner announced at the Harvest Supper. Money raised in aid of the refurbishment of All Saints Church. See Colin or Rachel for details

**Hand Made Craft Market** - Sunday 3rd June in The Old Schoolroom, 11-30- 2-30. Handmade Craft stalls tea, cake Preserves and much more. Entrance £1-00. All proceeds towards the refurbishment of All Saints. Details from Claire 07917871834.

**Sunday Fun Club** is looking for new leaders to re-launch in September. If you would like to help with this important part of our ministry here at All Saints please speak to Claire Scales for details.

**Braintree Food Bank** Please continue to support this very important part of our ministry in the community. Please see the **May** Shopping List at the back of church, Stocks are good but there are some specific items that are required. The food bank is extremely grateful for our continued support. *Thank You.*



Any items for inclusion in this news sheet to be handed to Colin Miles by Friday evening please, . **01376-801884** or [crmiles@sky.com](mailto:crmiles@sky.com)

## Weekly News Sheet

## The Parish Church of All Saints' Rayne

([www.allsaintsrayne.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsrayne.org.uk))

Sunday 13th May 2018

We extend a very warm welcome to our services today. We invite you to stay after the service for tea, coffee, squash and biscuits to continue to share in fellowship together.



Today Easter 7

**Christ is Risen!  
He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!!**

#### Today

**8-30am** Holy Communion (said)

**9-30am** All Age Family Worship

**3-00pm** Messy Church



**Wednesday 16th May 9-00am** Morning Prayer (said)

#### Sunday 20th May Pentecost

**10-30am** at The Church in Great Notley (lifts available)

Special Benefice Service for Pentecost and a Farewell to Olivia

**Wednesday 23rd May 9-00am** Morning Prayer (said)

#### Sunday 27th May

**9-30am** Morning Prayer

**Wednesday 30th May 9-00am** Morning Prayer (said)

#### Sunday 3rd June

**9-30am** Holy Communion

**Wednesday 6th June 9-00am** Morning Prayer (said)

#### Sunday 10th June

**8-30am** Holy Communion (said)

Rev'd Beth's details; The Rectory 265c London Road Braintree CM77 8PT  
Telephone; 01376-567971. Email; [bethbendry@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bethbendry@hotmail.co.uk)