

**'My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry' (James 1:19)**

'According to John Stott, 'Christian witnesses stand between the Word and the world, with the consequent obligation to listen to both.' Most of us already see the need to listen to God, but there's just as much obligation to listen to the world. To answer before hearing the question, waiting for the opportunity to make our point, is folly, and risks rendering the gospel irrelevant. When we listen to people, to their fears and longings, we're motivated to discern how best to share the good news of Christ in a way that offers meaningful responses. Not only does listening lead us to speak better words, but it also gives us the opportunity to meet God where we might not expect to find him. We listen to a neighbour and sense the Spirit moving in their life, or discover God's comforting presence in stories of pain and loss. Where might there be an opportunity to join in the work he's already started?

We listen **humbly** to learn from the wisdom of the world around us. We listen **prayerfully** with the help of the Spirit, to discern what's going on beneath the surface. And we listen **patiently** which takes time. As David Augsburg put it, 'Being heard is so close to being loved that, for the average person, they are almost indistinguishable.' So let's love our colleagues, friends, and family by asking wise questions: what are their hurts, hopes, and struggles, and how might the gospel meet their deepest needs?

Through listening, may you clearly present the much-needed riches of Christ on your frontline this week.'

**Matt Jolley, Culture & Discipleship – Research & Development, LICC**

**Contacts:**

**Church office:** closed at present

**Website:** [www.rydebaptist.xyz](http://www.rydebaptist.xyz)



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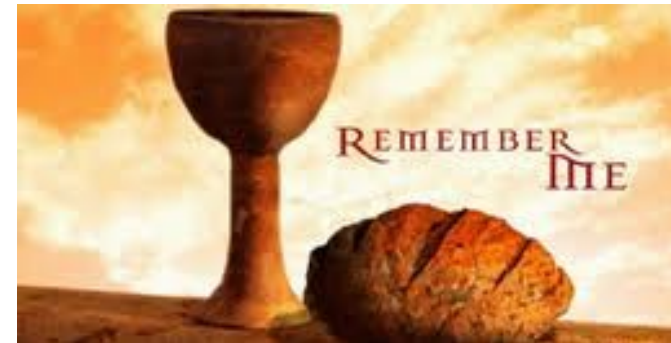
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All Deacons available by ☎ if needed.

**Please note!** Items for 7/52 should be given to **Sally** by **midnight THURSDAY** on 641305 or email: [ian.pratt5@btopenworld.com](mailto:ian.pratt5@btopenworld.com)

# 7/52 @ RBC

**9 May 2021**



**Prayers for Ryde** with our fellow believers in other Ryde churches at 7 pm tomorrow and every Monday.

Join in using the link at **Pray for Ryde – Continuing in Prayer**  
This is followed by our own prayer meeting using the usual link.

Check out our website at **www.rydebaptist.xyz** for general updates, sermon notes and suggestions for reading and study.



## **What's On**

### **Worship with Premier Radio**

**10 am Sunday** Worship at home

**6 pm** Sunday Live with Pam Rhodes, followed by Prayer of Hope with Churches Together at **7 pm**

**BBC2 1.15 pm** Songs of Praise



Recordings of all BU prayer broadcasts at **The Baptist Union of Great Britain : Prayer broadcasts.**

As coronavirus cases in India pass 20 million and oxygen shortages push the healthcare system to the brink of collapse, Indian church leader Bishop Joseph D'Souza, issues an urgent plea to Christians around the world at <https://www.premierchristianity.com/opinion/the-pain-is-overwhelming-as-indias-covid-crisis-deepens-we-need-christians-to-act/4327.article>

You can help by donating to Dignity Freedom Network here:

**DFN UK | Dignity and Freedom**

Listen to a wonderful new worship song from LICC 'We Seek Your Kingdom', encouraging Christians to 'Transform, revive, and heal society' through Christ :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Lp2mMpSa1E>

For the lyrics, click on the subtitles icon and they will come up on screen.



A well-known TV face speaks about his faith:

<https://www.premierchristianity.com/Past-Issues/2021/March-2021/Dan-Walker-My-Christian-faith-is-what-makes-me-tick>

## **VERY IMPORTANT! PLEASE READ IF YOU ARE A CHURCH MEMBER!**

Would **all members** who have keys to the GSC please contact Bill **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** if you haven't already with details of the keys that they have (TOP AND/OR BOTTOM LOCK, OR COMPLETE SET WITH FOB), so that he can bring the list of keyholders up to date. You can e-mail him at [Bill.Croydon@outlook.com](mailto:Bill.Croydon@outlook.com) or phone **01983 405067**. Thank you in advance.

*We are also still asking for **nominations for the diaconate**, preferably **BEFORE** the next church meeting which will probably be later in May. Please contact Sally asap if you want to nominate someone.*

Have you been watching 'Line of Duty'? Read this interesting article on the final episode of series 6:

<https://www.premierchristianity.com/line-of-duty-may-have-felt-underwhelming-but-its-commentary-on-the-nature-of-evil-was-spot-on/4328.article>

Another article from an former Chief Inspector, now church minister, on the flaws in us all: [https://](https://www.premierdigital.info/post/from-murder-to-ministry-reflecting-on-line-of-duty)

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If your preference is **C S Lewis**, you can listen to a series of podcasts by Prof Alister McGrath exploring C.S. Lewis's thought, theology and teaching. Go to <https://cslewis.podbean.com/> for the ongoing series.

*Thank you for all your continued financial support of the work of the Church, especially recent gifts. If you are able to give by standing order, **PLEASE** do so!*

**RBC Barclays current account number 20731102  
sort code 20—60— 55**

*If you usually give by cash or cheque, contact **Jim** on **810991** to arrange delivery or collection*

**We are currently running at a large deficit, due to the loss of letting fees for the GSC and the continuing need to pay utility bills and repay loans.**