



*Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 18:00*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As a summary,

**ALL** Formal Church Services are suspended.

The Church will be open on Sunday morning.

We will provide some simple service sheets that you may like to use at home, knowing that you are joining with others as they pray in their homes as part of the family of believers in Christ.

There will be a live streaming of a service from Exeter Cathedral with Bishop Jackie leading a reflection. Once available we will publish how to watch this.

One casualty is that Rev Stephen Yates' licensing, scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> March in Brixham, has had to be cancelled, although this does not mean he doesn't start in his new job!

Men's Breakfast and Girls Allowed are both cancelled

### **FAMILY NEWS**

It is with much sadness that I announce the death of Mary Langley, who for so many years has been an amazing saint at St Matthias.

Her funeral will, because of Covid 19, be a small, family service at the crematorium on Tuesday, and the family plan to celebrate Mary's life at a later date.

### **RESOURCES**

There are books at the back of church available to borrow – why not use some of this time to do some reading?

A 'Simple Acts of Worship' leaflet is available on the website or as a paper copy in the Church.

There are some very helpful on-line resources for you to consider on the Church of England website (search for "Church of England CoVid 19" and you will find links to a variety of resources.)

### **LENT COURSE**

Andrew Green has recorded part 2 of the Lent Course and you will find that on the web site (click on the '**sunday & weekday services**' tab, then '**Sermons**' on the left hand menu.)

### **TORBAY COMMUNITY LARDER**

They need our donations as much as ever, so please do continue to drop off any produce you can when the Church is open.

### **CONTACT DETAILS**

We are very aware that some people are not getting these updates, but we are trying to address this.

If you are aware of people who are NOT getting them and would like to then please ask them to email me ([revpaulbarton@gmail.com](mailto:revpaulbarton@gmail.com)) so I can try to get the list updated.

Likewise, if you know of folk who do not have access to email or the internet, please print a copy and give to them!

Please check on the website regularly to see what our latest update is.

### **VOLUNTEERS**

We are continuing to work on practical aspects of supporting one another, and are very grateful to those of you who have already offered to serve.

Please email the office ([admin@st-matthias-church.org](mailto:admin@st-matthias-church.org)) if you are willing to serve in any way.

We hope to keep the Church open during the week as usual, although this is dependent on members of the Church Family stepping forward to offer an hour or two to be there.

God of compassion,  
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.  
In their loneliness, be their consolation;  
in their anxiety, be their hope;  
in their darkness, be their light;  
through him who suffered alone on the cross,  
but reigns with you in glory, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Please keep an eye on the website or Facebook for updates.

<https://st-matthias-church.org/about-us/covid-19-corona-virus/>

Yours in Christ,

Paul Barton