

ST NICHOLAS CHURCH—SALTDEAN

Dear Friends

Even since I wrote to you last week things have changed dramatically, the nation has been asked to stay at home, as far as possible, for at least three weeks, as a result, we have been asked to close the churches. These dramatic changes in our everyday lives, mean that we will have to make an even greater effort to learn how to be the church in a different way. In our sermons, those of us with the responsibility of preaching the faith will often say that the church is not the building, we now have a chance opportunity to prove it. In the days and weeks to come our faith is going to have to be worked out in new and different ways, we cannot meet together, we cannot receive communion together, but we are still the church, the body of Christ. I am one of the 1.5 million people who due to illness have been asked to stay indoors for the next 12 weeks, I am going to have to learn how to be a priest in a new way. One of the great joys of the priesthood is to be with people at the most important (and the most difficult) times in their life, and because of my recent illness I cannot be with you physically for the next three months. I will, however, be praying for each of you, I will say mass and remember each of you in those services. I commend to you the service of spiritual communion which you will find in the booklet that was delivered last week. I will try to record each Eucharist, and as you watch please remember to accept The Lord Jesus in your heart even while you cannot receive him in your hands. Please contact me by phone 07545896146 or email frjim50@gmail.com with any prayer requests, with any spiritual or emotional problems, or just for a chat. We are still in Lent so there is still time to take something on! To better be in touch, now might be the time to set up that Facebook profile if you haven't already. If you have a smartphone download WhatsApp and let me know so I can add you to our group. If you don't do computers or phones, you'll get the pew sheets while we are still allowed on the streets. I am convinced that this crisis can bring us closer together as a worshipping community, and can bring us closer to God.

God Bless

Fr Jim

Morning Prayer Mon-Thu & Sat 9am (Live streamed on the Facebook page (facebook.com/StNicholasChur3/))

Evening Prayer Mon-Thu 5pm (Live streamed on the Facebook page (facebook.com/StNicholasChur3/))

Eucharist Mon-Thu 12:30 (Live streamed on the Facebook page (facebook.com/StNicholasChur3/))

Sunday 10:30 Eucharist (Live streamed on the Facebook page (facebook.com/StNicholasChur3/))

A Sermon for the Sunday service will be recorded and posted on the Facebook page and on the website.

Please send prayer requests to frjim50@gmail.com or 07545-896146.

Keeping in touch

We would like to keep in touch with all of you, please email me so I can add you to the email group.

If you have Facebook please like the St Nicholas page.

Keep an eye on the Website www.saltdeansaintnicholas.org.uk/

If you have a smartphone download WhatsApp and let me know so I can add you to the group.

We are all learning how to be church in these difficult times, be assured we are praying for you and if you need any support; spiritual, emotional or practical please let us know.

God bless

Fr Jim & Revd Kate

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