



St Peter's Church, Raunds

Newsletter No. 32
June 2020



I hope you are all keeping safe and well, and able to enjoy the good weather.

There is not much to report this month. Rev Jon and his team continue to be busy helping with shopping, prescriptions etc. More groups are meeting up virtually, such as Little Sunbeams. There are various church services available online so look at the website (www.4spires.org.uk) or contact Rev Jon. Holy Communion is on Sunday's at 10am on YouTube, and Priceless and Wednesday Worship are using Zoom. This month's Wednesday service included our own Benefice song, written by Simon. We had hoped to sing it at the Benefice Pentecost service but obviously that isn't happening. But join us on Wednesday June 10th at 7.30 to hear it then.

In the meantime, stay safe and keep the faith! Judy



Dear Friends

I hope you are keeping well and safe.

Just a reminder that we can meet together for a communion service on Sunday mornings at 10.00am via YouTube channel 4 Spires Benefice.

Other services are available Priceless (first Sunday of the month)

Stanwick All Age (third Sunday of the month) at 9.30am via Zoom. We are also holding our monthly Wednesday worship (second Wednesday of the month) 7pm via Zoom. If you would more details about the Zoom services let me know and I will let the appropriate people know, so that they can send you an invitation.

Please do keep an eye on our website and Facebook page as these also will have details.

I would also like to keep you informed about the tremendous effort that is going into supporting our community and each other, with chat, prayer, shopping, picking up medications and various other things, I can tell you now we are building some good relationships and people are most grateful. So, thank you. If you know anyone who is in any need, please let me know.

I would also like to update you on the current Regulations in the phased withdrawal from lockdown regarding our churches. The new regulations now allow us to webcast from our church buildings, but only the Rector and his household may enter the church building for this purpose. Public worship, baptisms, weddings and funerals in church are still prohibited. It will not be until a later phase that some limited format may be allowed, and some phases after that before anything like normality may return. As we are unable to connect to the internet in any of our churches, I will be continuing to webcast from the vicarage.

Can I also thank those of you who have been keeping an eye on myself and Wendy and for keeping us in your prayers, it is very much appreciated in these strange times.

As always in my love and prayers.

Rev Jon



Friday Club.

It's a long time since we met in person, and looks to be longer yet. Our June walk would be difficult for us to maintain social distancing, and car sharing (to get to a walk spot) is not a good idea at the moment. Likewise our July a talk in one of our homes is also doubtful. August should be our meal out, but again this depends on the situation at the time, things can change!

I will contact everyone when there is more news! Take care of yourselves,

With my love,

Pat S

Prayer Group

This continues to "meet" in spirit at least, on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7.30, so our next session will be on Tuesday May 26th , then Tuesday June 23rd. It is good to continue our prayers" together " and of course anyone can join with us. "When two or three are gathered....."

Stay safe everyone,

Pat S



Ginny Pledger— Child & Family Worker

This is a rather strange time that we are all living in but isn't it amazing the way that we all quite quickly adapt to change. We have slipped into a different new "normal"; whatever that means for you and your family.

I am continuing to work in the community. To date we have managed to serve 400 households across our Benefice. We take the phone calls in the morning for shopping and prescriptions then in the afternoon the errands are despatched to all the amazing volunteers. I am starting to get quite good at all the road names in Raunds. I will be like a human Google Maps by the time we come out of lockdown!! It is nice though (in a strange way) because we now have our regular customers who contact us, so we are all building up some great relationships with people that we probably would never have come into contact with in "normal" circumstances. That really is a blessing and something that we need to continue with once the pandemic is under control.

So until next month, stay safe and well.

Ginny Pledger

Child & Family Worker

4 Spires Benefice – Raunds, Hargrave, Ringstead & Stanwick

Raunds Community Café and Foodbank



Raunds Food Bank—May 2020

We continue to be overwhelmed with donations of food, from individuals in particular. Toni Wright at 18 North Street and the Vicarage Porch have proved successful collection points, as well as Raunds and Thrapston co-ops. We received a large donation of toiletries from Unilever and Easter eggs from Stanwick Club so we're able to make up further hampers for the care homes in Raunds and Stanwick. Financial donations have enabled us to supplement the food parcels with fresh produce - particularly potatoes, apples and eggs. We were also very fortunate in securing flour which went to those who baked. These products have been purchased in bulk and we then put into bags.

We are seeing more clients, in particular families with children and have been unable to access the school meals vouchers. We are very grateful to those people receiving the Government food parcels and giving us the items they don't need/want.

We are aware that some people feel too embarrassed to ask for help, or feel they won't qualify. If you know of anyone that is struggling please let us know, or ask them to phone, email or come to the Community Centre on a Thursday morning between 9.30 and 11.30. We can arrange delivery.



LOCKDOWN

Living with Lockdown

We will all have different experiences of this period. For me, the past month has been extremely busy and isolation has been easy to maintain. Calving, lambing and the good weather enabling fieldwork have coincided this year. I realise I am so blessed to be outside much of the time, even if it is often hard work.

My closest family live abroad but we have been able to keep in touch using Zoom, to all chat together (although the time differences can make it difficult). We have taken part in "pub quizzes", the teams coming from different parts of the world. My niece lives in Rome, one of the first places to be put in strict lockdown. She is a teacher and they were given a couple of days warning to set up remote teaching (all the pupils had school laptops). She lives in a flat with her partner who also works remotely from home. They only go out to walk the dog and for shopping in the local shops. They have a good social life (remotely) and remain positive despite the length of time. In Alberta, Canada the lockdown came early on with schools and public parks closed. Towns in the Rockies banned outsiders and ski resorts closed. My other daughter is a doctor in A and E in New Zealand. A strict lockdown was put in place early on with severe penalties for disregarding the rules. Those entering the country had to spend their 14 days in quarantine at a designated place, not at home. At the hospital all non-urgent surgery was cancelled, and the departments well set up for Covid and non Covid patients. This seems to have paid off as there have been very few deaths and hospital staff haven't been busy. In fact, the lockdown is being lifted slightly to allow domestic flights and some construction work.

Judy

And Finally

A poem about people self-isolating at home has been shared thousands of times on Facebook and Twitter in April 2020 alongside a claim that it was written in the 19th century and reprinted during the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic. The claim has since been proven to be untrue; the poem was first published online in March 2020 by a retired teacher in the US! So appropriate for these current times though.

In the Times of Pandemic

And the people stayed home.

And they read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still.

And they listened more deeply. Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some met their shadows. And the people began to think differently.

And the people healed.

And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.

And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed.

Catherine M. O'Meara

Future Newsletter Publications

To ensure you receive future copies promptly you can opt to receive yours by email.

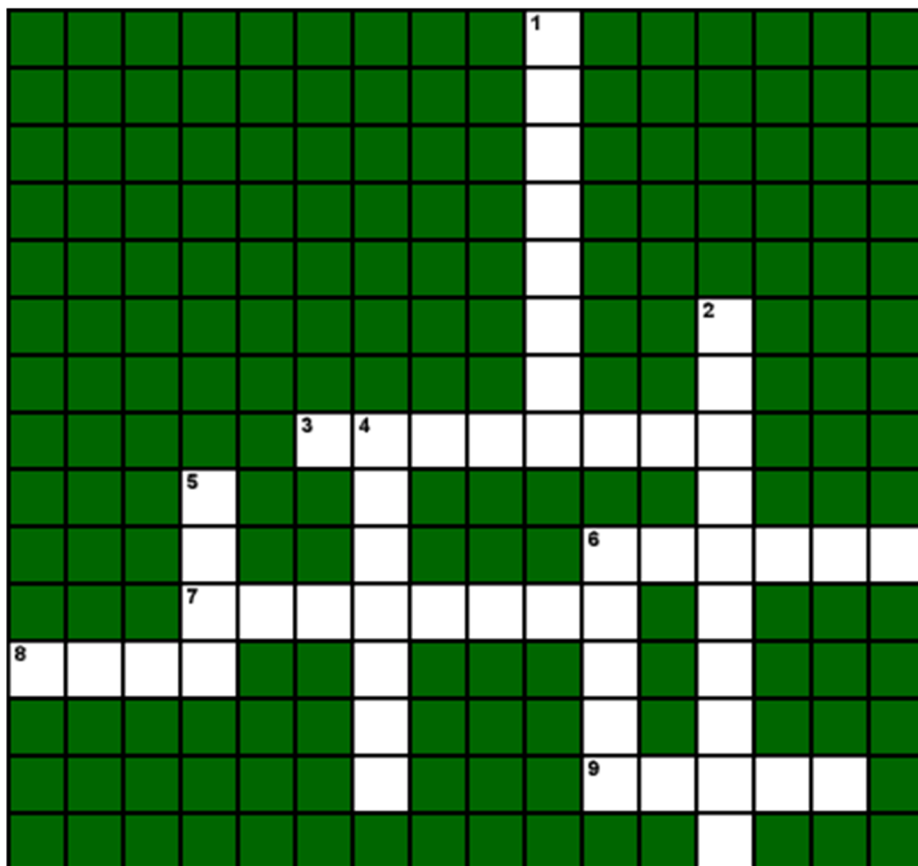
Simply register this preference along with your email address to:-
stephen_clements@btinternet.com

July Newsletter

Just a quick reminder that the closing date for the next issue is Sunday 21st June.

Purely For Fun

A quick crossword based on Mathew chapter 1 purely for fun. No prizes I'm afraid. Thanks to Jim Saxton. <https://www.bible-crosswords.co.uk/index.htm>



Across

3. What means "God with us"?
6. Who was Mary pledged to?
7. How many generations from Abraham to Jesus inclusive?(5-3)
8. Where did Joseph take Mary after he woke from his dream?
9. Jeconiah went into what?

Down

1. What relation was Amon to Hezekiah?
2. Mary was with child by polish I try!(4,6)
4. Who was the great grandfather of Jesus?
5. What did the angel tell Joseph to take Mary as?
6. Who was King David's father?