

Holy Trinity Church

To know Christ and make Him known



2nd April, 2020

Dear all,

I hope you are keeping well. We're still non-the-wiser about when this lock-down will be lifted. I look out of my study window each day at our church building and look forward to it being open again. Until then, we have to do the best we can in the midst of uncertainty. Sorry for the long letter, but I wanted to give you some updates on what's going on. See this as your Sunday notices!!!

The first thing I want to say is that we must keep encouraging each other. There is a real temptation, even amongst the most seasoned Christians, to drift. *"We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away."* Heb. 2:1. If you have the phone number (or email address) of members of church and you haven't been in touch with anyone yet, please do so. Please encourage each other with the Gospel and with our Christian fellowship. We do have a team from Church calling round some of our church family to make sure they are OK and to give some much needed conversation. If you would like to receive such a call please do let me know and I can arrange that.

The second thing for us is an update on what our services will look like for the foreseeable future. As we approach Easter it is so sad to think we won't be gathered for our Maundy Thursday meal, walk of witness, or Good Friday mediation and then sing of that glorious Easter morn together. However, we will make the most of the technology available to us. So here's what you can expect:

- this Sunday, Palm Sunday, will be a 'normal' online service, with a separate video for the children.
- Maundy Thursday - a short Bible Thought from that first Maundy Thursday.
- Good Friday - an online service with opportunities for reflection (a bit like a meditation service)
- Easter Sunday morning - an all-age style online service for everyone to join in with (no separate Fabian video that day!)

Do join us and, as I've said above, encourage others to join in via our website, facebook or YouTube.

Thirdly, we had our first Online Home Group on Monday. The technology works! So please do join us at 7:30pm to 8:30pm. We will keep it to 1 hour, with time at the beginning to just chat and catch up and then a short Bible study with prayer at the end. Do join us every Monday via this link <https://zoom.us/j/623240025>. You can use a computer, smartphone or tablet for this! Any questions please contact me.

On Thursday evenings we also have a online youth Bible Study aimed primarily at our teenagers and young adults. If you would be interested in joining that, or know someone that would be, please get in touch with Marjorie at marjorieb@holytrinitytheale.org.uk.

And finally, as we're not physically meeting at the moment, it does raise a significant challenge to meet our financial obligations (which haven't stopped though we're out of the building). As you know, it costs

over £1500 a week to run Holy Trinity, but we are nowhere near that amount at the moment. If you already give to the work of the gospel, but normally do it by cash or the envelope system, can I please encourage you to consider giving by the Parish Giving Scheme. More details of it are on our website <http://www.holytrinitytheale.org.uk/giving> and if you have any questions do email our treasurer, Steve Bridge treasurer@holytrinitytheale.org.uk who can help.

Yours in Christ,



Martin