

Second Sunday of Easter

19th April 2020

Notices:

Dear all,
at these times when Covid-19 is having a huge impact on our lives, the church continues to pray for you and provide pastoral support. The measures taken for the safety of everyone has led to new ways of praying and worshipping as a church family, but these same measures are also having a serious impact on our church finances.

We know how much pressure everyone is under just now and the financial pressures we all have, so we want to take an opportunity here to thank you for your continued financial support.

However, in order to ensure the future survival of our church in this parish, we would like to encourage those who normally give weekly by envelope, to set up standing orders instead. The bank account details to enable you to do this are:

Account name:

Parish of the Good Shepherd & St Barnabas

Sort code: 77-19-46

Account number: 00034309

Branch: TSB Longsight

A Standing Order can be cancelled at any time by yourself.

If you have any queries regarding this, please feel free to contact either:

Karen Bowers (Gift Aid officer)

karenbowers30@hotmail.com

Helen Kidd (Treasurer)

helenkidd36@yahoo.co.uk

You can also make direct donations to church by going to

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/resurrectionandstbarnabas/RL>

Why church isn't live streaming Holy Eucharist services?

When the church buildings were asked to close in the solidarity with the people forced to stay at home, I made a radical decision not to live stream the Holy Eucharist services via Facebook or YouTube from the Rectory.

The Eucharist is at the heart of our church's spiritual life; it is a point of encountering Christ, feeding and forming each one of us in the midst of all our daily lives. Yet at the same time, it isn't and never has been the only point of encountering Christ or God.

Since the lockdown I felt strongly that as your pastor, I journey the same unchosen wilderness like all of you. Like you, I miss celebrating the Eucharist together. Dear Easter people, I hope that this Eastertide could be our Emmaus Road journey (*Luke 24:13 -35*) when we encounter Christ Jesus afresh through our prayer life, reading of the Bible more deeply, and rediscovering who each one of us is called to be as a member of the Body of Christ in the world today and the time to come.

Lord, let our homes become places of prayer, study and devotion. And when we are able to come together at the Lord's table once again, we would be readier than ever to leave from it to love and serve you, our Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.

Rector: The Reverend Maria Onuigbo Mobile: 07526 035611

Email: revmariaonuigbo@outlook.com