



Abington Pastoral Letter No.31 2.10.2020

Dear Friends

Harvest Festival Sunday 4th October: Indoor Service

What a dramatic change of the weather. It appears that Sunday is going to be wet and cold. Even if we have a dray weather, the ground condition would be very difficult for us to hold an outdoor service. Unfortunately we are not going to have an outdoor service for this coming Sunday 4th October and instead we will gather inside the building with those who pre-booked their seats.

The service will be live-streamed on Youtube and Facebook as usual. Please note that when you attend the service in the church on Sunday, there is a chance (although low) that you may appear on the screen which is live-streamed.

I am hoping that we can share a special video from St. Christopher's with you during the service. I have been busy chasing people and recording them in St. Christopher's this morning to make a video. (I could do this because I get tested every week as a chaplain of the care home).

When you come to our Sunday service, **please dress warmly** as the doors of the church will stay open for ventilation and the heating won't be doing much.

Provision for children on 4 October

On this coming Sunday 4 October, Cathy and Alison are planning to lead worship for children and young people with activities. If the weather is okay and bearable then this will be in the churchyard. If you happen to be walking in the park, then you would be welcome to join this worship with your children and then continue with your walk. If the weather is not good then

this will happen in the choir vestry. This case, only the leaders and those who pre-booked can take part in this.

We are making other plans to welcome children, young people and families into worship in this new normal. They are the following.

All Hallows Eve(Halloween) Light Worship for Children and Young People

We are going to have All Hallows Eve(Halloween) Worship for Children and Young People on Saturday **31st October, in the Churchyard at 3.30 pm to 4.15 pm**. Children who come to this worship would be welcome to be dressed in a costume.

We will learn about what All Hallows Eve(Halloween) is about and why we celebrate it. There will be fun games and also an opportunity to deliver the light of Christ (in a electric tea light candle) to the graveyards in the churchyard. At the end of this service, the churchyard will be lit by lights.

The advertisement will come later to which you can respond to let us know that you are interested.

All Hallows Hunt in the Churchyard during the half term week

We are also preparing All Hallows Hunt which families can take part in with their children in the churchyard anytime **during the half term week from Mon 26th to Sat 31st October**. More details will follow in a separate advertisement.

Frank Knight's Committal

Our dear friend Frank Knight's Committal will be held at the County Crematorium on Tuesday 6th October at 2.45 pm.

This is going to be a very short service attended by a couple of the members of Frank's family. The service to celebrate the life of Frank will be held when John and Nancy will be able to travel from America to England and we do not have the date yet. However Frank's family said if there was anyone who wishes to be present for Frank's Committal on Tuesday then it is possible for them to attend.

If you would like to attend this brief service of committal then would you please let me know in

advance so that we can check how many might be in the chapel.

Thank you very much for all your prayers and comforting words for Frank and his family.

The Celebration of Life of Evelyn

The Church received Evelyn on Wednesday 30th September at 5 pm. The choir sang one of the Evelyn's favourite hymns, Loving Shepherd of Thy Sheep. We sprinkled the holy water as a sign of her baptism and faith. We put the Bible and the cross she carried as a sign of her trust in the Word of God and Christ. This service was followed by our Celebration of Life the next day at 11 am. Rhiannon sang Pie Jesu as she promised to Evelyn in this service. Thank you for all those who contributed to this service. Thanks to your help and generosity, we were able to give the service that Evelyn wanted. Rest in peace, Evelyn. And Rise in Glory!

With love in Christ

Jun