

c/o 21 Beverley Close

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26<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Friends

### **St Peter's Church Carlton Colville Update 3**

My apologies for leaving it so late in updating those of you not yet back, or online, with the latest news. My excuse is that I want to give you as much 'firm' news as possible, despite everything seemingly changing from day-to-day.

#### **Appointment**

You may well have heard by now. We are delighted to announce that Rev Sarah Quantrill has been appointed to Priest-in-Charge (for initial 3 years) for the Benefice of St Peter's Carlton Colville and St Andrew's Mutford. We look forward to welcoming Sarah and Mike to both Parishes in due course. Sarah's licensing service (and taking up that appointment from that date) will be 4:00pm on Advent Sunday (29<sup>th</sup> November) at St Peter's. As you will realise, this will have to be very different in these times from previous licensing services. Bob is busy with a 'cunning plan' to increase safe access and seating to the maximum 30 seats before that date, but it will nevertheless be restricted given those that MUST attend such a service have to be counted too.

#### **Church Opening**

We are open for worship every Sunday at 10:30am. As you will be aware this could change at any time with very short notice. As we see the Corona Virus rates start to increase again, it is still really necessary to ask you to book a place through Linda Filer if you wish to attend a service. We will endeavour to have some seating set aside for extra visitors but really, if you know that you should book then please do so. It really helps us keep our 'Track and Trace' commitment to the government up to date. We pray that we will never have to use it, of course.

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday's are being led by Rev Peter Baxandall as a Holy Communion. He asks that you bring your own provisions to this service. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday's are being led by me and I am generally following a pattern of 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday following 'Worship For All' (apologies for this misnomer of this service at this time) and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Green book 'Morning Prayer'.

#### **Online Services**

These are continuing. We have had to reduce it to 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays only. Reuben has started at Sir John Leman High School, so needs to be able to commit as much time to his learning now in these all important years.

#### **Future Services**

Harvest – We plan to mark Harvest in our service in church on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October, and online on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October. Any donations for the Lowestoft Foodbank can be brought to the service on 11<sup>th</sup> October.

Bible Society Bible Sunday – This will be Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October in church and marked online on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Remembrance Sunday – This will be Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November in church only.

Advent Sunday – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November, there will be no 10:30am service in church as we will be meeting at 4:00pm for Sarah's licensing.

### **Mission**

As you will appreciate this has been difficult to fully support as we have normally. We have already marked **Compassion** Sunday both in church and online. **Bible Society** Sunday is 25<sup>th</sup> October and we will also mark it online on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November.

We have had to make the hard decision that we cannot operate as a church collection centre for **Operation Christmas Child** this year. We would encourage you all to create a shoebox 'online' if you can. It costs £20 and details are here: <https://shoeboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/>. We would be more than happy to accept any monetary donation and we will do this for you, if you cannot.

**Children's Society** we have of course been unable to collect in any donation boxes. If yours is getting full then please do open it yourself and make your own donation to the Children's Society. It means of course that you may end up with a pile of small change that you then put back into the box but hey, we are called to serve our neighbours! Link here: <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/donate>

### **Safeguarding**

After many years of service as our Children and Young Persons Safeguarding officer, Elizabeth Jones retired from this post over the summer. We are glad to welcome Sharon Brown into this role as her replacement. If anyone has any leadership role in any of our many activities, then you will be required to undertake Safeguarding training. Likewise, ALL PCC members must undertake training. Bob, Sharon and Angie will be following this up but perhaps with everything on suspend at the time being, now might be a good time to be prepared ready for 're-opening' our activities. Bob remains our Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding officer. Details on Safeguarding training required can be found here: <https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/churches/safeguarding/training/>

### **...and finally**

This has been a long interregnum, lengthened of course by Coronavirus, of 19 months. Hopefully though when this pandemic is brought under control, we will all physically meet as a church of God once again unless of course Our Lord makes his glorious appearance before that date.

Grace, Mercy and Peace to each one of you.

Mark

Lay Chair to the PCC, and Reader