

ST DENYS
STANFORD IN THE VALE



Friday Fellowship News No 1 27 March 2020

WELCOME to this first edition of Friday Fellowship News. We hope that in these challenging weeks and months ahead, this weekly newsletter will help to keep us all up to date with church family news.

We also hope it will be a resource for us to Feed our Faith, not our fears, by providing resources and ideas for us throughout the week, to draw Deeper into God, Deeper into Fellowship (albeit differently) and as a church, deeper into our villages in service and love.

COMMUNICATION

In addition to FFN, we have divided the Electoral Roll between the members of our Church Leadership Team. In addition to my contact every month with all on the ER, you should receive at least one, if not two telephone calls from a member of the CLT. The aim is not only to ensure that there is contact between you and the church, but also to ensure that nothing falls through the gaps in terms of pastoral care, practical help, or specific prayer needs that you may have. But please feel free to contact me on 710267, or via vicar@stdenys.org I will be delighted to speak to you on the phone, or via Skype, FaceTime or Zoom.

DEVOTIONAL

Everything is changing! Our daily routines have changed. The economy is changing. The school schedule has changed. Changes, everywhere.

But what hasn't changed? God's love for us. The four most welcome words in the Bible are **God is for us**.

GOD is for us— the unchanging Creator is FOR us. His love for us is constant and unchanging.

He's not plotting to take us down. He wants to build us up. He hasn't turned away from us. He has turned toward us and is inviting us to run to him for peace and strength.

Among all the changes in this season, find comfort in this steadfast promise from Christ. *"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid"* (John 14:27). Turn to Him today.

I I am Prayer & PSALM 23

The Archbishops have encouraged every Christian to pause, every day, at I I am. To be still, and to say The



Lord's Prayer, and to read Psalm 23 so that we centre our lives every day on God.

CofE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sa Jer 11: 18-20, Ps 7: 1-10, John 7: 40-52

Su Rom 8: 6-11, John 11: 1-45

Mo Josh 2: 1-14, Ps 23, John 8: 1-11

Tu Num 21: 4-9, Ps 102: 1-23, John 8: 21-30

We Dan 3: 14-28, John 8: 31-42

Th Gen 17: 3-9, Ps 105: 4-9, John 8: 51-end

Fr Jer 20: 10-13, Ps 18: 1-6, John 10: 31-end

SUNDAY LIVESTREAMS

Last Sunday, many joined Bishop Steven's first Livestream from Oxford Cathedral. This Sunday it may well be just from his home, at 10am. The link is: <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19/livestream/>

You may also wish to join these two great churches, where I know the leadership well:-

St Aldates Church, Oxford:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vgyAvKxtSel&feature=youtu.be> or, **St Ebbs Church, Oxford:**
<https://stebbes.org/livestream/>

PRAYER RESOURCES

For home use, you may wish to take a look at:
<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer-resources>

PRAYER REQUESTS



Dan Smith – in hospital with Kidney issues. **Jean Dudley** – in hospital with Stomach issues. **Amanda Matthews Family** – self isolating. **Janet Causer** (in Lockdown in The Grange). If you have a prayer request to be added, please email: prayer@stdenys.org

DAILY PRAYER FOCUS

Sa - Prime Minister & Government

Su - Christians throughout the world

Mo - NHS Staff

Tu - Stanford20 Helpers

We - COOP Staff

Th - Primary School Staff

Fr - Residents & Staff at The Grange

EASTER TREE

With church buildings closed, we're considering how we might celebrate Easter Sunday in a new way this year.



In the meantime, we've invited village children to create an Easter Egg, and hang it on the tree just inside the main entrance to the churchyard from Church Green. But you don't have to be a child to make one! Why not create something personal, perhaps write a prayer on it, and hang yours up? More information regarding Easter Sunday to follow.

STAY UP TO DATE

Join St Denys Church **Facebook Group**. Many are using **ZOOM**. Just create an account, invite church members to join you at a set time and chat seeing faces on screen. For iPhone, iPad or Android device, head to your app store and download & install "Zoom cloud meetings". You can then enter the meeting ID sent to you by the 'host'. If on a PC, download from <https://zoom.us/download>.

GIVING & BANK DETAILS

As Christians, we'll still want to worship God through our offerings. Those who usually give via cash, **please consider**: a) Setting up a Standing Order, b) make a monthly Bank Transfer to St Denys account or, as a very last resort, put an envelope through the Vicarage letterbox, labelled 'Church Offering' and we'll arrange for two people to open, and bank. Our Bank a/c is: Stanford PCC St Denys Church, No: 00109758, Sort Code; 30.93.18. Cq payable to Stanford PCC St Denys Church.

With my love and prayers

Revd Paul Eddy, Vicar

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