



St Lawrence Jewry **April 2020 Newsletter**

*St Lawrence Jewry is the church on Guildhall Yard, dedicated to bringing
the light of Christ to the City of London.*

Dear Friends,

This year's Lent is overshadowed by the Covid-19 pandemic. Although Easter is just around the corner, which should all give us the sense of hope and freedom, we are still trapped within our own homes, self-isolating and social distancing. Infection and death rates are still on the up. Economies around the world is strained. The general feeling of helplessness and isolation is all around us. Who can we truly trust to help us in this global crisis? The government alone can't solve this. UK alone can't solve this. We need everyone around the world to do his/her part to resolve this pandemic. And we need to put our trust in our Lord to give us the gift of wisdom and understanding to find a solution that will benefit the whole world.

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIVUK)

Services / Events

The government is asking us to stay at home, protect the NHS and save lives. We have announced on Friday 20th March that we were suspending until further notice all our services and events to support this plea. The church was temporarily closed from Monday 23rd until further notice. Medical experts are now saying that social distancing might take up to 6 months to curve the infection of the Covid-19 virus. We're are sorry to announce that we already extending the cancellation of all our lunchtime recitals, including the Summer Music Festival, up to August even if the social distancing is lifted before that. This is to ensure the safety of all people involved in them, not only the performers, but also the volunteers and audiences. We will resume our weekly services as soon as the lockdown is lifted by the government. Please watch this space or in our website for further announcement.

Social Media

Despite the temporary church closure, we still want to keep in touch with our congregation. We have not really utilised social media in the past. We apologise for being behind in this aspect. But we are now happy to announce that we have set up our [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) account last week. Alongside our [Twitter](#) account, which was set up earlier, we plan to send out positive messages, announcements and my weekly mini-sermon through them. Please add them to your social media accounts, if you have any, so that we can keep in touch. Of course, you can still reach us through email or by phone 02076009478 if you need pastoral care or just need someone to chat to. Social media is all new to us so please be patient with us as we learn how to use them better.

Where to find help during the Corona Virus lockdown

The UK government website has a specific link <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> to help answer most queries about the lockdown, from what you can do and can't do, to help/support available for employers and employees.

If you have queries about Church of England, they also have a specific webpage link on Covid-19 virus <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches#na>.

You can also find some answers to your spiritual needs in the Diocese of London website <https://www.london.anglican.org/>.

There are also opportunities to help your community during this period. If you're in London, you can check opportunities through the Mayor of London <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/volunteering/coronavirus-covid-19-volunteering>.

The Lord Mayor of London has recently launched the [London Community Response Fund](#) through which to offer support to London's civil society groups affected by Covid-19.

The bible is also the best way to find help as we experience different feelings during this time of uncertainties. To find out more, please click [here](#).

Staffing

Our two hard working staff have been placed on furlough for the time being. This means that they will cease working but continue to be paid. Please direct all enquiries about the church direct to me for the time being.

Heavenly Humour



OGW
DM 03. 03. 2020



God bless you all.

Arnel and Katrina are on furlough so please contact me.

David Parrott

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