

FOR PRAYER

SICK AND SHUT-IN: Debbie Thornton / Alan Bartlett / John Payne / Olive Lane / Bryan Walker / Lizzy Strick / Wendy Trent / John Round-Turner / Mary Sharpe / Margaret Watson / Pamela Bowen / Sue Waugh / Cindie Lind / Lesley-Anne Dotchin / Margaret Symonds / Julie May / Marlene Jackaman / Jean Marsh / Marilyn Raw / Georgina Simpson / Rob King / Caroline Tea / Sybil Groves

DEPARTED: Mary Hunt, Victoria Howard-Vyse, Liz Hardy, Jean Marshall
ANNIVERSARIES: Please see list by ICON and in the magazine

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Anyone down your street shut-in and lonely due to Corona Virus
- Local business people economically hit by the current restrictions
- Stables in town, trying to plan for an uncertain spring and summer
- Wisdom in government regarding Corona Virus (COVID-19).

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER: Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters
we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever. Amen.

NOTICES

A pastoral letter to clergy from the archbishops of Canterbury and York.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Following the Prime Minister's announcement last night, it is imperative that for the health of the nation and in order for the National Health Service itself to manage the increase in those requiring medical help, the Church of England strictly observes the new guidelines on staying at home and only making journeys that are absolutely necessary, such as shopping for essential items and to take daily exercise.

Our church buildings must now be closed not only for public worship, but for private prayer as well and this includes the priest or lay person offering prayer in church on their own. A notice explaining this should be put on the church door (please find template attached). We must take a lead in showing our communities how we must behave in order to slow down the spread of the Coronavirus.

We must also do all that we can to provide resources and support for those who are isolated, fearful and vulnerable. But we have to do this from our homes. A number of national online resources (<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>) including weekly streamed services and daily audio, as well as additional worship provision on the BBC are there to help us, and more are on their way.

Please do all that you can to point people to this content. It is also imperative that as the Church of Jesus Christ, called to offer hope and light in the darkness of this world's ills, we maintain a praying presence for our community, though from today onwards this must happen from our hearts and from our homes.

Our Church buildings are closed but the Church must continue to support and encourage our communities making use of telephones and other forms of technology to keep in touch with people and ensure pastoral care is maintained, and as shepherds of Christ's flock we are committed to making this happen. In summary, these are the guidelines we must follow:

1. Our church buildings are closed for public worship and for private prayer.
2. Emergency baptisms can take place in hospital or at home, though subject to strict hygienic precautions and physical distancing as far as possible.
3. There can be no weddings in church buildings until further notice.
4. Funerals can only happen at the Crematorium or at the graveside. Only immediate family members can attend (if the crematorium allows) – that is, spouse or partner, parents and children, keeping their distance in the prescribed way.
5. Live streaming of services is more important than ever and is still permissible from homes. We encourage us all to consider how we can be as creative as possible with streaming services and other resources. There are many, many fantastic examples of churches and clergy using technology to reach and engage communities. Read more guidance here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/digital-labs/labs-learning-blog/beginners-guide-going-live-your-service-or> .
6. Foodbanks should continue where possible under strict guidelines and may have to move to be delivery points not places where people gather. If you can do consider making a financial contribution to your nearest foodbank.

These are unprecedented times. We are all having to get used to being the Church differently. It is not easy. However, our belonging to Christ has never been measured by the number of people in church on a Sunday morning (though we long for the day when this way of knowing Christ can return) but by the service we offer to others. Therefore, and despite these very harrowing restrictions, please do all that you can to minister to your people safely, especially to the sick, the vulnerable and the poor. With our thanks to you all for you are bearing at this extraordinary time. We know that God is with us and we pray with you that in the midst of all this pain and sorrow we can remain focussed on the One who gives us hope. JUSTIN CANTUAR; SENTAMU EBOR

Psalm 130

Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O LORD.

² Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.

³ If thou, LORD, shouldst mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?

⁴ But there is forgiveness with thee, that thou mayest be feared.

⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope.

⁶ My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning: I say, more than they that watch for the morning.

⁷ Let Israel hope in the LORD: for with the LORD there is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption.

⁸ And he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without
end. Amen.*

Welcome to the
Benefice of St Mary's Newmarket with St Agnes' Exning
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
Passion Sunday
29 March 2020

**THE CHURCHES WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE; ALL
CHURCH SERVICES ARE CANCELLED**

READINGS (SET FOR THE DAY)

9.45

Ezekiel 37.14

John 11.1-45

6.30

Lamentations 3.19-33

Matthew 20.17-end

COLLECT:

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus
Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

GIFTAID IT: *If you're a UK taxpayer, please think before you put cash in the collection plate. If you put it in one of the Gift aid envelopes (available in the pews), please remember to fill in your details and sign the envelope. The Chancellor of the Exchequer adds 20% to your gift. So a gift of £5, for example, becomes £ 6.00 at no extra cost to you. Every little helps. Thank you.*

