

22nd March 2020 – Mothering Sunday

Covid-19 Guidance update

In light of the Government guidance around non-essential contact, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued advice that public worship is suspended until further notice.

In their letter the Archbishops have written the following:

We have called, along with our fellow church leaders, for a day of prayer and action this coming Sunday - Mothering Sunday (22nd March). Mothering Sunday has always been both a day of celebration for many and a sensitive and emotional day for some. Wherever you are this Sunday please do join in this day of prayer and action and remember especially those who are sick or anxious, and all involved in our Health Service. As one action, we are calling on everyone to place a lighted candle in their window at 7.00 p.m. as a sign of solidarity and hope in the light of Christ that can never be extinguished.

We ask if you possibly can, to join in with this and here are some prayers to use as you place your candle.

<p>Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you. In this time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, for your name's sake. Amen.</p>	<p>God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness, be their light; through him who suffered alone on the cross, but reigns with you in glory, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.</p>
<p>For those who are ill Merciful God, we entrust to your tender care those who are ill or in pain, knowing that whenever danger threatens your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe. Comfort and heal them, and restore them to health and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.</p>	<p>For hospital staff and medical researchers Gracious God, give skill, sympathy and resilience to all who are caring for the sick, and your wisdom to those searching for a cure. Strengthen them with your Spirit, that through their work many will be restored to health; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.</p>

‡ **For all those who mourn** Especially Denise and her family as they mourn the death of her Mother & the family and friends of Hilary Hawkins who has recently died and also of those whose anniversary of death falls around this time.

News and notices...

Lent Reflections at Christchurch CANCELLED.

#LiveLent daily reflections. C of E Lent resource which can be downloaded here:
<https://www.churchofengland.org/livelent>

Saturday 21st March 10 – 12.30 Deanery Synod meeting at St James' Church, Bream has been cancelled.

Sunday 29th March – Sarah preaching at the Baptist Church is cancelled.

Sunday 19th April – The Good Shepherd congregation going to the Pisgah Chapel, Coalway is cancelled

PCC Elections at APCM – we will have a number of vacancies on the PCC so please consider whether you might like to join the PCC in one of the following rolls: Parish Warden, Treasurer, Local Wardens for St Peter's, All Saints Newland, St Saviour's Redbrook, St John's congregation, Deanery Synod Rep, 3 ordinary members/trustees, Electoral Roll officer. If you are interested in any of these posts please contact me directly for a particular form and I will send it by post or electronically.

Electoral Roll revision – For anyone who would like to be added to our electoral roll please email me or phone me and I will get a form out to you – this is just for new people not a completely new roll. Likewise, if you wish to be removed from the roll please let me know.

Sunday 26th April – Annual Parish Church Meeting. This will be postponed – we are awaiting guidance from the Diocese regarding this. There will obviously not be a lunch on this day now.

Sunday 28th June – Bea's ordination at Gloucester Cathedral. Bea needs to let the Cathedral know how many people will be coming from the Parish for this event. It starts at 10.15am so realistically people would need to be in Gloucester by 9.30ish. You can let me know if you would like to attend either by emailing me or phoning on the number below. If you would like to go but have difficulties with transport then please let me know – if there are enough of us we may hire a bus or we can car share. We need to know numbers by the end of March. Many thanks. Alison.

Birthdays: 23rd Terry Bovill StJ; 26th Jane Kidger StJ @ Pat Shuttleworth StS. Many Happy Returns and may God bless you this week and in the year to come!

Banns:

Regular Meetings:
All regular meetings and groups have been cancelled.

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