

Dear Friends

St Ann's & St Aldhelm's

Sadly the present circumstances have led us to make some important decisions regarding the life of our churches. The restrictions placed on gatherings, meetings and social interaction mean that Church services cannot take place at this time.

*Regrettably there will be NO Sunday services for the foreseeable future. Furthermore, Life Group gatherings and all other weekly meetings and services are either postponed or cancelled.

* The nature of the corona virus is such that we are unable to keep church buildings open at this time.

* St Aldhelm's Church Centre and St Ann's Schoolroom will also be closed from Wednesday morning 18th March until further notice. Group bookings are being cancelled.

* The Parish Office will be open for 2 hours each day: **from 9am to 11am**, to take enquiries and provide information for the wider community. **If you would like someone to talk to and/or need some help please don't hesitate to call me, Nick Clarke, on 07724139601 or Sara Sancto (Pastoral care Coordinator) who can be contacted by email: sarasancto23@gmail.com**

Please look at the Parish website for details of all the events that have had to be called off.

The Good News?

Church does not cease to exist. We are going to do all in our power to stay connected to one another.

* **Information & Worship:**A regular email bulletin will be sent out every two days which will include a reading, a short reflection and prayer. Cherry and I have recorded the first one which will be sent out shortly.

* If you have a facebook account you can join in worship through 'facebook live' presentations of Morning Prayer (9am) and Compline (9pm-Night Prayer) led by Matt our curate.

* Some people have found tuning in to BBC Radio 4 Act of Morning Worship very helpful. The link can be found here:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006wzfs>

* **Pastoral Care for the church community and for our neighbours:** We will be encouraged to look outwards even within the environment of social-distancing. To look out for our neighbour and offer to help in any way we can.

* Our pastoral care team will be meeting tomorrow (Wednesday) to organise and plan how we look after the needs of our church communities and beyond.

* **Giving:** To those who give offerings to the work of mission and ministry through cash or enveloped gifts on the plate, please can we encourage you to set aside your offering each week. Keep it safe whilst we look forward to the time when Sunday worship resumes. There are many in our congregation who give by standing order and through a system called 'Parish Giving Scheme'. If you would like the details of this I can send them to you. Please contact me teamrector@staldhelmstann.co.uk and I can send you details.

Staying Connected online and through social media:

Facebook:

Radipole District has a facebook page which will include announcements and updates on church activity. Click on this link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/radipolechurch>

There are Private Facebook Groups which allows you to share and be connected to friends and others who are part of the church community. They can be found on the following links:

St Ann's

https://www.facebook.com/groups/181007426442031/?source_id=103339831052278

St Aldhelm's

https://www.facebook.com/groups/314843451903526/?source_id=103339831052278

WhatsApp messaging service:

There is a Radipole District WhatsApp Group. You will need this link for your mobile phone. Copy this link below:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/GTP5c5Azl9zEXuk7AAeGnh> (Please just say hello when you join so we know who you are!)

Youtube channel

For our Readings, reflections and Prayer time you can watch and follow us on this YouTube Channel. This will include Morning Prayer and Night Time Compline (9am and 9pm). Click the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi7hN0B7pfn_h9STuKc_Q1g

Children and Families Ministry: Story Time at 6pm with Laura. This will start in the next couple of days. Laura and family will provide a short story each evening at 6pm which will be uploaded to the Youtube link listed above!

The situation is changing daily so if you access social media please be aware of messages coming through that channel and further emails for the updates.

The good news is that none of the above stop us from knowing that we are still joined together in Christ and that God is with us in all of this. None of these measures are a barrier

to him pouring out his Spirit on us nor to us worshipping him freely. So we'll continue to worship and pray with joy and hope.

"Let us consider how to spur each other on to acts of love and good deeds." Hebrews 10:24

With love in Christ

Nick Clarke
17 March 2020