



## St Helen's Church

Loving God, loving others, loving the world

# Notices for 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2020

### Revd Stewart writes -

Dear friends,

With Rev'd Mary having a well deserved rest I have the privilege of writing this letter to you.

The ups and downs, twists and turns of these strange times seem relentless. No sooner than we settle into a series of changes a new series of changes come and, well if you are like me you are left scratching your head and wondering what is going on.

We see the news and pictures of crowded beaches and partying football fans. Then we hear Leicester finds itself back under stricter lockdown conditions, a reminder that the virus is still out there and we need to be careful.

Which adds to the feeling of confusion and frustration in some areas of our communities. What we have seen is the Government announcements often come in bullet point form, but then when advice is given these 'bullet points' come with caveats.

I am very thankful for having a training incumbent like Mary who has led the line wisely and carefully, then there has been our PCCs and Worship leaders who have deliberated over many versions of risk assessments and took difficult decisions.

Then there are those who have helped in practical ways, preparing church, being present at the opening for private prayer and mending

kneelers and other behind the scenes work.

I guess this is partially behind the inspiration for the theme of the All Age service, as a celebration of the different gifts that we all have and the opportunities given to us by God to use them in this way.

We know that for many of you this is an terribly difficult time. Different people are in different places, but everyone is important.

The survey which was opened last week is important to try and gain an insight into how people are feeling and what their thinking is as we look to the future for our worshipping community.

If you have not participated in the survey so far, could I please ask you to consider sharing your thoughts with us.

This will be a help as we think and pray about the future.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/3C53PVJ>

In the meantime we continue to join together in our different ways. We have seen some new faces appearing on Prayer for the Day, which has been refreshing. Compline continues to be led live on facebook on Monday to Friday, with the readings published on this news sheet so that you can continue to pray compline on your own.

We all appreciate your prayers and support. Especially in these strange times of transition.

Finally, can I just give a reminder that God is not absent. We have been through some strange times, but we have never been abandoned. With God's grace we have adapted and continued to care for one-another practically and spiritually, upholding everything in prayer.

Let us, keep on keeping on.

Kindest regards

Stewart

**Readings for Weekend Compline** on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July:

- Saturday: Psalm 84, Job 32, Romans 14.1-12.
- Sunday: Psalm 56, 2 Samuel 7.18 - chapters end, Luke 18.31-19.10.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

**The sick, disabled or housebound:**

Pray for ...

- ◆ Tia Rose Brownlow
- ◆ Zoë Chidlow
- ◆ Val Dawson
- ◆ Margaret Stalker
- ◆ Carole Youles
- ...& others known to you

**The bereaved:**

Please pray for Elaine Shaw and her family, and anyone else known to you who is bereaved.

Please pray for all families for whom the funerals of their loved ones have taken place during this difficult time, including:

- ◆ Sheelagh Judge
- ◆ Roy Hodges
- ◆ Mykola Kuzyszyn
- ◆ Hazel Farmer
- ◆ David Robert Smith
- ◆ Dorothy Wragg
- ◆ Marie Bowman
- ◆ Bill Woodward
- ◆ Olive Pointon
- ◆ Sheila Wood
- ◆ Henry Tagg
- ◆ June Stapleton
- ◆ Judith Graves
- ◆ Ann Wheatley
- ◆ Albert Meakin
- ◆ Christopher McVickers
- ◆ Dennis Grainger
- ◆ Graham Howells
- ◆ Jane Wise
- ◆ Florence Hannah James
- ◆ David Garrett
- ◆ Lindsay Pointon

And for the families awaiting the funerals of loved ones.

**In love, we remember those whose anniversary of death falls at this time, and pray for their families and friends:**

- ◆ Margery Jinks
- ◆ Nellie Scattergood
- ◆ Terry Martin Miller
- ◆ John Edward Bale
- ◆ Gerald Ernest Samuel
- ◆ Donald Henry Cosway
- ◆ Linda Mary Tebay
- ◆ Mary Miller
- ◆ George Hines
- ◆ Gordon Charles Grimley

## NOTICES

### Free Dial-in Worship Phone Line

Just a reminder that there is a free national phone line, called Daily Hope, which is available 24 hours a day and offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. Simply ring it on **0800 804 8044**.

Please spread the news about this service, particularly to those you know who are not on-line.

### Giving

We have added a function to the St Helen's Church website whereby monetary giving is now possible. To do this go to the website <https://www.sthelensashby.net/> where you'll find 'Giving' is one of the options on the drop down menu on the 'Church Life' tab. John Backman has written about our church's approach to giving, and you can click on '[donation here](#)'

### Men's Breakfast

The next Men's Breakfast meeting is on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July at 9:00am by ZOOM. Wives and friends are invited. The speaker is Ivan Hallam whose talk is "It's War Time - Synchronise Your Watches!" For the meeting ID contact Geoff Richman by e-mail on [geoff.richman@btinternet.com](mailto:geoff.richman@btinternet.com) and he will send you the link.

The August meeting will be at 9:00am on Saturday 8th when Andrew Barson, who is the Local Area Coordinator (Public Health) Leicester County Council, will be giving a talk "Babies and Bath Water - Keeping the Positives from Periods of Crisis". Geoff would welcome any offers or suggestions for speakers for later this year or for 2021

### Contact Details

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### ◆ St Helen's Prayer Chain requests:

Judith Lewis on 01530 564204  
or email [jchjcl@gmail.com](mailto:jchjcl@gmail.com)

### ◆ Notice Sheet Prayer requests:

To Jill Chapman on 07725  
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