



## St Helen's Church

Loving God, loving others, loving the world

# Notices for 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2020

Dear Friends

It is inevitable, I think, that our worlds have shrunk during this pandemic. We've become aware, more sharply than ever before, perhaps, of our own mortality and we've acted, just as we've needed to do, for our own protection. However misguided, that was what the much-maligned stock-piling was about right at the beginning, I think: this visceral instinct to look after our own; to survive.

Even if we haven't stock-piled, this call to self-preservation has meant that we've all become more inward-looking. Mum and I have found that this has manifested itself in an avid interest in our meals: in what we're going to eat and when. Others have told me that interpersonal spats - which would be trivial in 'normal' times - have taken on a greater intensity, with all that spare time for licking of wounds. I'm not criticising us for this introspection - I think perhaps its inevitable in these times in which we live. Yet it's not first and foremost what we're called to as we follow Jesus Christ who looked, not to his own interests, but to the good of others.

The terrible tragedy in Beirut has shocked us out of this centring on the self, I think; it has blown wide open the defences we have built so carefully around ourselves and

demanded that we look at the suffering of others. There is a world beyond the little world you live in, the disaster has insisted; there are many more people beyond this small bubble in which you live.

What are we to do with such rediscovered awareness, I wonder? Some of us might be able to give to the Red Cross appeal for those who are enduring unimaginable trauma in Lebanon. For them, we can also stockpile prayers. Or perhaps we could adopt a spiritual discipline so that, having paid proper attention to how *we're* feeling, to *our* needs, we might also pray for others whose needs are like ours but are magnified, more intense. And perhaps, with some more free time on our hands than we would normally have, we could ask God to show us an issue where we could make a difference through practical action or by joining a campaign. Liz Smith and her friends have been a brilliant example to us in this, in their walk and run for those who are homeless.

Our worlds have shrunk just now, but there is still a great world beyond us, full of our brothers and sisters. Can we lift our eyes from our own circumstances, to them, little-by-little, more and more?

With much love

Mary

## Services in church

**To book** a place at a 4pm Evening Prayer service on Sundays, contact Jill Chapman on 07725 519453 or [sthelensashby@gmail.com](mailto:sthelensashby@gmail.com) by 6pm on Saturday. Please include your 'phone number for 'track & trace'

## Services on-line (a reminder)

◆ Every morning except Wednesday & Sunday

- Prayer for the Day posted on Facebook at around 8am.

◆ Every weekday evening except Wednesday

- Night Prayer streamed live on Facebook at 9pm.

◆ Every Wednesday

- a simple service of Communion streamed live on Facebook at 10am

◆ **Every Sunday**

- a simple service of Communion streamed live on Facebook at 10.30 am

- live-streaming of the Evening Prayer service taking place in the St Helen's Church building at 4pm

## The bereaved:

Please pray for anyone 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
- ◆ Joe Shaw
- ◆ Eileen Hammerton
- ◆ Bernard Newns
- ◆ Dora Garner
- ◆ Doris Joyoce
- ◆ Eileen Callaghan

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

- ◆ William Lynch
- ◆ Rose Hurd
- ◆ Joan Robins
- ◆ Walter Garratt
- ◆ Dorothy Margaret Day
- ◆ Roy Tillotson
- ◆ Mary Andrews King
- ◆ John Edwin Brown
- ◆ Elsie May Parkin
- ◆ Albert Leslie Thompson

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

### Wedding couples:

Please pray for those who have had change their 2020 wedding plans.

Please pray for those couples whose wedding banns will be read at our 4pm service:

- ◆ Maisie and Fred
- ◆ Sally and Lee
- ◆ Ben and Ria

### The sick, disabled or housebound:

Pray for ...

◆ Geoff Marston

◆ Margaret Stalker

...& others known to you

## NOTICES

### St Helen's August Magazine

This month's magazine is available on-line on the What's On page of our website, or click this link

[https://www.sthelensashby.net/Groups/339405/Parish\\_Magazine.aspx](https://www.sthelensashby.net/Groups/339405/Parish_Magazine.aspx)

There's an article and photographs of 'The Race to End Homelessness' fundraiser Elizabeth Smith organised. If you wish to donate still, it's not too late - the fundraising page is:

<https://racetoendhomelessness.everydayhero.com/uk/elizabeth-smith>

### Coleorton's August Newsletter

can be found at

<https://mailchi.mp/8d89956e104d/st-marys-parish-news-august-2020?e=26ade746dd>

### Foodbank

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the Foodbank.

Their latest appeal is for

- sponge puddings/cake bars,
- tinned custard,
- instant noodles/pasta,
- chocolate treats
- Shaving foam and razors
- Deodorant

Donations can be left in the porch at Holy Trinity, in the box outside the Congregational Church, and the Co-ops around Ashby.

### Facemasks in church

This weekend wearing facemasks goes from being advisory in church to being mandatory. Thanks to Carol Eyley we have a supply for anyone who arrives at the church building without a mask of their own, and which they can take away with them when they leave.

## Giving

Monetary giving is possible via our website

<https://www.sthelensashby.net/> The 'Giving' page is on the drop down menu on the 'Church Life' tab.

## Readings for Compline/Night

### Prayer on weekends in August:

- Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>: Ezekiel 36.16-36 OR James 5.7-end
- Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>: 1 Kings 11.41-12.20 OR Acts 14.8-20
- Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>: Song of Solomon 2.1-7 OR Acts 1.6-14
- Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>: 2 Kings 4.1-37 OR Acts 16.1-15
- Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup>: Proverbs 6.1-19 OR Mark 4.35-end
- Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>: 2 Kings 6.8-23 OR Acts 17.15-end
- Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>: Proverbs 12.10-end OR Mark 6.30-44
- Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>: 2 Kings 6.24-25; 7.3-end OR Acts 18.1-16

## Admin Annual Leave

The Parish Office is usually 'open' Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings. It will be closed due to Jill's Annual Leave August 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>. However, it will be 'open' Friday 14<sup>th</sup> and Friday 28<sup>th</sup>

## Anyone need an answerphone?

An update of the church office internet and telephone system means we now have a fairly new answer phone which needs a good home. Would anyone like to make us an offer?

◆ **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 519453  
or [sthelensashby@gmail.com](mailto:sthelensashby@gmail.com)

**Contact Details**

- ◆ Rev'd Canon Mary Gregory:  
[revmarygregory@aol.co.uk](mailto:revmarygregory@aol.co.uk)  
01530 564372
- ◆ Rev'd Stewart Betts:  
[stewart@flagstaff.org.uk](mailto:stewart@flagstaff.org.uk)  
07919 890094
- ◆ Parish Office: Jill Chapman  
[sthelensashby@gmail.com](mailto:sthelensashby@gmail.com)  
07725 519453
- ◆ Heritage:  
[sthelensheritage@gmail.com](mailto:sthelensheritage@gmail.com)  
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- ◆ Lettings:  
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- ◆ Buildings Team:  
[sthelensbuildings@gmail.com](mailto:sthelensbuildings@gmail.com)
- ◆ St Helen's website:  
<https://www.sthelensashby.net/>
- ◆ Flagstaff Team website:  
[www.flagstaff.org.uk](http://www.flagstaff.org.uk)
- ◆ Facebook:  
St Helen's Ashby de la Zouch
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[@sthelensashbv](https://twitter.com/sthelensashbv)