



St Helen's Church

Loving God, loving others, loving the world

Notices for 23rd August, 2020

Dear Friends

As things continue to ease a little, at least for now; it seems a good moment for reflection; an opportunity to decide, both as individuals and as a church what to pick up again, and what to leave behind.

One of the gifts of the pause Covid-19 has enforced on us is this opportunity to look at our life together afresh, to really see it, rather than just continuing with what we've always done because – well, we've always done it.

Specifically, I have four questions in mind that I'd like us to reflect on:

- what were we doing before Covid-19 that we'd like to pick up again?
- what were we doing before Covid-19 that we'd like to leave behind?
- what have we done during the pandemic that we'd like to continue once its threat is over?
- what have we done during the pandemic that we'd like to leave behind once we are back to 'normal'?

Pausing to reflect on these questions now will mean that when we are able to live less restricted lives, we can live intentionally, putting our energies to what we have seen is at the heart of our calling for us in the post-pandemic world.

I am hoping that each of the churches in our Flagstaff Family might use their Annual Meetings, scheduled for October, to reflect on these questions together. In preparation, why not talk to one another about them, pray to God about them?

In a powerful verse in Isaiah, God says to his people, who have been in exile, 'forget the former things, do not dwell on the past. See! I am doing a new thing' (43.18).

Covid-19 has been, to us, an exile of sorts. As we look towards our return to our homeland, what is God asking us to leave behind, and what new thing is he doing amongst us?

Let's use the gift of this time well to pause, to reflect, to hear God's new call to us.

With love,

Mary

WORSHIP This Sunday

We continue with our pattern of 4pm Evening Prayer. **If you would like to come along this Sunday, do email Mary at revmarygregory@aol.co.uk or call her on 01530 564372.**

If you haven't come along yet, why not give it a try?

Sunday 30th August

As this will be a 'fifth Sunday' we'll continue our usual pattern of worshipping together as Flagstaff Family of Churches. This service, which will be live-streamed to Facebook as usual, will be led by the Revd Tim Philips and the Revd Stewart Betts

PRAYER

The bereaved

Please pray for the family of Carole Youles, including especially Keith, Andy and Chris, and for her many friends and colleagues who will miss her terribly. Carole's funeral service will be in **St Helen's Church at 11.00am on Wednesday 2nd September.**

Because space in church is strictly limited to 30, the family would welcome any church friends who wish to do so to stand on the grassed area at the west end of the churchyard to pay their respects to Carole. If you would like to join in with this, please maintain a good social distance between yourself and others.

Please pray for the family and friends of Geoff Marston, especially his wife Kathleen, part of our Flagstaff Family.

The sick

Pray for those who are sick, disabled or housebound, including especially

- ◆ Margaret Stalker
- ◆ Martin Bust
- ◆ Eric Ebinger

& others known to you

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

- ◆ Ria and Ben
- ◆ Lorraine and Simon

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
- ◆ Christofer McVickers
- ◆ Dennis Grainger
- ◆ Graham Howells
- ◆ Jane Wise
- ◆ Florence Hannah James
- ◆ David Garrett
- ◆ Lindsay Pointon
- ◆ Joe Shaw
- ◆ Eileen Hammerton
- ◆ Bernard News
- ◆ Dora Garner
- ◆ Doris Joyoco
- ◆ Eileen Callaghan

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

- ◆ Francis John Clarence Westenra Plantagenet Hastings, 15th Earl of Huntingdon
- ◆ Raymond Saxelby Whitlock
- ◆ William Robert Roy Worrall
- ◆ Frank Spiby
- ◆ Brian Alfred Gardener
- ◆ Richard Henry Williams
- ◆ Brian Cotton

NOTICES

Christian Youth Online Kahoot Quiz

26 August, 7.30pm

The Bishop's Youth Council is organising a Kahoot Quiz night for young people aged 14-18. This is a great opportunity for young people from across the diocese to come together, play some games get a bit competitive. The evening will be run by young people from the Youth Council but will be supported adult volunteers who will help ensure the evening runs smoothly. To comply with safeguarding, parents/carers of young people will email our Youth Ministry Officer (mike.kelly@leccofe.org) for the link and password.

Facemasks in church

Wearing facemasks in church is 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 remaining weekends in August:

- Saturday 22nd: Proverbs 6.1-19 OR Mark 4.35-end
- Sunday 23rd: 2 Kings 6.8-23 OR Acts 17.15-end
- Saturday 29th: Proverbs 12.10-end OR Mark 6.30-44
- Sunday 30th: 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 19th to 27th. However, it will be 'open' Friday 28th

Rector Annual Leave

Mary is on annual leave from Wednesday 25th August to Sunday 30th August inclusive. For all queries, please contact Stewart.

STOP PRESS – Worship update

On Wednesday evening, St Helen's PCC joined the village PCCs in their decision to move to Phase 2 of our plan for returning to worship in our buildings.

There will be more detail on this in next week's pew sheet. In brief it will mean:

◆ 1st Sunday – 10.30am All-Age worship, streamed live from home; 4.00pm Holy Communion at Isley Walton

◆ 2nd Sunday – 10.30am Holy Communion, streamed live from St Helen's; 4.00pm Evening Prayer, streamed live from home.

◆ 3rd Sunday – 10.30am Holy Communion, streamed live from St Helen's; 4.00pm Holy Communion at Staunton Harold.

◆ 4th Sunday – 10.30am Holy Communion, streamed live from St Helen's; 4.00pm Holy Communion at Bredon on the Hill

◆ 5th Sunday – 10.30am Flagstaff Family Service of Holy Communion, streamed live from home.

◆ Wednesdays – 10.00am Holy Communion streamed live from St Helen's

We hope to start this pattern from the beginning of September. More details next week.....

Contact Details

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- ◆ Flagstaff Team website:
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- ◆ Facebook:
St Helen's Ashby de la Zouch
- ◆ Twitter:
@sthelensashby

◆ St Helen's Prayer Chain requests:

Judith Lewis on 01530 564204
or email jchjcl@gmail.com

◆ Notice Sheet Prayer requests:

To Jill Chapman on 07725
519453
or sthelensashby@gmail.com