

NEWSLETTER

**ALL PUBLIC ACTS OF WORSHIP ARE SUSPENDED WITHIN THE PARISH
BY ORDER OF THE ARCHBISHOPS OF CANTERBURY AND YORK
& OUR CHURCHES ARE SHUT TO THE PUBLIC UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

SUNDAY 17 MAY:

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

St John's

9.30am

The Parish Eucharist

– worship resources will be available online as the Vicar offers the Eucharist in church – A recording will be available at 9.30am on the Parish website.

10.00am

A Live Streaming of the Service at St Albans Abbey, the Mother Church of the Diocese, can be joined via <https://www.youtube.com/user/stalbanscathedral>

No public Services during the Week.

Wednesday

Do please make use of the Daily Prayer materials on the Website.

11.00am

Coffee Morning via Zoom – request link from the Vicar

ASCENSION DAY

Start of Thy Kingdom Come – 10 day Global Wave of Prayer

Thursday

8.15pm

Deanery Eucharist for The Ascension of our Lord

Deanery Service from Leverstock Green, with participation from Churches within our Deanery, can be joined via

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM_p_VqChxtLXIT4EezDLIQ

Friday

8.15pm

*Happy Hour Drinks via Zoom – request link from the Vicar
(moved from Thursday this week due to Ascension Day)*

SUNDAY 24 MAY:

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – SUNDAY AFTER THE ASCENSION

St John's

9.30am

The Parish Eucharist

– worship resources will be available online as Reverend Ruth Goatly offers the Eucharist in church – A recording will be available on the Parish website.

10.00am

A Live Streaming of the Service at St Albans Abbey, the Mother Church of the Diocese, can be joined via <https://www.youtube.com/user/stalbanscathedral>

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

all who are infected or affected by the Coronavirus pandemic:

our Hospitals and all health professionals
our Schools, shops, and other services
HM Government and advisors

for all who are infected and their families
for all who are self-isolating and anxious
for all where relationship are violent or broken

those who are ill: Lynsey Abbott, Jeremy Barton, Becky, Trevor Boyce, Catherine, Derek Cordery, Michele Finch, John Hutton, Beryl King, Leah, Baby Chloë Lear, Lizzie, Paul McCormick, Elizabeth McDonald, Vicky, Pauline Webb;

those with ongoing needs: Richard Berry, Sheila Charge, Val Darvill, Margaret Delph, Rev'd Ivor Dowse, Andrew Gunning, Margaret Gunning, Jean Hammond, Steve Hanwell, Jean Harries, Pam Hart, Tom Hood, Anne Hosier, Catherine Keppel, Nicholas King, Sheila Lewis, Brian Laidlaw, Samuel & James Lockyer, Rev'd Rex Merry, Ruth Merry, Steve Randall, Godfrey Rock, Marion Roff, Jean Stevens, Beryl Taylor, Jayne Taylor, Jim Taylor, Ken Warby, Christine Wilson, Rory Wilson, Mike Winch;

If you wish to be remembered at Morning and Evening Prayer only, please contact the Vicar.

those who have died recently:

Eleanor 'Lyn' Bevan *funeral: 22 May, attended by family only*
Len Taylor, Donald Bruce, Jenny Wade



and we pray for their families and friends.

Years mind 17 -23 May: Stanley Robinson (19.5.16), Michael Owen (19.5.15), Steven Price (20.5.19), Vincent Hazell (23.5.19),

Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead: Trustees of Churches Together

PARISH NOTICES

EASTER CROSS: Thank you to all who have been decorating the Cross outside St John's – transforming an instrument of death and pain into a symbol of life, joy, and colour. The cross is bringing hope to our community. Please continue to decorate the Cross with flowers or material throughout these 50 days of Easter, but only if you happen to walk that way on your daily exercise.

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE:

Following the Government's announcement last week, and the Church's own three-phased approach to returning to gathered Worship, it is highly unlikely we will all be back in our church buildings before July and Services return to something like normal before September. It is possible that the doors might be opened for Private Prayer before then, but we would need to put cleaning measures in place to enable this to happen. Until then the Vicar wishes to thank you for your continued witness, service, and care for each other and those in our community. Our buildings will remain closed but The Church is still alive and kicking and rejoicing in our risen and ascended Lord.

- The Eucharist will be celebrated and broadcast from St John's each Sunday. Worship resources remain available on our Website www.stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk/suspended-services-resources
- Please keep praying for our Key Workers, each other, and all those infected and affected by this horrible virus.
- Please keep phoning/writing to each other and helping where there is need.

HELPING VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE: After hearing about raised concerns during this time for people experiencing domestic abuse, Sue Brown set to and knitted blankets for babies to be donated to an appropriate project. Her neighbour, who is Assistant Manager of a Boots store, added bags of toiletries, collected through colleagues and customers. These together with some baby clothes knitted by Val Darvill's aunt, have been donated to South Hill Church, for their work among families experiencing domestic abuse. Thanks to all these creative and thoughtful people who saw a need and did something about it. Thanks also to Ross Gemmell, who collected and delivered them for us.



ASCENSION DAY: 21 May, 8.00pm To mark the Ascension of Jesus into the heavens, when Jesus returns to the Father 40 days after his mighty resurrection, you are invited to join worshippers across Hemel for a Deanery Eucharist. The Reverend Lizzie Hood will preside, our Vicar and Rural Dean will preach, and folks from across the deanery will contribute. The Service will be available via the link listed above and Orders of Service via our website. If you are without internet and would like a copy of the Order of Service please let the Vicar know and this will be arranged.

THY KINGDOM COME: Despite the difficulties of the Coronavirus Pandemic Christians around the world are encouraged, during the 10 days between Ascension and Pentecost (21-31 May), to pray that God's Kingdom may come and grow here on Earth. Accompanying this Newsletter is a Prayer Resource to help you to pray for the Church, our Community, and 5 people whom you would like to know and follow Jesus as he brings us to the Father. As we await a fresh outpouring of God's Holy Spirit let us pray that God may refresh and revive his Church, bless our community, and bring us to know him more fully. For more resources or prayer ideas please visit <https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/Thy-Kingdom-Come-2020-Beds-Herts.pdf>

WORSHIPPING WITHOUT THE INTERNET: There are some members of the congregation who struggle with the internet or don't have a computer. Hopefully you have been receiving the Order of Service for the Parish Eucharist from your buddies or another source. If you would like to join a service via the Phone, the Church of England has launched DAILY HOPE – a 24 hour free-phone line with a service, music, prayers etc. Call 0800 804 8044.

MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER: Many thanks to our PGS and Standing Order Planned Givers who have started, continued or increased their contributions in these difficult times and to our Envelope and other givers who have been

sending me cheques whilst cash on the Plate remains impossible. Banking is a little challenging currently but rest assured your cheques will clear and are much appreciated. Chris Angell.

ONLINE COFFEE-MORNING/ EVENING HAPPY HOUR: Our Online Social gatherings via Zoom seem to be going well. Everyone appears to be enjoying seeing each other. You would be most welcome to join these weekly gatherings.

Please email the Vicar if you are interested and he'll send you the link.

**Coffee Morning: Wednesdays at 11.00am Evening Happy Hour
this Week: Friday at 8.15pm**



FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS: During this time of social distancing some remedial work has been done at St John's. Rob Porter has repaired driveway; Job has started to remove the bushes on the south side of church to make a new rose bush garden; the benches are being taken away and repaired and painted in turn... but there is more that could be done outside, like: the iron gates at both the north and south boundary wall need stripping and repainting; the old main (north and south) doors to the church need stripping and re-varnishing. These jobs can be done in isolation and within the rules of isolation. The current weather is giving us the perfect conditions to do these jobs. If you would like to help please contact the Vicar /Job Rombout/ Lorraine Ioannou.

DENS SUPPORT: Thanks to all who continue to support the work DENS do in our community. Please see their website <https://www.dens.org.uk> for items they desperately need for the Food Bank. If you are able to donate, money or produce, they would be hugely grateful – their services are in need more than ever during lockdown.

PARISH MAGAZINE: Please would all distributors of the Magazine check with recipients on their round whether or not they are able to view the Magazine via the website and whether they would wish to receive it in hard-copy? If you are unable due to lack of contact details or you are isolating, please can you let Alan Munford or the Vicar know. Thank you.

MUSIC PERCENTAGE CLUB: Congratulations to the winners of the April Music Percentage Club draw: Jennie Whitefield 1st £15; Lorraine Ioannou 2nd £8; Sheila James 3rd £4. If you know of someone who would be interested in joining the Music Percentage Club and supporting Music at St John's in this way please contact Mark Harbour on 01582 841019.

NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL: You can receive a copy of this Newsletter every week by email. Send your email address to stjohnchurchnews@stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk and you will be added to the distribution list.

TEXT GIVING: Not everyone carries cash around with them. Not everyone is able to give regularly to the Church or via Direct Debit. But would giving via Text Message help? Please see details in the Pews or Text **PLATE 5** to give £5, or **PLATE 10** to give £10, to **70085**.

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