

NEWSLETTER

PUBLIC WORSHIP SUSPENDED IN THIS PARISH

ST JOHN'S OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

SUNDAY 31 JANUARY:

CANDLEMAS: THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

10.00am Virtual Parish Eucharist *Website*
Service is available to join at any time after 8.00am on the Parish Website

Daily

9.30-5.00 Church open for Private Prayer
The Vicar will say Morning and Evening Prayer privately

Tuesday

8.00pm Church Meeting: Fundraising Committee *Zoom*

Wednesday

NO Service of Holy Communion

11.00am Zoom Coffee Morning *Zoom*

Thursday

8.00pm Happy Hour *Zoom*

Saturday

1.00pm Wedding: Fr Ben & Liz Griffiths *Porstsea*

SUNDAY 7 FEBRUARY:

SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

10.00am Virtual Parish Eucharist *Website*
Service is available to join at any time after 8.00am on the Parish Website

OUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

all who are infected or affected by the Coronavirus pandemic:

our hospitals and all health professionals	for all who are infected and their families
our schools, shops, and other services	for all who are anxious or struggling financially
our vaccination centres and all who volunteer	for all who mourn loved ones

those who are ill: Lynsey Abbott, Becky, Catherine, Derek Cordery, Beryl King, Baby Chloë Lear, Lizzie, Paul McCormick, Elizabeth McDonald, Daphne Pullen, Baby Christopher Rhoden, Marion Roff, Stanley Rose, Alan Smith;

those with ongoing needs: Richard Berry, John Berry, Trevor Boyce, Val Darvill, Margaret Delph, Gill Dow, Rev'd Ivor Dowse, Michele Finch, Derek Frost, Josie Gower, Andrew Gunning, Margaret Gunning, John & Debby, Steve Hanwell, Jean Harries, Pam Hart, Anne Hosier, Ian, Catherine Keppel, Sheila Lewis, Brian Laidlaw, Samuel & James Lockyer, Rev'd Rex Merry, Ruth Merry, Steve Randall, Godfrey Rock, 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 and we pray for their families and friends.

Doreen Page funeral: 11 February at 12.30pm, West Herts Crematorium
 Phyllis Simons.

those whose Years mind is this week: 31 January – 6 February: Irene Dupen (3.2.17), Keith Tankard (3.2.16), Mary Willis (4.2.18),

Churches Together in Hemel Hempstead: Sunrise Church, Queens Square, Adeyfield.

PARISH NOTICES

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE:

- Public Worship within the Parish remains suspended.
- Case numbers remain high although they have dropped significantly in the last week
- National Lockdown requires us to *Stay at Home* other than for essential shopping or medical appointments, or for work reasons, or for daily exercise.
- St John's remains open for Private Prayer 9.30am-5.00pm every day (Saturdays 10.30am-5.00pm). Please follow the guidance in church regarding distancing. Prayer resources will be available. Our churches remain Covid-secure places and as safe as we can make them but gathering in large numbers is not advised at this time.
- Funerals can still be conducted in church.
- The Eucharist will be celebrated and broadcast from St John's each week and can be joined from 8.00am 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.

CANDLEMAS: This Sunday we celebrate Candlemas – the feast where we remember Simeon's words at Christ's Presentation in the Temple that he would be a 'light to lighten the nations'. Traditionally candles are blessed on this feast. When you join online, may I suggest you have a candle to hand for the service.

CANDLES: We have also been approached by the Chaplain to the Canal re helping those on the waterways in deep poverty by providing candles to help light/heat their homes. If you have any spare candles please let the Vicar know and we can make these available. Thank you in advance.

LENT: Plans are formulating for how we might be able to observe Lent this year. The Vicar will update you in his letter in the next week or two.

MAGAZINE: The February edition of the Magazine is now available. For those who do not have this delivered, a supply is available in St John's.

QUIZ NIGHT: Thank you to the 12 teams who joined the Quiz night last Saturday. Fun seemed to be had and grey cells were tested. Congratulations to Rosie and Cathy Shaw who emerged victorious.

ONLINE GIVING: Please continue to support the Mission and Ministry of the Parish through your weekly/monthly financial giving. With Public Worship suspended it is not possible to put envelopes/loose cash in the plate. Please either hold-on to you offering until we are able to resume Public Worship or consider making your offering by Direct Debit or online. This is now possible via our website www.stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk/donate For more information about Direct Debits please speak to the Vicar/Treasurer. We have also installed a card reader for contact card donations since cash/plate giving is trickier at the moment. Thank you for your generosity in funding the Mission of the Church.

VIRTUAL SOCIAL GATHERINGS:

- **HAPPY HOUR:** The next Happy Hour will be this Thursday - 4 February at 8.00pm on Zoom. All are welcome. For login details please contact the Vicar. Feel free to suggest a drink/theme for the evening.
- **COFFEE MORNING:** Every Wednesday at 11.00am on Zoom. All are welcome. For login details please contact the Vicar.

PARISH OFFICE: The office will be closed to the public until further notice. Hilary will be available via email and on the phone on Tuesday afternoons.

Parish Office: 01442 260299
Vicar: 01442 243258

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