



Open : Warm : Welcoming

The “Business is Un-usual” Newsletter : Issue 1. May 2020

The Vicar writes: Hello everyone and welcome to our new regular newsletter. We hope to send one of these out to everyone in the parish twice a month so we can keep in touch in these difficult times when we are all up and down, anxious and uncertain.

It has been good to hear positive feedback from parishioners online and offline about the resources we have already been able to share. It's good to know that people who can't access the internet are still praying with us as a community using the Easter season booklet that was sent out in Holy Week (please contact the office if you don't have this and would like one). It's also great to gather as an 'online' community for our Sunday service each week and from Monday to Friday for Morning and Evening prayer. If you're a bit 'online' but still haven't been able to watch these services, please do get in touch with the office or me and we will try our best to help you do this with minimum stress!



I am slowly but surely starting to ring people on the Electoral Roll, as waiting for us to be back together to meet my new church seems now like it could be a very long wait. (Note – this is what my phone actually looks like!) If you would like to have a chat, introduce yourself, pray with me or just say “hi”, please do use the contact details on the back of this newsletter.

It's Lovely to get a Letter We all know that some of the places hardest hit by this pandemic have been care homes. Many have been in lockdown for weeks longer than the rest of us and many residents are isolated from all their loved ones. To combat this and shine a little

sunshine into the darkness of this situation we've been invited to take part in a letter writing project. Voluntary Action Kirklees (VAK) are looking for people who like to write letters. This is an amazing opportunity because young or old we can all put pen to paper, or fingers to keyboard, and write something that will really make a difference.



This isn't a pen-pal scheme – it's just one letter to one person (you may want to do more letters but each one would be to a new individual) – and all will go through the coordinators at VAK to ensure everyone's data is confidential and all vulnerable participants are protected. You will get a little information (e.g. Trevor who likes football, Jeanie who likes Tom Jones) to help make the letter personal. I think there are many of us who would find our lockdown as much brightened by this as the residents of the care homes will. If you'd like to take part please contact Canon Rachel or the office using the details on the back of the newsletter.

Daily Hope – Hymns and Prayers on the Phone for you.

Daily Hope' is a free phone line and can be called on **0800 804 8044**. It has a number of options including hymns, prayers, reflections and advice about Covid-19. When a caller phones the phone line they will receive a message from the Archbishop of Canterbury welcoming them, and they will then have a variety of options- they can listen to rolling hymns, or prayers, or a session taking the caller through old hymns and explaining their meaning. There is also be an option to listen to a Sunday service. So something for everyone hopefully.

Created together with the Church of England, Faith in Later Life and the Connections group of Holy Trinity Claygate, in Surrey, it is available for anyone but is designed particularly with older people in mind – many of whom do not have access to the internet. **Give it a try and spread the word!**

Training Available through School of Ministry

The Lay Training and Clergy Development teams have been working hard to create online resources to enable online community and learning opportunities from home through the Digital Learning Platform (which we can all use at learning.leeds.anglican.org)

They will also be recommencing Licensed Lay Ministry/Reader training in September 2020. St Peter's has always been a fruitful place for those being called to authorised ministry. We have already have some parishioners in the midst of the exploring what God may be calling them to – but of course there may be more. Do you think God may be calling you to serve the church in these particular ways? There is the opportunity here for people to apply for Licensed Lay Ministry training (which includes a discernment process) and also from any lay-person wishing to study theology at an undergraduate level independently. The deadline for enquiry and application forms is 31st May 2020 so if this might be you please do get in touch with the Vicar on vicar@huddersfieldparishchurch.org

Starting Soon – The Bible Course

From Wednesday May 13th for 8 weeks we will be running bible study sessions both online and at home The Bible is a big and complicated book to read and for many it can be difficult to know where to start. You may have been part of a Bible study group before and want to do it again, or you may want to build your confidence for studying the Bible on your own. Bible study is a great opportunity for those with different perspectives to connect together with one another and scripture.

- The Bible Course helps you see how the books of the Bible are part of one big story.
- Using a unique storyline, The Bible Course will show you how key events, books and characters fit together.

- With video teaching, course guide and daily readings this will support us as we read on our own during this lockdown.

We will be making resources available on and off-line, and the exact way we do this will depend on who would like to be part of it (if everyone is online we might do it on a video link like Zoom – or we may explore doing it on our conference call facility – we will shape it to suit the parish). If you would like to join the sessions (at 7pm – ending with evening prayer at 8pm) please contact the Vicar on vicar@huddersfieldparishchurch.org.uk or leave a message with Verity at the Office.

Parish & Community Contact Details

Rev'd Canon Rachel Firth 07793 709988,
vicar@huddersfieldparishchurch.org

Rev'd Carol Hawkins, Curate 07799 364901
Carol.hawkins@leeds.anglican.org

Pastoral Care Team Contact:

Alan on 07748 930848 are@talktalk.net

Parish Office: Verity on 01484 427964
office@huddersfieldparishchurch.org

Kirklees Community Response

for anyone who is vulnerable & in need of help.

Under 18s 01484 456848 :

Help with personal care: 01484 414933

Community Response Helpline:

01484 226919

Please let us know on

office@huddersfieldparishchurch.org if you can receive information from us by email or if you have suggestions or contributions for the newsletter.

Easter Dawn by

Malcolm Guite

He blesses every love that weeps and grieves
And now he blesses hers who stood and wept
And would not be consoled,
or leave her love's

Last touching place, but watched as low light crept
Up from the east. A sound behind her stirs
A scatter of bright birdsong through the air.
She turns, but cannot focus through her tears,
Or recognise the Gardener standing there.
She hardly hears his gentle question, 'Why,
Why are you weeping?', or sees the play of light
That brightens as she chokes out her reply,
'They took my love away, my day is night.'
And then she hears her name, she hears Love say
The Word that turns her night, and ours, to Day.

