



Welcome to our Seventh 'Together News'.

It is heartening to receive emails, texts, comments on Facebook and letters (even from Italy) expressing thanks for the broadcasts and recordings we are producing each week for the Benefice and clearly a much wider audience! It is quite a challenge mastering technology and hoping that the upload speed on the internet will work in our favour (it can be VERY slow). Our passion at the beginning of this period of 'lock down' was to 'keep faith alive and hope strong'. Our prayer for you, as you read this seventh (yes seventh!) 'Together News' is that you [we] feel connected to one another, confident that the mission of Jesus across the Benefice continues and most importantly of all, that you [we] remain close to God.

This week sees the introduction of a weekly Online discussion called '**IMAGINE**'. It is difficult to imagine what 'Church' will be like when we reach the end of 'lockdown', but I am convinced that we must try! We can be sure of this, that whilst it will be great to return to the pattern of worship, fellowship and witness across the Benefice, some things may not be the same.

THINK about it Joseph was in prison for two years Jonah was in the fish for three days, and Jesus was in the tomb for three days. On his release from his 'lockdown' in an Egyptian jail, Joseph became the countries Prime Minister. When Jonah landed on the shore of Ninevah, his preaching resulted in a spiritual revival and when Jesus walked out of the cemetery, the redemption of the world was made possible by his hard-fought defeat of the power of sin and the permanence of death.

Just this week, Dr Rowan Williams, the former archbishop of Canterbury, said that he is "not surprised by a reported growth in Bible reading during the current pandemic." He expresses his conviction that that the pandemic has triggered a "historic spiritual moment", noting that engagement with online church services is also booming, and that it is a response to feelings of disorientation, fragility and fear caused by the crisis.

Amazing and unexpected things can happen after a period of lockdown and just what the future worship and witness of our church in Lyndhurst, and Emery Down and Minstead will look like, we can only imagine! It really is worth thinking and praying about. So please drop in on the discussion this Thursday (and every Thursday during lock down) from 10.30 – 11.10am on ZOOM (see below for login details).

This week sees the STILL Prayer Meeting move on-line too. Join us as open our hearts to God in prayer for all that is on our hearts and minds at this time. You can join us on Tuesday at 9.30am on Zoom. **(see programme of services in 'Together News' for details re. accessing IMAGINE & STILL online).**

Some of you may have heard that our friend Peter Watson passed away last Sunday. We celebrate his life, his faith and the joy of the Lord, which was so evident in his life, even during the struggles of the past year.

In continuing fellowship,

David and Ann (not forgetting Clarrie & Denzil)

**Revd David, The Vicarage, 5 Forest Gardens, Lyndhurst SO43 7AF
07468 527820 / potterton.david@newforestparishes.com**

How are you today? A question I think we regularly ask each other but is it usually just a 'standard' phrase we use? It's something we are using more and more in recent weeks with a unique genuineness. We are very fortunate to be part of such a wonderful community where there is genuine care and love amongst us. **Thank you to everyone for looking our for your friends, family and neighbours** at a time in life where we all need people around us, albeit observing social distancing rules.

Hope and Faith are keeping many of us going at the moment and we have set up a dedicated **SAY IT, PRAY IT** Prayer phone for ANYONE to text with their prayer requests.

This phone Ministry is being led by Luke Augustyn.

This Week's Services, ONLINE (Recorded and LIVE)

All **LIVE** services are accessed via **Facebook**. Where files are not too large, these will also be uploaded afterwards and be available via our website www.newforestparishes.com and **YouTube**.

Sunday 3rd May 2020	<u>10.30am</u>	Service of Holy Communion and Sermon from the Vicarage	LIVESTREAM via Facebook
Every Sunday	<u>6pm</u>	<u>Music for Reflection. An hour of Hymn and Worship Songs.</u>	LIVESTREAM via Facebook
Tuesday 5th May 2020	<u>10.30am - 11am</u>	<u>IMAGINE Online Forum</u> An open forum on ZOOM discussing ideas about how the worship and witness of the Church across the Benefice may have changed post lockdown - when we are able to meet together again safely.	Go to https://zoom.us/join Meeting ID: 230 576 5983 Password: IMAGINE
Thursday 7th May 2020	<u>9.30am</u>	<u>STILL Online Prayer Meeting</u> Our weekly Prayer Meeting, accessible via ZOOM.	Go to https://zoom.us/join Meeting ID: 230 576 5983 Password: STILL
Every Thursday	<u>8.30pm</u>	Taize in the Vicarage Garden	LIVESTREAM via Facebook

Every Friday	<u>7.15pm</u>	Prayers and Reflective Worship We would love to pray for whatever is on your heart. Text your prayers to 07591 958856 <u>by 12noon Friday.</u>	LIVESTREAM via Facebook
Sunday 10th May 2020	<u>10.30am</u>	Service of Holy Communion and Sermon from the Vicarage	LIVESTREAM via Facebook
Daily <u>Priest in a PANdemic</u>	Timings are dependent on upload speeds.	A Daily Reflection and hymn	Recorded. View via Facebook or Youtube
Every Wed & Fri	Timings are dependent on upload speeds.	Collective Worship with Denzil for KS1 and KS2 school children	Recorded. View via Facebook or Youtube

Are you looking for something to do at home?

Don't forget that we are still planning our ***Fall of Poppies for the Fallen*** as part of the Remembrance Day celebrations in 2020. Lots of people have made a start since lockdown as it's a great pastime when we are limited on what we can do. We've had a few people ask when the poppies are needed by. Remembrance Day falls in November so if any poppies could be received by the beginning of October, it gives us the opportunity to make a start on attaching them to the net to 'showcase' them all.

If you're in need of a pattern, please visit our website www.newforestparishes.com/poppies

A HUGE thank you to all those who are knitting and crocheting already, we are excited to see all the poppies hanging from the Bell Tower of St Michael's. What feels like an impossible task can become possible as a community!



Photo: Holy Trinity Parish

We need 1000's of knitted or crocheted poppies to create a 'Fall of Poppies' from the Tower of St Michael & All Angels, Lyndhurst, for Remembrance Sunday 2020.



Knitting and crochet patterns available from www.newforestparishes.com

or contact Kate Donohoe
communications@newforestparishes.com
02380 283173

Please support us, wherever you are in the world!



If you fancy a change of scenery from poppies, the head of The Oaks

Federation which includes St Michael & All Angels School in Lyndhurst are looking for some 'small knitted children' as part of their induction program for new starters in September. The knitted children need to be wearing grey trousers or a little grey skirt and can be wearing either a Red (St Michael's), Blue (Copythorne) or Bottle

Green (Netley Marsh) jumper as per the uniforms. If you'd like to help, please contact Kate on communications@newforestparishes.com or call 07776 221663.

We'd kindly ask that for the purposes of social distancing, you keep hold of any knitted items you make until safe to deliver them.

Children's Resources Online

Since schools closed on the 20th March, keeping in touch with everyone has been the main focus for us in the Parish Office. This stretches to all ages and includes all of our little people who are an important part of our Parishes.

You might have seen details of Collective Worship in our Newsletters and online. Reverend David works closely with Mr Bowen, the head of St Michael & All Angels School to make sure all of the children and families are part of Church life. Sadly, Collective Worship which usually happens in school, in addition to once a month in St Michael's hasn't been able to happen in person. David has worked hard to make some fantastic videos for children in Reception, KS1 and KS2 to help them feel part of School and Church at this difficult time.

We now have a NEW Children's Resource area on the website which has ALL the videos together, in one place. It will also be where you can find anything child-centric that we talk about in Church or in any of our videos.

All of the video's can be viewed via the new Children's Resource area.

www.newforestparishes.com/ekids



David and Denzil go on a Picnic

NEW Diocese FREE Phone line

Available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044, the NEW phone line has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind. Callers will hear a special greeting from the Archbishop before being able to choose from a range of options, including hymns, prayers, reflections and advice on COVID-19.

Food Bank Update

The New Forest Basics Bank is working around the clock to make sure that they are able to support the hundreds of families that need help at the moment, especially in light of the recent situation. Since the beginning of March they have helped AT LEAST 1043 individuals, thanks to donations from members of the public and a HUGE effort from volunteers who are sorting through food, packing it up appropriately and delivering it to those in need.

Our nearest collection point is in Lyndhurst, in the High Street Co-op should you wish to make any donations. In the absence of Christ Church and All Saint's being open to accept donations, you can contact Reverend David who will arrange to collect any food donations from you.

Text to Donate

Last week we communicated the text to donation services available and following feedback, there have been a few amendments made to the services.

All Saint's - text the words **AllSaints** from your mobile phone to the number **70085** for a **one-off donation of £5.00**. If you wish to donate more or less than £5, substitute 5 with any amount between 1 and 20.

Christ Church - text the words **XChurch 3** from your mobile phone to the number **70085** for an instant donation of £3.00 and a monthly, reoccurring payment will be made of £3 to Christ Church. If you wish to donate more or less than £3, substitute 3 with any amount between 1 and 20. You can cancel the reoccurring payments at any time.

St Michael's - Coming Soon!

SPOTLIGHT

A NEW feature for our Newsletter and our website! Each week we will get getting to know a bit more about those who supports the church through volunteering or the Parish Office. This week we are with Suzanne Middleton.



Suzanne Middleton, St Michael & All Angels Church, Lyndhurst

Parish Office Operations Officer, Treasurer, PCC Secretary, Sides Person and Health and Safety Officer...and more...

What do you do when you're not helping out at church?

When I am not involved in helping out at church I enjoy travelling abroad, looking after my 4 grandchildren who all live locally and walking my Goldendoodle dog Molly in the forest. I am also a very keen genealogist and have researched my family tree back to the 17th Century. I have written a book about one of my ancestors who was a shipwrecked sailor on an East India Company Ship. I love reading about Tudor history and was delighted to discover a family connection to Henry VII!

What made you want to help?

I have been a regular worshipper at St Michael's since 1993, when we moved here from Berkshire. I know that there is a lot that goes on behind the scenes to run a church and felt that I had some skills to offer to help out. At my previous church in Iver Heath I had helped run the Sunday School.

What do you enjoy most about it?

The church building itself is magnificent but I enjoy being part of a diverse congregation and feeling part of the Lyndhurst worshipping community.

Is there anything you have enjoyed during Lockdown?

I have enjoyed baking home made bread, raising some seedlings from some old seed packets and reading more than usual. I have also enjoyed taking part in the weekly 'Clap for the NHS' and seeing all my neighbours in Wellands Road outside their homes joining in every Thursday.

What one thing would you like to see happen, in light of the changes from Lockdown?

I would like to see a continuation of people making more effort to keep in touch with others, particularly the elderly and lonely people in the community. As one of the volunteers for the Lyndhurst Isolation Support Group I hear the deep gratitude of those people who phone up to ask for help with their shopping or collecting their prescriptions and wonder how they manage in normal times.

Royal Mail

If you are receiving the Newsletter by post, there may be some delays. Due to staff shortages there are no longer Saturday deliveries or 'first and second class' post. There *could* be a two day delivery time for all mail. If you have email, make sure you let us know and get added to the mailing list. Email Kate communications@newforestparishes.com and request to be added to the mailing list.

Useful Information

Easy Fundraising - Easy Fundraising donate by giving a percentage from what you buy online. For example, 1.50% percent of Amazon Online purchases or 2.5% of things you buy from Debenhams could be going directly to your chosen church. There are no hidden costs and it's easy to set up. Simply visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk and register, find your 'Cause', searching by name and then carry on with your shop. Please keep this in mind when you're shopping online.

When searching for your 'cause' type in the name of your parish church (St Michael's Lyndhurst or Christ Church, Emery Down, or All Saints, Minstead). Happy shopping!

If you have any problems or need help, please contact Kate.
communications@newforestparishes.com / **07776 221663**

Thank you for providing your contact details - We are still receiving contact details from you. **PLEASE DON'T STOP!** If you or if you know someone who would like to be on our mailing list for the latest Newsletters, please email their details to Kate on communications@newforestparishes.com. Everyone who receives emails from us can view our Data Protection Policy by visiting our Website www.newforestparishes.com and everyone is given the opportunity of unsubscribe with each email sent.

Lay Pastors - If you know any member of the Benefice who would welcome a phone call and a chat, please let Peggy and Peter Nichols know on **023 8028 2378** who are coordinating the Lay Pastors at St Michael's who are making calls to folk in the parish who are isolated. We are happy to extend this ministry across the Benefice. Thank you to everyone who is calling folk in Emery Down and Minstead. There is nothing stopping any of us calling those who we know are isolated or in need. Chatting really helps! Who have you called this week? If you are thinking about someone, wondering how they are, why not pick up the phone and find out. You may be the only person they have spoken to that day. Perhaps this is why the Lord has placed them on your heart. Let's together keep fellowship real, faith alive and hope strong!

Life Events - Suzanne is in regular touch with those who had baptisms and weddings in the diary but who have had to postpone. Please note that sadly, no more than ten family members are permitted to attend a funeral during this coronavirus pandemic.

Weekly Offering - If you are not giving regularly it would be a great help to the PCC if you were able to do so. Please speak to your PCC Treasurer or David.

If you have any questions about your regular offering to the church, please don't hesitate to speak to your own PCC Treasurer or call the Benefice Office. If you have access to the internet, you can also donate to your Parish Church via our website www.newforestparishes.com, click on 'DONATE' and follow instructions.

PLEASE CONSIDER THIS OPTION FOR INCREASING PARISH FUND

Do you need any help at the moment, whilst in isolation - **FOR HELP, CALL 02380 284 426.** The local volunteer run, Emergency group are available to run errands, collect essential shopping, collect medication, walk dogs or just have a friendly chat. Please leave a message if there is no answer. You can also email lyndhurstcommunityresponse@gmail.com

Annual Parochial Church Meetings - APCMs and meetings of parishioners (which elect lay representatives on the PCC and Deanery Synod representatives and also elect Church Wardens) are usually held around this time of year and must normally be held by 31st May. Due to the Coronavirus outbreak the Bishop has now extended the deadline for both meetings for all parishes to 31st October 2020.

Community News

You may have noticed that you've not been receiving your copy of the What's on guide since lockdown. Did you know that you can still view it online via the Community Centre website? The direct link is <https://lyndhurstcomm.org/whats-on-magazine/> Look out for the latest copy for May, coming out next week.

NEW Parish Giving Scheme Telephone Service

Available weekdays from 9am to 5pm. Calls will take less than 15 minutes and you will receive written confirmation afterwards to confirm the details. At any time you can call the service to make amendments to your direct debit.

Call: 0333 002 1271

Show them you love them

If you know or even suspect that your neighbour cannot access email, or the internet, why not offer to make a copy of yours for them. Being a 'dispersed church' can result in spiritual isolation so we want to keep faith alive and hope strong across the Benefice. By delivering 'Together News' you are helping to do this. If you are delivering to a neighbour, please let Suzanne know.

How to access videos via the Benefice website on YouTube or Facebook

To follow us, visit our website www.newforestparishes.com/social-media this will take you DIRECTLY to our Social Media area/tab. You can simply click on the Facebook and YouTube Logos where you will be taken straight through to the Benefice Pages. These are completely free services and also, lots of fun to connect with friends, especially at a time like this.

If you have any problems, please contact Kate communications@newforestparishes.com or on **07776 22166**

To access **LIVE** broadcasts via **Facebook**

You will need to make sure you have signed up to Facebook which is totally FREE and secure.

Go to www.facebook.com and Log in or Sign Up. You can use any PC, Laptop or your Mobile Phone. There is even a **Facebook** App you can use on your mobile phone, making it even easier to use. Download this from App Store or Google Play on your mobile.

- David will be streaming the Service by what **Facebook** call a '**LIVE**'.
- You can find David's **LIVE** in your Newsfeed OR by typing 'David Potterton' into the **Facebook** search bar.
- Click on his name and go to his Newsfeed.
- The **LIVE** will be there for you to click on.
- You will recognise it from the red **LIVE** image at the top (pictured).

We look forward to us all being part of these special Services.

SUNDAY MORNING COMMUNION SERVICE FROM THE VICARAGE

To be in your presence

To sit at your feet
When your love surrounds me
And makes me complete

This is my desire, O Lord
This is my desire
This is my desire, O Lord
This is my desire

To rest in your presence
Not rushing away
To cherish each moment
Here I would stay

This is my desire, O Lord etc.

Name of all majesty,

fathomless mystery,
King of the ages
by angels adored;
power and authority,
splendour and dignity,
bow to his mastery,
Jesus is Lord!

Child of our destiny,
God from eternity,
love of the Father
on sinners outpoured;
see now what God has done
sending his only Son,
Christ the beloved One,
Jesus is Lord!

Saviour of Calvary,
costliest victory,
darkness defeated
and Eden restored;
born as a man to die,
nailed to a cross on high,
cold in the grave to lie,
Jesus is Lord!

Source of all sovereignty,
light, immortality,
life everlasting
and heaven assured;
so with the ransomed, we
praise him eternally,
Christ in his majesty,
Jesus is Lord!

**ALL I ONCE HELD DEAR, BUILT MY LIFE
UPON**

All this world reveres, and wars to own
All I once thought gain I have counted loss
Spent and worthless now, compared to this

*Knowing you, Jesus
Knowing you, there is no greater thing
You're my all, you're the best
You're my joy, my righteousness
And I love you, Lord*

Now my heart's desire is to know you more
To be found in you and known as yours
To possess by faith what I could not earn
All-surpassing gift of righteousness

Knowing you, Jesus etc.

Oh, to know the power of your risen life
And to know You in Your sufferings
To become like you in your death, my Lord
So with you to live and never die

*Knowing you, Jesus
Knowing you, there is no greater thing*

*You're my all, you're the best
You're my joy, my righteousness
And I love you, Lord*

BREAD OF LIFE, HOPE OF THE WORLD

*Jesus Christ, our brother:
feed us now, give us life, lead us to one another.*

Bread of life, hope of the world, etc.

*As we proclaim your death,
As we recall your life,
We remember your promise to return again.*

Hold us in unity,
in love for all to see;
that the world may believe in you,
God of all who live.

Bread of life, hope of the world, etc.

Bread of life, hope of the world, etc.

The bread we break and share
Was scattered once as grain:
Just as now it is gathered,
make your people one.

You are the bread of peace,
you are the wine of joy,
broken now for your people,
poured in endless love.

Bread of life, hope of the world, etc.

Bread of life, hope of the world, etc.

We eat this living bread,
We drink this saving cup:
sign of hope in our broken world,
source of lasting love.

During Holy Communion

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

On which the Prince of glory died
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ my God
All the vain things that charm me most
I sacrifice them to His blood

IN CHRIST ALONE MY HOPE IS FOUND,

He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live.

See from His head, His hands, His
feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a
crown?

Were the whole realm of Nature
mine
That were an offering far too small
Love so amazing, so divine
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of
Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of
man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll
stand.

Thursday 8.30pm Taïze Service

Taïze Chants for Taïze in the Garden (Live Stream Thursday 8.30pm)

Today's Chants are the same as last week's to allow folk to learn them. Due to the duration of this service it is not possible to record and upload to our website.

Bless the Lord, my soul and bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord my soul, who leads me into life.

Stay with me, remain here with me.

watching and praying,
watching and praying

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia (during Psalm 116)

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone. O Lord are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

Alleluia.

Sing praise and bless the Lord,

sing praise and bless the Lord.

Peoples! Nations! Alleluia

Scripture Reading (1 Peter 5 v1-11)

Lord of all goodness, Son of the Father,

May your peace surround us.

Intercessions

In between each Prayer we sing:

O Lord hear my prayer, o Lord, hear my prayer,

when I call, answer me.

O Lord hear my prayer, o Lord, hear my prayer,

Come and listen to me.

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice.

Look to God, do not be afraid; lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

Reflection prepared by Peggy Heron, St Michael's Church, Lyndhurst.

Readings: Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2: 19-25; John 10: 1-10

One of the happy bi-products of the restrictions of this Covid 19 virus time is that it appears that for many their values seem to have changed. No longer 'every man for himself', but much more a sense of community in a shared crisis where we need to help each other. Finding that comradeship makes ours a community attractive to be part of.

In the early days of the church (Acts 2), the energy and loving care both between followers of Jesus and those not yet part of the church was very much apparent, meeting and sharing meals together and praying and praising together. They were demonstrating what Jesus had said earlier 'I am come that they might have life, life in all its fullness '(John 10:10)

In this time of Covid 19, May our lives not be experienced as diminished but rather enriched with new opportunities for sharing the love of Jesus.