

New Forest Parishes



TOGETHER NEWS
Sunday 26th April 2020

Welcome to our Sixth 'Together News'.

On March 17th almost 5 weeks ago, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York called for Church of England churches to put public worship on hold and become a “different sort of church” in the coming months to face the challenges of coronavirus. In a joint letter, Archbishops Justin Welby and John Sentamu said it was now necessary to put public services on hold until further notice.

But they said that far from having to “shut up shop”, the Church of England must face the challenge by becoming a radically different kind of church rooted in prayer and serving others. The pair invited clergy to maintain the ancient pattern of daily prayer and, where possible, the eucharist – live streaming their worship if they have the resources to do so.

The Archbishop of York, John Sentamu went as far as to say that *that our life as parish churches is going to be less characterised by attendance at church on Sunday but by a radically different approach to mission, ministry and maintenance of our Parish Church programmes*. Now, I wonder what the Benefice will look like going forward as in time, our church buildings are going to open for public worship and visitors etc. In May I want to start an online discussion forum which will meet every **Tuesday morning at 10.30 – 11.30am (starts 5 May)** and will be called ‘**IMAGINE**’. Anyone can join us as we share ideas, hopes, dreams and visions. Also in May, the ‘**STILL**’ Prayer meetings will start again but will be online from **9.30am on Thursdays (starts Thursday May 7th)**. Look out for details explaining how you can join these groups in next week’s ‘**Together News**’.

Problems with internet speed and even connection continue to frustrate us and I am aware that because the internet went down, the Taiže service was cut short after about 15 minutes. However, we will continue with the existing pattern of LIVE Services and Recorded Reflections (including Collective Worship with Denzil on Wed & Fri), with the addition of the IMAGINE Forum and STILL Prayer Meeting on Tuesdays and Thursdays commencing in May.

Ann and I are both well and enjoying having Ann’s parents living with us in the Vicarage for the foreseeable future. We look forward to you sharing our Service with Holy Communion from the Vicarage on Sunday morning.

David and Ann

Revd David

The Vicarage, 5 Forest Gardens, Lyndhurst SO43 7AF

07468 527820. potterton.david@newforestparishes.com

Firstly, a huge **thank you to everyone** for all of your support. We are grateful for each and every donation we have received to help support our Mission, to pay our bills, contribute to the Diocese, maintain our buildings and run the Benefice Office. With no visitors and no Sunday services, our income is now hugely affected but we are people of Faith and Hope and we're remaining upbeat. We have had so much positive feedback about the Newsletters and from those who have tuned into any of our Services. We are overjoyed to see SO many people keep in touch with us. We have had over 2500 views to date! Apologies for the time that it can take to upload videos. Sometimes the internet speed is painfully slow.



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 26 th April	<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
Every Thursday	<u>8.30pm</u>	Taize in the Vicarage Garden	LIVESTREAM via Facebook
Every Friday	<u>7.15pm</u>	Prayers and Reflective Worship <i>We would love to pray for whatever is on your heart. Please text your prayers to 07468 527820 by 12noon Friday</i>	LIVESTREAM via Facebook
Daily <u>Priest in a PANdemic</u>		A Daily Reflection and hymn	Recorded. View via Facebook or Youtube
Every Wed & Fri		Collective Worship with Denzil for KS1 and KS2 school children	Recorded. View via Facebook or Youtube
Sunday 3 rd May	<u>10.30am</u>	Service of Holy Communion and Sermon from the Vicarage	LIVESTREAM via Facebook
Tuesday 5 th May	<u>10.30am - 11am</u>	<u>IMAGINE Online Forum</u>	Details in next week's Together News
Thursday 7 th May	<u>9.30am</u>	<u>STILL Online Prayer Meeting</u>	Details in next week's Together News

Closed Churches

We continue to monitor the Government and Church of England Guidelines daily but currently, all Parish Churches in the Benefice remain closed until further notice. You are welcome to visit the graveyards to reflect with your loved ones whilst following the Government guidelines.

Support for those with Dementia

We have had some information shared with us from the 'Mind' team in Andover who cover Lyndhurst and the surrounding villages. They offer support to those with Dementia and Memory Problems, who could be especially vulnerable during this time. If you have concerns for a person with dementia or memory problems, the Referrals and Enquiries team at Andover Mind will allocate a Dementia Advisor who will make contact with the carers or families to offer advice, information and support.

Phone: 01264 332297 (option 3) / Email: enquiries@andovermind.org.uk

Have you visited our Benefice website yet?

Did you know that our website is updated constantly so if you miss a Sunday Service or a newsletter/Worship Together at Home Booklet, or perhaps if you're not sure how to use Facebook or YouTube, you can just visit www.newforestparishes.com and catch up on what you have missed.

You can find Services in our Worship Area within 'What's on' AND you can find Newsletters and the Worship guide within News within 'About'.

The website has been designed to be easy to navigate but if you have any problems, please message Kate on communications@newforestparishes.com who can contact you to talk through any support.

www.newforestparishes.com



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.

Text to Donate

Did you know that All Saint's in Minstead and Christ Church in Emery Down both have a fantastic text Service? It's very easy to use. Simply text the words **AllSaints** (for All Saints) or **XChurch** (for Christ Church) from your mobile phone to the number **70085** for an instant donation of £3.00.

You can personalise the donation from £1.00 - £20.00 by changing the message words to All Saints£YOUR CHOSEN AMOUNT OR XChurch£YOUR CHOSEN AMOUNT up to £20.00. For example, to donate £10, the message would be **AllSaints£10 OR XCHURCH£10**

St Michael's are also in the process of setting up the TEXT'ing donation service and we will update you as and when it's available.

Launch of a NEW Parish Giving Scheme Telephone Service

We, not only a church but as individuals appreciate that donating to any charity can be a chore to 'arrange'. We are always looking at ways to make it as easy as possible, so we are incredibly fortunate that a new dedicated telephone service has been set up for anyone wanting to donate to their church via the Parish Giving Scheme. Historically this meant filling in forms but now, you can phone the number below and any paperwork will be completed for you.

The service goes live on Monday 27th April and is **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

Do you ever buy from any of these retailers online?



amazon.co.uk



These...plus many more retailers are all part of the Easy Fundraising scheme. All of our Benefice churches are registered causes with www.easyfundraising.org.uk where you can donate without spending any more than you regular purchases.

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.

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 221663**

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.

Useful Information

Lay Pasers - 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.

HYMNS for Priest in a PANdemic

This week we are learning some of the Children's songs written for our Mickey's House (St Mike's) and Funday Sunday (All Saints) services. The words will appear on the Facebook page or our Youtube Channel

SUNDAY MORNING COMMUNION SERVICE FROM THE VICARAGE

O LORD, MY GOD, WHEN I IN AWESOME WONDER

Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art*

And when I think of God, His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee etc.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And lead me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow with humble adoration
And then proclaim, my God, how great Thou art
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee etc.

AS THE DEER PANTS FOR THE WATER

So my soul longs after You
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You.

*You alone are my strength, my shield
To you alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You*

I want you more than gold or silver,
only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy giver
and the apple of my eye.
You alone are my strength, my shield etc.

You're my friend and you are my brother
Even though you are a king
I love You more than any other
So much more than anything
You alone are my strength, my shield

BLESS THE LORD OH MY SOUL

*Oh my soul
Worship His Holy name.
Sing like never before*

*Oh my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name*

The sun comes up
It's a new day dawning.
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass
And whatever lies before me
Let me be singing
When the evening comes
Bless the Lord oh my soul etc.

You're rich in love
And You're slow to anger
Your name is great.
And Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness
I will keep on singing.
Ten thousand reasons
For my heart to find
Bless the Lord oh my soul etc.

And on that day
When my strength is failing
The end draws near
And my time has come
Still my soul will
Sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years.
And then forevermore
Bless the Lord oh my soul etc.

Hymn During Holy Communion

BREAD OF LIFE, HOPE OF THE WORLD

*Bread of life, hope of the world,
Jesus Christ, our brother:
feed us now, give us life,
lead us to one another.*

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

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.

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.

Bread of life, hope of the world, etc.

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.

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.

I STAND AMAZED IN THE PRESENCE

Of Jesus the Nazarene.
And wonder how He could love me,
A sinner condemned, unclean.

*How marvellous, How wonderful
And my song will ever be
How marvellous, How wonderful
Is my Saviour's love for me.*

He took my sins and my sorrows
He made them his very own
He bore the burden to Calvary
He suffered and bled for me.

How marvellous, How wonderful etc.

When with ransomed in glory
His face I at last shall see
Twill be joy through the ages
To sing of His love of me.

How marvellous, How wonderful etc.

Thursday 8.30pm Taizé Service

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

Because of 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 29 v 1-10)

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 Luke 19 v37-end

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.

This week's Reflection is prepared by Michael Clarke at All Saints' Church, Minstead

Bible Readings - Acts 2 v14a,36-41 and Luke 24 v13-35

Today's reading from Acts into the Jewish Feast of Weeks, that rolling celebration between Passover and Pentecost when, fifty days on, the first corn harvest would be dedicated. The presence of Jews far and near through that period gave Peter a ready-made audience as he proclaimed the risen Jesus as the Son of God, and offered all that transforming moment 'Repent, be baptised and received the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Our Gospel reading from Luke strikes an entirely different note as we meet two disconsolate figures trudging the seven miles to Emmaus, which we can presume was the home of either or both. Luke names one as Cleopas, whom John (Ch. 19) identifies as 'Clopas, husband to a Mary who is the mother of James'. The Lectionary version of Luke's story describes them as being 'sad' one of the greatest understatements in the bible.

Here we have two men, who had committed their lives to follow one whom they acknowledged as the Messiah, only to see him tried and crucified, and their hopes for a transforming world order vanish with him. "Sad?" In truth, distraught beyond belief, as all who have experienced the sudden loss of a loved one will confirm. Nothing, nothing could have prepared them for that moment.

And through these present times of the Covid-19 Pandemic, there are many in the world who are treading the same lonely path, whilst others in self-isolation may be questioning their faith as the questions arise; 'Why?'; 'how long?'; 'who next?'; 'what if . . . ?'; and seemingly no-one is walking with them on their Emmaus road with whom to share their moments.

But in her prayer-poem 'God's Blessing for the Longest Night' the American writer Jan Richardson, takes us to a moment of core belief and reminds us, that whatever the circumstances, we are never truly alone.

GOD'S BLESSING FOR THE LONGEST NIGHT

Jan Richardson

***All through these months
as the shadows have lengthened,
God's blessing has been gathering itself,
making ready, preparing for this night.
It has practiced walking in the dark,
travelling with its eyes closed,
feeling its way by memory and touch.
This blessing will reach you
even if you have not light enough to read it;
it will find you even though you cannot see him coming.
You will now the moment of its arriving
by your release of the breath you have held so long;
a loosening of the clenching of your hands,
a thinning of the darkness***

*that had drawn itself around you.
God's blessing does not mean to take the night away
but it knows its hidden roads,
knows the resting spots along the path,
knows what it means to travel in the company of a friend.
So, when God's blessing comes, take God's hand. Get up.
Set out on the road you cannot see.
This is the night when you can trust
that any direction you go,
you will be walking towards the dawn.*

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Road to Emmaus by Daniel Bonnell