

From the Deacon: September 1.



Dear all

Here we are already starting out on our Spring journey. It is uplifting to see colour appear in people's gardens as I go for a daily stroll but it is a shame we are not able to take as much advantage of the progress of the seasons as we would like, with our current 'Covid crisis'.

The current situation also means we are unable to have the Spring Service that was being planned, but Nick did give us a foretaste on Sunday. What a beautiful service! Nick, Rosemary and Ethan – thank you for blessing us with your skills and heartfelt worship.

There may be some of you who are not yet aware of the YouTube recording of the service that you can watch at 9.30 on Sunday mornings. It stays on YouTube for you to watch later if you miss out at 9.30 am for any reason. The Parish office sends out the link on Saturdays: let us know if you are not receiving this message for any reason.

This week we move into Level 3 but not much changes for us: we will still be unable to attend Sunday services in person, and for those who are attending the Diocesan Synod, it is going to be a very truncated affair – just two evening Zoom sessions.

There are however changes for some: The Preschool re-opens on Wednesday – for families whose parents both need to go back to work and are unable to find alternative care for their child. It will be a very different working environment, and quite stressful. Hours open are to suit the families' needs rather than all day, every day. Please pray for the staff and those families who need to use the preschool so they can keep essential services working.

Although the office will be available on the phone, please do not call into the office in person at this time. This will need to be the case for a while yet.

Whether you are anxious at this time; enjoying unexpected home time with family; or starting to find that same family time stressful; there is good reason for persevering and perhaps you can find new joy. I completed knitting a pair of socks last night (begun last lockdown!).

I would like to offer you an experiment. On Sunday you may enjoy meeting with some others for a 'virtual' morning tea. Below is a link for a zoom meeting, which I will set for 10.30. If you don't use zoom, when you click on the link it will invite you to download the App. If you don't have a computer, or iPad, I know some people connect on their phones. I am new at hosting, so if it doesn't work, don't blame your IT skills, blame the host's!

Please be assured you are in our prayers. If you have specific prayer needs, please email one of the clergy. If you need to talk the team are all available. Please don't feel you are on your

own. You could start your own personal prayer chain – think of one person in the congregation you would like to add to it each night.

I always find the Psalms provide strength and peace at times of stress:

From Ps 16:

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge,

I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."

The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.

Therefore, my heart is glad and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.

For you do not give me up to Sheol; or let your faithful one see the Pit.

You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures evermore.

In Christ the Lord we can do this together

Margaret

Margaret Neate is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Margaret Neate's Morning Tea Meeting

Time: Sep 5, 2021, 10:30 AM (after church service)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/4091366830?pwd=L2tQSU44Zk4wa0xoTDAXbXdzM0RjUT09>

Meeting ID: 409 136 6830

Passcode: wKgSe2

