

Church Family Newsletter 15th May 2020

Dear Church family,

I pray this finds you well. As you will no doubt know the government has eased lockdown slightly, but I know that for many of us who are vulnerable or shielding this won't have changed much, and there continues to be much need of practical, relational and spiritual help needed through this. If you are struggling, please get in touch, we have people who can help in various ways.

Ministers are now allowed to be back in church to pray and lead online services. A short service of prayers will be said now every Sunday in St. Albans Frant and Holy Trinity Eridge by Rev Brendan in Frant and Reader Lesley Lynn in Eridge, on behalf of the whole congregation. Sadly, the church will remain closed for any other reason and should not be entered.

Church Parish News

Hot off the press (well actually no press...) the electronic version of the Latest Parish News can be downloaded here: <https://frantchurch.org/Publisher/File.aspx?ID=253266>

It is also available on the website.

Please share this around as much as possible so everyone in our Parish gets to see it.

This Sunday:

Acts 8:26-40 – Scattered Church: Jesus is for You

Join us from 9:30 to be encouraged that the scattered church meant lots more people from lots more places came to know Jesus. See our channels:

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDtsdqyqX6S8yZZI5S-pK6Q>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/frantchurch>

Rogation Sunday

This Sunday is Rogation Sunday. Sadly, we can't do our usual outside service this year. Instead we want to encourage you to get outside! Either in your garden or for a walk, and be praying for our parish and God's blessing on us.

Click here is some inspiration of prayers for this:

<https://cdn.filestackcontent.com/YI8EnsdmTfa4sn8fmCvT>

Ascension day

Join us for a special **Ascension Day online service on Thursday 21st May at 10am** on our YouTube and Facebook channels. We will have a short service of liturgy and readings from Rev Brendan.

Thy Kingdom Come

Between Ascension Day and Pentecost, it has been a church tradition that has been rekindled in recent years to pray that line in our Lord's prayer: "Thy Kingdom Come."

The Revd Canon Chris Russell, Archbishop of Canterbury's Advisor on Evangelism and Witness writes:

In these 11 days we pray for the Spirit to work significantly in those who don't follow Christ, that they might encounter his love and peace and make the best decision anyone can ever make – become followers of Jesus. And that they in turn would come to give their lives in service of the Kingdom of God.

This year you can get involved from home in a number of ways:

- Pray for Five friends/family to come to know and follow Jesus for these 11 days.
- Download the Thy Kingdom Come App for daily prayers and reflections (Search Thy Kingdom Come) or download reflections here:
<https://cdn.filestackcontent.com/GXoJPHxrQYitfwhQtw4H>
- Families download the digital family prayer adventure map and app here:
<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/resources/digital-family-prayer-adventure-map>
- Join our Bishop Martin every day at Midday for prayer here:
<https://www.facebook.com/DioceseofChichester/>
<https://www.youtube.com/user/DioceseofChichester>

Youth And children update from Ed Pascoe

Our Church youth group 'Encounter' continues to meet each Friday via zoom (a video chat application). We have a thought for the week and then there's a chance for the young people to chat and play games and challenges. This has been great at keeping the group connected with each other and Julie and myself, and also have fun!

We have also now started up 3 'Encounter Hubs' via zoom. These are small groups, from 2-6 young people and happen on different evenings in the week. They are a chance to dive deeper into the Bible and also to answer individual questions they may have. With most, we are starting to go through Youth Alpha. I hope that at least 1, or maybe 2 more Encounter Hubs start up so that all the young people from Encounter can be in one.

Please pray that God works in all our young people's lives and that these groups may enable them to draw close to our Lord and Saviour.

Every blessing,

-Rev Brendan

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