

Church Family Newsletter 20th November 2020

Dear Church Family,

Advent Sunday is coming up a week Sunday, and I don't know about you but I am desperate for some Christmas cheer! We saw a few early birds who had Christmas lights outside their house, and for once we did not complain at all about how early it was to do Christmas this year – I cannot wait...

Keep praying daily in this month of prayer about coronavirus (put your candle in a window), and some of you might want to join those of us who are fasting on Thursdays in various ways.

This Week - Christ the King Sunday **Matthew 25:31-46 Jesus, King of my Life**

Join us for the last Sunday in the church year! (advent is the first Sunday) We will be focusing on the fact that Jesus is King of our lives. Not just that we declare him Lord at the end of the day, but we live right now serving our Lord as King of our lives. Our love of Jesus shown in our care for all.

Join us online from 9:30am.

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

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

Plus, if you "like" and "subscribe" to our videos... more people see them.

(YouTube is more likely to recommend it to people)

Family Support Work at Christmas

As you know, as Churches, we very much support FSW in their ministry to some of the most needy families in the diocese. If you want to give in this way, you can leave gifts in our churches (leave a note saying "for FSW") or bring direct to me at the Rectory, we need these by Tuesday 8th December ... this is what they say for Christmas this year:

"As we look to organising Christmas and preparing presents and hampers for families, I thought it best if we set out in an email what we need this year.

In order to make preparing the hampers easier we are asking for sharing tubs of sweets rather than individual things like Chocolate Santas and selection boxes and likewise family sized boxes of biscuits. With food we also need the usual selection of Christmas Puddings, tinned custard, tinned fruit, jelly, cranberry sauce, bread sauce, stuffing mix, gravy granules, minced pies and packs of savoury snacks again that the family can share.

With presents we can accept any new toys but please encourage people NOT to wrap them. We especially need toys for the over 5s, and of course toys includes things like games, jigsaws, colouring books and pens and of course books. For teenagers, gift vouchers are good. We really must stress that we can't use soft toys this year so please tell everyone that we DO NOT want teddies.

Finally we would like presents for mum and dad too, bearing in mind that for some of our families not only have the parents had to support their children through this difficult year but also they may well have seen a big drop in income and that will mean any spending on presents will focus on the children and that mum and dad may well be doing without."

Frant School joins Ed for Forest School

Ed: This term I have started new Forest School sessions with Frant Primary in the Rectory paddock field. I have started a weekly group with a group of year 5/6 children and have already seen great things come from it including teamwork, joy, confidence, learning of new skills, perseverance, individual problem solving and having fun – all great life skills to develop.

I am also taking the reception class for some sessions as part of their outdoor learning. This will be a great chance for the children to discover the woodland and help them develop their learning and personal development in a different and fun way.

These sessions are not only great for the children but are also great for growing our relationship between our Church and Frant School. As I am not able to enter the school much because of Covid, this is a great opportunity to get to know the children and bridge the gap between them and the Church. Please do pray for these groups and also that more opportunities will arise.

PCC 30th November

Please pray in advance for our PCC as it will meet a week Monday. Slightly delayed PCC this month, and we have important financial things to decide for this one, as well as looking at how we hopefully can celebrate Christmas.

Share for prayer

For **Colin and Ros Burgess' family: Daughter Claire, husband David and their family** who lost their home on Wednesday to a tragic fire taking everything but thankfully not their lives.

Remember **Audrey Dicker** after her husband Roy passed away.

Also pray for **Roy Randall** who is awaiting heart surgery.

During the vacancy, Eridge congregation came to know **Richard Thirkell**, a reader in Groombridge, who led a few of our services. His wife **Coleen** is in intensive care in Pembury with a serious neurological disease, and I know they would be grateful for prayers.

Plus, **Margaret Wickens** who unfortunately fell over twice this week and is feeling quite sore.

Every Blessing,

-Rev Brendan