



Weekly Newsletter

12th July 2020
Trinity 5

WELCOME TO OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER. St Mary's has begun to cautiously reopen following the pandemic lockdown. At present this includes socially distanced private prayer on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 1-3pm; and Sunday Worship at 10.30am.

Our Sunday service is a simple liturgy with prayers, readings, pre-recorded music and a sermon which is based around the Church of England's *Daily Prayer* and lasts about 30 minutes. We aim to live stream it on *Facebook* and upload it to our *YouTube* channel afterwards. Please note that singing remains prohibited at the moment, as does serving coffee after our worship. We are also required to record worshippers' names and a phone number for tracking and tracing purposes.



St Mary's continues to produce our news sheet, prayer diary and parish magazine which can be viewed and downloaded from our website. The church office is working from home at present and can be contacted through the details at the end of the newsletter or online.

Further information about St Mary's, our life and ministry can be found on:
our **website** www.stmaryswarwick.org.uk

Twitter @StMarysWarwick and @ChoirsofWarwick

Facebook @StMarysWarwick and St Mary's Warwick Community

YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbzEoVgLkoagKM7OW_5rb0Q

SERVICES

10.30am

Sunday Worship (Common Worship)

Officiant: Vaughan Roberts
Preacher: Stig Graham
Reader: Isaiah 55: 10-13 - Dave Clark
Reader: Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23 - John Luxton
Pre-Recorded Anthem: *Cantate Domino* - Da Capo Chamber Choir
Cantate Domino canticum novum, Cantate et benedicite nomini ejus: Quia mirabilia fecit. Cantate et exultate et psallite in cythara et voce psalmi: Quia mirabilia fecit.
Sing to the Lord a new song, Sing and give praise to his name: for he has done marvellous deeds. Sing and exult and praise, in songs with the harp and the voice: for he has done marvellous deeds.

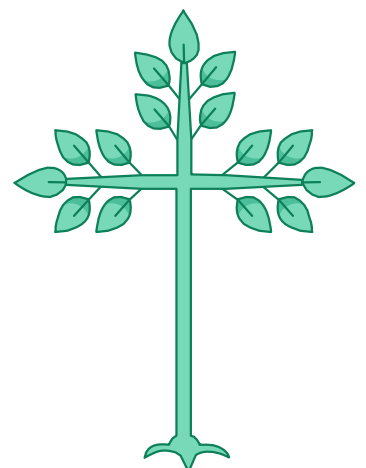
Words: Psalm 98:1-2, 5-6; Music: Monteverdi

Intercessor: Tony Fitzpatrick
Hymn: *We have a gospel to proclaim* (Fulda)
Organ Voluntary: *Prelude in C* Bairstow

NOTICES

TODAY'S SERVICE

It is a delight to welcome back to St Mary's The Revd Stig Graham as our preacher this morning. Until his recent retirement Stig was Lead Chaplain for the Myton Hospices and a dedicated member of the Warwick Team clergy. This morning's pre-recorded anthem is from Da Capo, many of whose members are involved in the life and ministry of St Mary's.



OPENING DOORS - AN UPDATE FROM THE PCC



At its last meeting the members of the PCC discussed plans for re-opening the church. Following the success of opening for prayer, it was agreed that acts of worship should resume in a limited fashion. With social distancing and hygiene measures in place, it was wonderful to welcome a congregation of nearly 50 for our first simple Sunday Worship last week. This pattern of opening for prayer and a single Sunday service will continue through July and August and we will

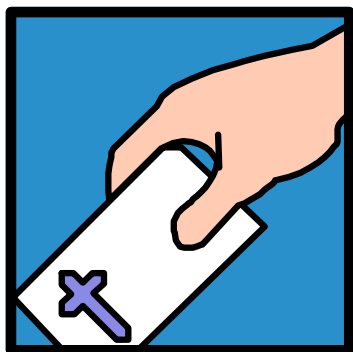
continue to assess what else might be achievable as the weeks pass. We are grateful to Mary Adams and all the volunteers who have made it possible to open our doors once more.

However, it was with great sadness that the PCC concluded that it would not be possible to reopen the church safely for general visitors in the foreseeable future. The costs associated with staffing the church to take care of our visitors and ensure adherence to all the current guidelines, especially maintaining hygiene, are prohibitive. Significant and expensive work would be required to facilitate the re-opening of the shop and social distancing makes it impossible to open the tower. Visitor income would not cover these costs and the church finances cannot sustain further losses.

Given that conclusion, the PCC decided to formally mothball the shop operation and very reluctantly make two of our members of staff redundant with effect from August 31. It is therefore with very great sadness that we have to say farewell to our Visitor Team Manager John Glover and his Senior Assistant Martin Carpenter. Their two years' service has seen a transformation in the visitor experience at St Mary's and we owe them a great vote of thanks for everything they have done for us. The PCC will continue to review the viability of re-opening the church to general visitors. When we open again, we will of course be looking to bring the shop back to life and look forward to doing so.

If you have strong and constructive opinions and would like to comment about our evolving plans or make suggestions for us to consider, please email pcc@stmaryswarwick.org.uk

ENVELOPE GIVERS



If you are part of the St Mary's envelope giving scheme you won't have been able to give in your collection during the recent closure. Now that our church is open for prayer and on Sundays you are welcome to catch up with your envelopes by putting them into the basket provided. Your continued financial support of St Mary's ministry is greatly appreciated, especially during these difficult times. If you usually give using the

standard brown envelopes and will be returning to church on Sundays, please take a bunch away so that they can be filled in in advance. We won't be able to hand out individual envelopes and pens as in the past.

NEW GIVING OPTIONS

With the continued closure of the church to visitors, most of our income streams have ceased to flow. If you normally give cash either by envelope (numbered or not) or straight onto the collection plate please, please consider switching to regular giving direct from your bank account. If you already have access to internet banking it is a simple matter to set up a standing order, weekly or (preferably) monthly.



Alternatively we have a giving page at <https://www.give.net/20220625> or use the QR code to the right, where you may choose to give a one-time donation or set up monthly giving, including Gift Aid where appropriate. The service provider will take 3% of your total giving for each transaction so, if you are considering monthly giving, a Standing

Order is still the best option! For more information please email our Operations Manager, Mary Adams, on om@stmaryswarwick.org.uk.

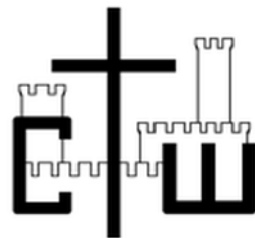
VICAR'S NEW BOOK

Vaughan's recent book entitled *Kingdom Stories Telling, Leading Discerning* (SCM Press) was published in April. It explores where we find signs of God's kingdom in our world and includes a section on the Warwick Poppies Project. The book can be ordered here from the publishers at £19.99 or from Vaughan with an author's discount:

<https://scmpress.hymnsam.co.uk/books/9780334059028/kingdom-stories>

Vaughan has filmed a new video which relates ideas from the book to parts of St Mary's church, which can be found on St Mary's YouTube channel and Facebook page. In other news Vaughan has reviewed Margaret Heffernan's new book *Uncharted: How to Map the Future Together*, which uses 'cathedrals' as a metaphor for coping uncertainty and (topically) has two discussions about how

pandemics have disrupted human society. The review can be found here: [Book Review: Uncharted: How to Map the Future Together, by Margaret Heffernan. | modem](#)



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN WARWICK

Sunday 19th July Thanksgiving and Remembrance at Warwick Cemetery at 4.00pm Fr Stewart is planning on this event happening. Meet through the main gate under the trees. It is out of doors and there is plenty of room to socially distance.

HOTS is still cancelled but we live with expectation of better times soon.

YOUTH WORKER JOB VACANCY

St Michael's Church, Budbrooke, is currently seeking maternity cover for a youth ministry worker. The position is for 22.5 hours per week, worked flexibly. For more info, including salary details, email Mary Adams on om@stmaryswarwick.org.uk.



CASTLE HILL BAPTIST CHURCH OFFERS ...

... *A Time to Say Goodbye*, which is an online Christian Service designed to help those who have been bereaved to say goodbye to friends and loved ones. Covid-19 has prevented many from being able to attend funerals and missing a vital step in the grieving process. Castle Hill Baptist Church hopes these services will be a help in this situation and to many in these difficult



times. Whilst we can't customise the whole service for every person, it would be our privilege to speak out the names of those who have died before the Lord—no matter what the cause—knowing every one matters dearly to him. You can request this

through the website, choosing the service you want to attend. The first two of these services have been posted on YouTube at

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCloo_N8NxAhvKEZuiEE4sZw. For those without internet access, DVDs of a particular service can be ordered (on someone's behalf) through the website. Whilst Castle Hill is taking the lead in this, every church leader cares deeply about this and is available to support those who are struggling with bereavement. There are also a number of other local and CTW services available. To find out more about *A Time To Say Goodbye*, or the local and national services available to help those who have been bereaved, please visit: www.atimetosaygoodbye.uk

Growing Faith Virtual Holiday Club

Growing Faith Coventry is producing a virtual Holiday Club resource with the help of children's and family workers from across the diocese. The plan



is that these resources will be available before the end of term in their entirety and therefore churches could use the resources at the time and in the way that works best for their community over the summer break. *Growing Faith Coventry* wants this Holiday Club to be as useful as possible to churches across the diocese, so if you are thinking "Great, but what about..." we would really love to hear your thoughts. What would be the barriers to families in your context accessing

resources? What formats would work best for you in terms of sharing resources? What information do you need when to help you with your local planning? All feedback can be sent to Jennifer Jenkins at

jennifer.jenkins@coventrydbe.org

DAILY HOPE PHONELINE



A free phoneline of hymns,
reflections and prayers

Are you in need of some daily
hope during this lockdown?

We have a new FREE telephone
line for you to ring to hear
comforting hymns, daily prayers
and reflections.

0800 804 8044



There is a free national phone line to bring worship and prayer into people's homes while church buildings are closed because of the coronavirus. Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line - which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 - 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. A section called Hymn Line offers callers a small selection of hymns, updated daily. An option entitled 'Hymns We Love' provides a hymn and reflection."

WANTED - BELLRINGERS

Warwick Bellringers (ringing at both St Mary's and St Nicholas') are keen to supplement our numbers by training new recruits. We have had to suspend bellringing for the time being but if you think you would like to pursue a new hobby when it restarts, please contact Simon Rogers (07498363304 or simon.rogers17@ntlworld.com).



EXTENDED UNTIL 31ST DECEMBER 2020



Ecclesiastical Insurance Trust 130 promotion. If you take a new home insurance policy out with Ecclesiastical before 31st December 2020, they will donate £130 to the church. Find out more at www.ecclesiastical.com/trust130 or call

08007830130 and quote Trust130.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Helen Black, Ellie Booth, Christopher Browne, Clifford Browne, Sheila Freeman, Denise Godfrey, Paul Haynes, John Hosiene, Frances Humphreys, Mandeep Madar, Donald McCall, Gwen & Paul Shilton, Joanne Tubb, Peter Young.

PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED

FORTHCOMING SERVICES

Limited public worship has restarted at St Mary's with a simple service each Sunday at 10.30am, including prayers, readings, pre-recorded music and a sermon. Sunday Worship lasts around 30 minutes and is also available online.



Parish Office: (01926) 403940 option 1 (answerphone only)
Mary Adams, Operations Manager - om@stmaryswarwick.org.uk