

Dear all,

We are facing a time with difficult decisions to make. Without wishing to be alarmist, the COVID pandemic is growing again. This country has the 4th highest recorded rates in the world, and the latest statistics for our parish bring us into the 2nd highest tier by percentage of population. Since the so-called 'Freedom Day', as a nation we have almost totally relaxed our behaviour, and behave as if it has gone away – or rather, that if we ignore it, it will go away. We appear to have reached a level of acceptance of the state of affairs. Even people who have been double-jabbed are catching the virus, though the effects do not seem so severe.

As a church, as Christians, we cannot be too complacent. We are called to care for one another, even if it means making sacrifices in what we would otherwise do. The PCC has recently met, and while we agreed to continue to maintain the level of guidelines that we have currently reached, nevertheless we would encourage sensible behaviour – namely some degree of social distancing, encouraging the wearing of masks when moving around, good hand sanitising, and good ventilation. We will also restart taking names of people at services. We are also taking measures to get the online services up and running again for those who feel uncomfortable about attending regularly.

On the assumption that we will not be having further restrictions placed on us, we have altered the pattern of services slightly, to start from the beginning of November. The main changes are as follows:

- The 1st Sunday main service will be a shorter children-oriented service, and **will start at 10.15** in order for Psalm 98 to set up and practice more easily (if anyone turns up at the usual time, they will be able to listen to Psalm 98 rehearse)
- 2nd – 4th Sundays will be a standard communion service
- Any 5th Sunday will involve the young people, and could be more creative, but will have a communion as a part of the service
- A Book of Common Prayer Communion Service will happen at 9.00am on the 3rd Sunday.

This means that the pattern of services will be:

1 st Sunday	9:00 am	Holy Communion (said)
	10:15 am	First Sunday Praise
	6.00 pm	Choral Evensong
2 nd Sunday	9:50 am	Children's Church
	10:00 am	Holy Communion
3 rd Sunday	9:00 am	BCP Holy Communion (said)
	10:00 am	Holy Communion
	6.00 pm	Alternative Evening Prayer
4 th Sunday	10:00 am	Holy Communion
5 th Sunday	10.00 am	Youth-led Holy Communion

This coming Sunday, we will be celebrating as Bible Sunday. The hymns for Sunday morning will be [God has spoken by His prophets • G. W. Briggs 1952 - YouTube](#) (sorry it's not a great recording – it was the best there was!), [Thanks to god whose word has spoken - YouTube](#) and [FULDA WE HAVE A GOSPEL TO PROCLAIM - YouTube](#).

The readings are Isaiah 55: 1-11; 2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:5; and John 5: 36b-end. The Psalm is Psalm 19: 7-end.

Anglican Chant [PSALM 19 CHANT BY Choir of Westminster Abbey - YouTube](#)

And in ancient Hebrew [The Original 3000 Year Old Melody of the Psalm 19 - Revealed? - YouTube](#)

And from The Psalms Project [Psalm 19 \(The Heavens Declare\) \(feat. Chris Heesch\) - The Psalms Project - YouTube](#)

And the Sons of Korah version [SOK Psalm 19 - YouTube](#) (I rather like this one! Though it is the 1st half of the psalm)

Anthems etc. suggested for this Sunday include:

[Purcell: Thy word is a lantern, Z.61 - YouTube](#)

[HOW LOVELY ARE THE MESSENGERS BY FELIX MENDELSSOHN CONDUCTED BY MICHAEL DINGAAN - YouTube](#) (I love this one – to all the nations...!)

[Teach me, O Lord: Teach me, O Lord - YouTube](#) William Byrd

[Attwood, Teach ME, O Lord - YouTube](#)

[The spirit of the Lord is upon me - Elgar, John Rutter, The Cambridge Singers, Andrew Lucas - YouTube](#)

Don't forget that next Sunday, 31st October, we will be having our All Souls' Remembrance service. We will be reading out names of people whose funerals we have been involved with over the last 3 years. There is a list at the back of the church for anyone to add names they wish read out. Please write the name clearly. The service will be followed by refreshments in the hall.

On Saturday, we will be having a light party for Primary School aged children.



The Deeping Foodbank, who we supported with our Harvest gifts, has posted the following on their Facebook page:

Here at Deeping Foodbank we use a picking list devised by the Trussell Trust to pack our boxes. A single person's box normally has:

- 1 box of cereal
- 2 tins of beans or spaghetti
- 2 tins of soup
- 1 tin of tomatoes or a jar of sauce
- 2 tins of vegetables
- 2 tins. of meat
- 1 tin of fish
- 1 tin of fruit
- 1 tin of rice pudding
- 1 packet of biscuits
- 1 small bag of sugar
- 1 small bag of pasta
- 40 tea bags or a small jar of coffee
- 1 carton of juice
- 1 carton of long life milk
- 1 jar of jam

An item that is a treat, a chocolate item and a sauce.

At Deeping we also try to provide a fresh piece of fruit and essential toiletries if we can.

These parcels, filled by food kindly donated by our local community, are designed to provide emergency food for approximately three days.

Don't forget that we permanently have a box at the back of church to collect food.

And now for something completely different... If you love to crochet, I have come across an Advent crochet Jesse Tree page - [Ravelry: The Jesse Tree: A Crochet Advent Calendar - patterns](#)



Stay safe.

Blessings and love

Mark