

19th July 2020

Dear all

As we are starting to come out of lockdown, you will have noticed that the frequency of my emails has decreased. I will still be posting some things, including links to the Sunday service. We will also be reducing the number of phone calls Sonia and I make – though we will continue to phone those who are still self-isolating, and some others.

My apologies for the confusion over the new arrangements for the Sunday service – I evidently had not explained things as clearly as I thought I had. From today, as we have not resolved the issue of no wi-fi in the church, there will be no live online service at 10.00 am. Today's service has been recorded, and uploaded to YouTube. The link is <https://youtu.be/pNAnYE2bJoA>

There were a few minor hiccups in the service – hopefully to be sorted for next week. A very big thanks for your indulgence as we worked through them. It was great that Sonia was able to preside at the service – the first time since her Sabbatical started in October last year. It was so good also to hear Chris on the organ again. His Bach prelude was a joy to listen to. (Benedict tells me he played it from memory! He had the music shut because there were too many page turns. What!!!) And a big thanks to Helen & Benedict who have supported me in the Communion during lockdown.

We did actually get near capacity for the church as it is set out for social distancing. We have made one decision that will hopefully help for the future. In order to maintain social distancing, if we are not in the same household or bubble, we must be 2m apart or 1m+ (that means 1m with mask). We had to have some people alone in a pew. From next week, if both wear masks, 2 people otherwise not connected will be able to sit in a pew (obviously masks can be removed to receive communion).

For those interested in this sort of puzzle, this is a cryptic teaser, taken from Nick Fawcett's book [Ask Me Another](#). The answers can be found at <https://nickfawcett.uk/2020/07/15/quiz-time-cryptic-teaser-answers/#more-3496>

1. These pronounce sentences making up an ancient book. (6 letters)
2. Did Tom fall for her charms too? (7 letters)
3. Central to US space mission or a preacher rivalling Paul? (7 letters)
4. Biblical woman hurt in mix-up? (4 letters)
5. Not one of the magi but one of mine, perhaps? (7 letters)
6. Piece of crockery has me washing my hands. (6 letters)
7. Convert of Paul daily found in a tizz. (5 letters)
8. Will you get who I am? I doubt it. (6 letters)
9. This one should keep you employed. (3 letters)
10. Investigate and reward this disciple. (6 letters)
11. A book you can count on to give you the answer. (7 letters)
12. Climb this, perhaps, to find him without his hermits, by the sounds of it. (5 and 6 letters)
13. Can a jar of water be turned to wine here? (4 letters)
14. A habitual persecutor of Elijah. (4 letters)
15. The season for sowing, perhaps? (7 and 4 letters)

We got all but number 5.



Stay safe

Blessings and love

Mark