

All Saints Tenerife “Lock Down” Express

April 2020 Easter Edition

Dear Friends,

One of the great characters of the 1970s was a man called Fred Dibnah, a steeplejack who spent his life demolishing the vast sturdy brick industrial chimneys of the old cotton mills in the North of England. What a character!

I saw these amazing edifices when in my twenties with a group of friends. As you do at that age, we hired a canal boat and we took to the Cheshire Ring, a circular canal route in the North West of England. It travels through a varied mix of landscapes between Manchester city centre and rural Cheshire, with stunning views of the Peak District and the Cheshire Plain. What most impressed me was looking up at those huge chimneys built of red brick as they soared up into the sky.

It was great fun as we tried to navigate this boat along the canal coming to deep gushing locks, turning heavy lock bars and so enabling the water to flood out of the lock whilst making sure you didn't upend the narrow boat keeping the descending boat away from the walls as the boat found its new level.

Back to Fred the steeplejack as he is seen speaking from a chimney high above the City in the 1970's Fred was asked if he worried about falling to an instant death, he said, "no I aren't worried about that, I will die in me bed with me socks on". It was a very different age where health and safety didn't seem to count for much! He would demolish a vast soaring chimney whilst burning the wood out from the incision he had made at its base, and just as it started to crack, he would run to safety sounding the horn after the chimney had started to fall.

Why am I mentioning this man of 50 years ago because watching his work as he precariously balanced off the tops of chimneys in a blowing gale (I hate heights) you realise how far we have come and how precarious life used to be and we didn't bat an eyelid even in my lifetime as he demolished a chimney with no fencing and kids on bikes not far off.

Life is precarious it always has been and to be confronted with an unseen enemy that not only can give you a nasty cold but much worse even kill you is for us today an incredible wake up call. So take on a bit of Fred's attitude as you lock yourself in, take precautions as instructed of course, use the time for prayer and reflection. For doing the other things you haven't had time for in living memory, (and some you still won't have time for like me as you will find an excuse) and God willing, as Fred said this isn't going to get you! Therefore, don't focus on the virus but focus on the good things in life, which make life worth living, for me that is being part of a Christian Community, having family, friends and loved ones in contact by phone or the Internet. It is also the stunning beauty of nature, in Tenerife seeing the enormous cacti which can burst into flower in many shades of colour and seeing incredible views of the deep blue sea on almost every turn.

Finally, a lady called Julian of Norwich a medieval Christian Mystic at the time of the Black Death of 1348–50, concluded that, 'All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.'

Keep safe and many blessings this Easter,

Revd. Ron Corne.



Let God comfort you

'God is...the source of all comfort.'

2 Corinthians 1:3 NLT

When you lose someone you love, you go through a grieving process. And God will comfort you and walk you through it. Jesus said, 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted' (Matthew 5:4 NIV 2011 Edition). Grieving is the healthy way to process your emotions, to express your pain and move beyond it. Recovery doesn't happen overnight; it happens in proportion to the size of your loss. Only small losses are healed quickly. Zig Ziglar says: 'The longest twenty hours of my life were those right after my daughter's death. When making her funeral arrangements, I had to listen to a salesman who was an incessant talker, and who told me thirty times that he wasn't a salesman. Twice I had to leave the room; I simply couldn't handle him. The night before, half asleep and half awake, I kept thinking my daughter was wondering when her daddy was coming to get her. The next morning, I took a walk, praying and crying the whole way. When I returned, the Lord spoke to me in such a distinct way: "She's fine. She's with me, and you're going to be fine too. I'm all you need. Keep walking. Keep talking. Keep praying. Keep crying."' Grief and loss can't be solved, but they are experiences you don't have to go through alone. The best-known Psalm in Scripture says, 'Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me' (Psalm 23:4 NKJV). The sun will shine again. 'Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning' (Psalm 30:5 KJV). Your joy will return – God promises it!

Bible in a Year: [Deuteronomy 28-29, Mark 14:53-72](#)

"All things are passing!"

This prayer is by St Theresa of Avila's writings, which could be a meditation, or relate to everything. She was canonised by Pope Gregory XV in 1622 and declared a Doctor of the church in 1970, the first woman to win this recognition.

Let nothing disturb thee,
Nothing affright thee;
All things are passing
God never changes;
Patient endurance
Attained to all things;
Who God possesses
In nothing is wanting;
Alone God suffices.

St Theresa is patron saint of Spain, writers and Carmelites. A visionary who went into deep spiritual trances of ecstasy when she prayed.

St Theresa can be found in the painting at the parsonage meeting room.



You will keep in perfect peace
him whose mind is steadfast,
because he trusts in you.
Trust in the LORD forever,
for the LORD, the LORD, is the Rock eternal.

Isaiah 26:3-4
NIV



Results of Gratitude and Thankfulness

1. God Removes Anxiety

2. Praise and Gratitude drive out fretting and worry, it Keeps our focus on the Lord, the situation may not change, but our attitude will

3. Energizes us physically, mentally, emotionally, and Spiritually.

Do not be **anxious**
about anything,
but in **every situation**,
by **prayer and petition**,
with **thanksgiving**,
present your requests to God.

~Philippians 4:6~

A message from Wendy Sanderson

Hello everybody! I hope you are all coping well with lockdown in these difficult times. It is at times like this when we appreciate how complicated life can be and when we are forced to stay away from everyday life we have to adjust. For some this confinement is a godsend - an opportunity to slow down, do what is important to you as a person and to strengthen relations with loved ones. For others it is a nightmare, particularly for people who live on their own, and people who rely on 'company' to keep going.

Unfortunately, all of our services and social events have had to be cancelled until the government considers it prudent for us to return to normal. Until then, care for each other and those who you know in our community are alone. The way to this is through communication. Talk to each other. A person's voice is far more comforting than a Whatsapp or text message. Over the years as social media has gathered pace the art of conversation has died. Now is the opportunity to resurrect it and to bring joy and happiness into people's lives.

However, we must bear in mind that people have become very ill because of this virus and there is a great risk for our community given our age dynamic. We should, therefore, be happy to stay at home knowing that by doing so we are helping to reduce the spread of the virus. Hopefully the virus will be brought under control sooner rather than later.

Many of our ``swallows`` may still be here in Tenerife due to cancelled flights and travel restrictions. If you are still here please let me or one of the Council members know so we can keep in contact with you. It is by keeping close as a Community that we will overcome this difficult time and look forward to what the future has to offer us.

Take care and keep safe.

Best wishes,

Wendy

Telephone numbers: 922 320978/605486792



A Prayer and a lovely drawing sent to us all here at All Saints by Keari, aged 7,
one of our youngest visitors and Wendy's great-granddaughter.

God Bless you keari for your thoughtfulness.

Dear Lord,

I've come to say thank you for all the things you have blessed me with. Thank you for my family, for making sure I always have someone who loves me, protects me and comforts me.

I'd also like to thank You for the courage and knowledge You give me. We use the knowledge to look after the marvellous world You gave us with all the beautiful plants and creatures in it. We use the courage to tell people if they are mistreating the planet. We should thank the people who clean it for us, although they should not have to. Like Noah protected the animals, so should we.

We should treat everyone equally, even if they are different to us, like the Good Samaritan, where, just because the injured man was different, he still helped him.

Never betray God, like Adam and Eve. No-one should ignore or betray God.

I am so grateful for church, where we can worship You, God. All the people in the parish are wonderful, lovely people and just remember, they are Your creation.

The last thing I would like to thank You for is You and Jesus. You made the wonderful world we live in and You sent Your amazing son down to make us happy.

Thank You, God.

Amen



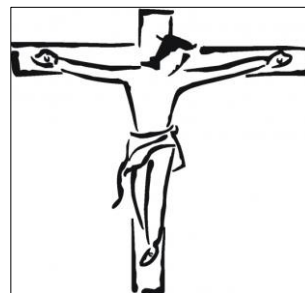
What are we missing?

The current "State of Emergency" has kept us away from church now for almost a month, at what many think of as the most solemn yet joyful time of the church's year. The three days, the "Triduum", at the end of Holy Week (Semana Santa), followed by the joy of the Resurrection which we celebrate on Easter Day. In Jesus' time (and still for the Jews), the "day" began at sunset the previous evening, so the Triduum begins on the evening of Maundy Thursday and ends on sunset on Easter Day.

Maundy Thursday, the name is taken from the first few Latin words sung at the ceremony of the washing of the feet, "*Mandatum novum do vobis ut diligatis invicem sicut dilexi vos*" ("I give you a new commandment, That ye love one another as I have loved you"). Traditionally, after the sermon at an evening Eucharist, the priest washes the feet of twelve people, which emphasises the idea of Jesus as the "Servant King". Following this, Jesus' command "Do this in remembrance of me" takes place in the celebration of the Eucharist, the consecration of the bread and wine. In many churches, including All Saints', the altar is stripped at the end of the service, leaving the church looking bare until Easter Day, again signifying the solemnity of the period.

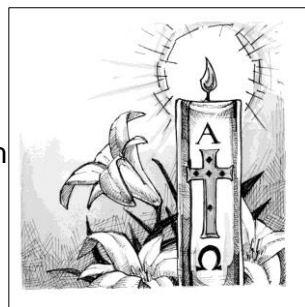


Good Friday, a rather strange name, given that nothing good seems to have happened on that day! In fact, an obsolete meaning of the word "good" is "pious" or "holy". In most Anglican churches, on this day, there is no celebration of the Eucharist, the priest very often just wearing a black cassock to conduct services. A very popular service is the three-hour or one-hour devotion, timed to finish at 3pm, which the gospels say was the hour of Christ's death on the cross.



Holy Saturday is perhaps the most stark day of the year, symbolising the gap between the death of Jesus and his resurrection. Even in churches which have a daily Eucharist it is rare for there to be a celebration on this day.

The Great Vigil of Easter, or just the **Easter Vigil**, is a service which has gained popularity in many Anglican churches in recent years. Some churches celebrate it on the evening of Holy Saturday, and others at dawn on Easter Day. The theme is "from darkness to light", and the service usually begins with the lighting of a new fire outside the church door. From this, the Paschal Candle is lit (you may have seen our Paschal Candle at All Saints' - it stands near the font for the rest of the year!). The candle is carried in procession into the church, with the acclamation "Christ our Light!" and the response "Thanks be to God!" three times. This candle stands near the sanctuary, and is lit at all services from Easter Day to Ascension Day, symbolising the earthly presence of the Risen Lord until His ascension into heaven. In the early church, Baptisms and Confirmations were carried out at this service, and, in fact, this is becoming more common again!



We are missing so much, by not being able to attend these services, full of symbolism, as they are, at this time of the church's year. However, some extracts of these services will be posted on the All Saints' website (<https://allsaintstenerife.org/>) along with reflections from our Chaplain the Revd Ron Corne. Please follow the Triduum, even though we are not able to do it publicly.

Graham Taylor

Human Frailty and Divine Power

When things are going well, it is easy for us to think that we are in control. We are healthy. We have money in the bank. And then a microscopic virus hits and brings the entire world to its knees.

I am sure there are many questions on the minds of people around the world due to the coronavirus. Isn't it amazing that something so small can disrupt the world? Entire companies shutting down. Italy quarantined. And we think we are in control.

I never cease to be amazed at how people who live in relative isolation from God can blame God when something bad happens, as if he were a celestial nanny who helps when we call on him and stays in the broom closet when we don't. This, of course, is not the God of the Bible, who has committed himself to send the rain on the just and the unjust (Matthew 5:45), and who has appointed government to secure us some level of societal order and peace (Romans 13), but he has never committed to more than that.

Being his child, however, is a totally different situation. When we removed all trust in ourselves, and placed our trust for all things in Jesus, we were not only forgiven, justified, sanctified, and redeemed; we were also adopted into his family. For those "who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God" (John 1:12–13).

The benefits of being his child instills in us confidence that no matter what happens we know he is our firm anchor in the stormy seas. He is so much in charge that he promises to work in all situations to achieve his good in his children (Romans 8:28–29). I recently spoke on this at Cedarville University and you may find it helpful.

When I hear someone ridiculing God and his children, when I see people who think they are in control—the master of their own fate and the captain of their own soul—I often think of Psalms 2 and its message of human frailty and divine power. Speaking to the nations about the coming Messiah, King Jesus, the Psalmist writes:

Why do the nations conspire, and the peoples plot in vain?

The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the LORD and against his anointed...

God responds:

The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. He warns the people: Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear and celebrate his rule with trembling.

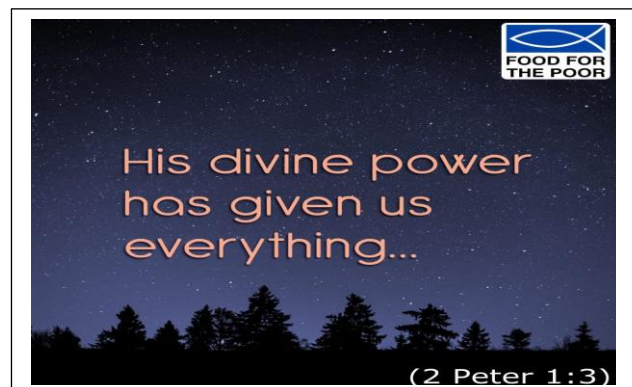
But to his children he promises: Blessed are all who take refuge in him [the Messiah].

It is sad to me that it takes major calamities like 9/11 and the coronavirus to remind us that God is our Father (if we are in fact his children), and that he has made wonderful promises to us, not to keep us from all harm but to walk with us through the dangers of this world and to usher us safely into his kingdom. To the victorious—those who remain faithfully his children—he gives the victor's crown (Revelation 2:10).

All human security is an illusion. The only thing that is certain is that nothing can "separate us from the love of Christ." His children know for sure, especially in perilous times, that neither "trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword" can loosen us from God. Rather, "in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (verses from Romans 8:35–39)

And that is more than enough.

<https://www.thenivbible.com/blog/human-frailty-and-divine-power/>



A message from Revd. Ron our parish priest

Dear Friends,

Lockdown has caused me to be working remotely but praying directly! This is a great opportunity for us to bring change to ourselves and change to the world. Yes, praying directly, as Jesus called us to, being assured he will join us in our prayers through the Holy Spirit. It is interesting in the New Testament that none of the disciples could do anything much until the Holy Spirit came. No one dared move from Jerusalem to proclaim or utter the message along its narrow streets to the multitudes until the Holy Spirit came in baptismal power. John could not utter a word, though he had pillowed his head on Christ's bosom and caught the pulsations of Christ's heart, and though his brain was full of the wondrous facts of that life and of the wondrous words, which fell from His lips. John must wait until a fuller and richer endowment than all of these came on him. Mary could not grasp the new beloved Son that Jesus said must care for her in the his home, though she had nurtured the Christ and stored in her heart and mind and full of holy and motherly memories, until she was empowered by the Holy Spirit.

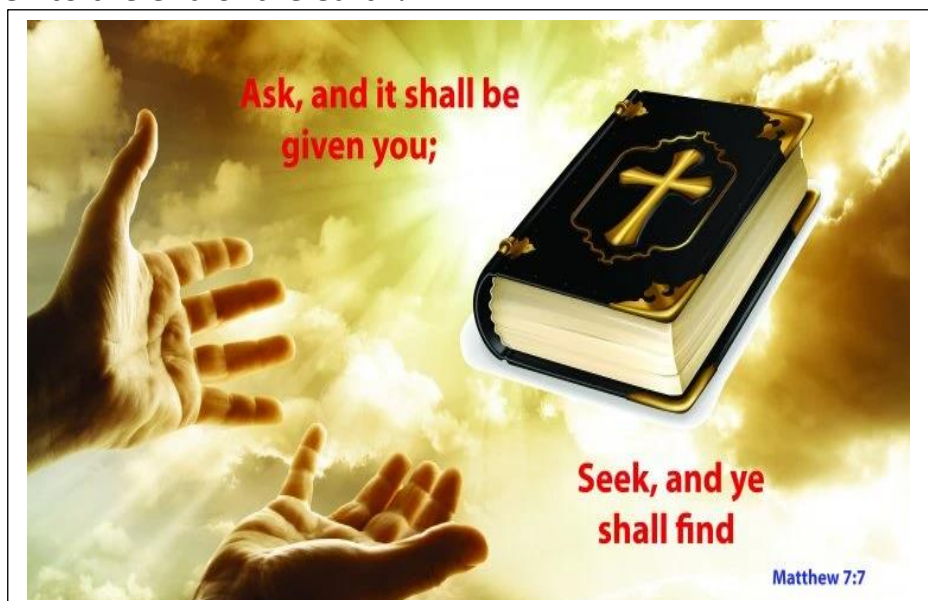
In these lockdown days it is well worth taking time for the closing of the door and being still with Christ and focussing on him, then deeply on the things which you wish to bring to him. Those you are worrying about, the situation which now confronts us, caring also for ourselves.

You see the coming of the Holy Spirit is dependent upon prayer. Ask, and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." To His disconsolate disciples, He said, "I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Comforter." This law of prayer for the Holy Spirit presses on the Master and also onto the disciples as well.

This is one of the great privileges of being a Christian as Jesus told us he would never leave us or forsake us even to the end of the earth!

With Blessings

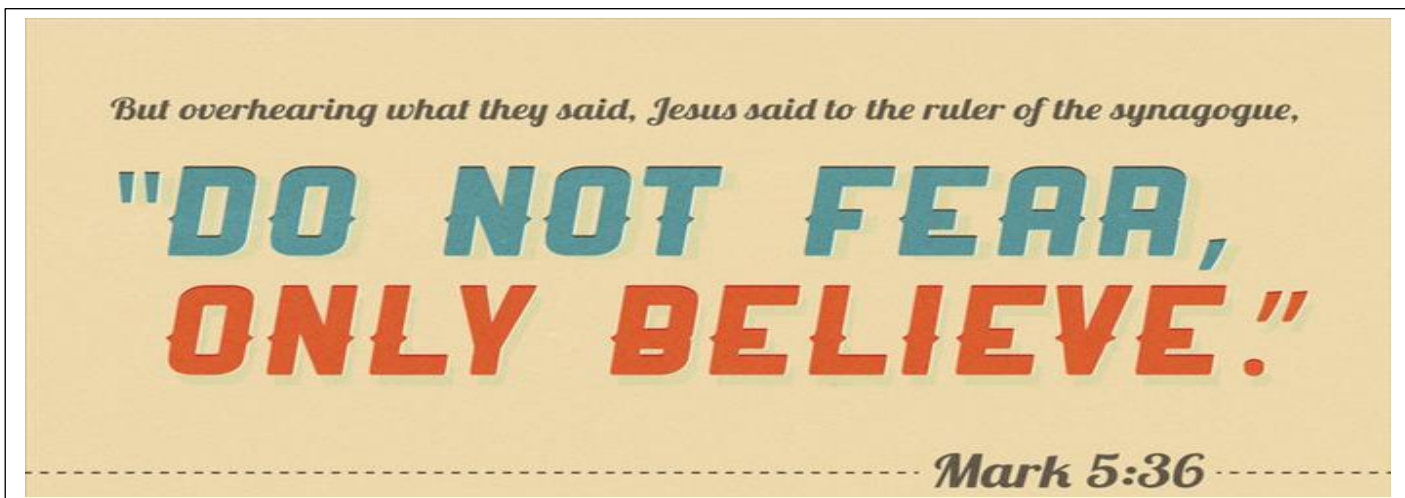
Revd. Ron Corne.



The Coronavirus: What Would Jesus Do? By Scott Ventrella

1. Have Faith in God

Fear is useless. What is needed is [faith](#). ([Mark 5:36](#))



I think for most Christians it's fairly easy to have and profess our faith—especially when life is running smoothly. The real test of faith is when the going gets rough. Take for instance the account of Jesus walking on the water:

Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. 'It's a ghost,' they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: 'Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.' 'Lord, if it's you,' Peter replied, 'tell me to come to you on the water.' 'Come,' he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. 'You of little faith,' he said, 'why did you doubt?' ([Matthew 14:25-31](#))

I keep this image in mind every time my faith begins to falter.

Peter had faith enough in Jesus to step out on the choppy waters. As long as his gaze was fixed on Jesus, he was fine. But once he started to pay attention to the raging winds and water he panicked and began to sink.

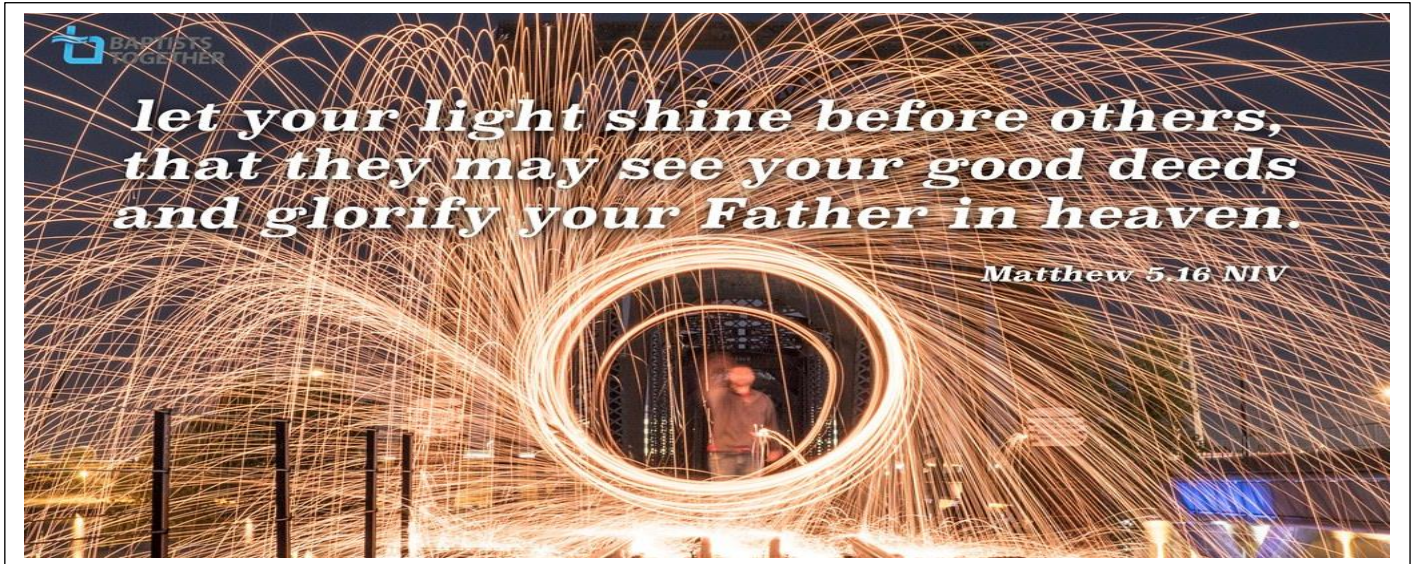
What a great lesson Jesus teaches us here, even while facing a global pandemic.

Indeed, the waters are dangerously choppy, and uncertainty abounds. But fear is useless. It only leads to panic, worry, and anxiety. Think of it this way, fear will not prevent us from contracting the virus.

If anything, it may [make us more vulnerable as fear and worry lowers our immune system](#). Instead, when life's challenges begin to close in on us, we need re-fix our gaze on Jesus—and [trust him](#). Faith and trust go hand-in-hand.

2. Love Your Neighbour

Faith requires that we go out into the world to share our gifts with others—also known as “faith in action.” As Jesus said, “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in [heaven](#)” ([Matthew 5:16](#)).



Tumultuous times can bring out the best in people. Unfortunately, it also brings out the worst. As the virus made its way across the world, panic ensued.

People flocked to grocery stores and pharmacies buying up (and hoarding) everything from surgical masks and hand sanitizer to tissue and toilet paper. Yes, toilet paper! As a result, this left many other people and organizations, such as hospitals, nursing homes, and first responders without necessary supplies.

Xenophobic behaviour is sadly on the rise. Just recently, a hate-filled [woman in Manhattan attacked an Asian woman blaming her](#) for the coronavirus outbreak. I guess people are afraid someone might steal their toilet paper. This is absolutely contrary to Christian teaching.

Jesus would have us treat others as we would like to be treated. He would expect us to treat everyone with respect, kindness, and compassion. He would admonish us to think of others, by buying only what we reasonably need.

He would encourage us to share not only from our surplus but from our scarcity as well. He would tell us to reach out to others—especially the elderly, isolated, and lonely. Even though we're required to self-isolate and practice “social distancing,” it shouldn't prevent us from picking up the phone. Take a moment to think of a friend or relative in need of comfort and consolation. When you do, avoid dwelling on all the bad news. Instead, [be uplifting](#). Speak words of encouragement. Share scripture passages and pray with them.

3. Connect with Self and Family

The current crisis now has millions of people working from home. As a result, it seems to have freed up some recreational time. In my own town and neighbourhood, I'm noticing families out walking and playing together. I'm seeing people I've never seen before; and we've lived on the same street for 23 years!

More people than ever are riding bikes, running, hiking, rollerblading. It's truly amazing. I just recently received this message from an Innkeeper friend who's worried about how "quiet" her business has gotten:

"And yet, within the quiet, there are silver linings. I have spent many hours with my son, Owen, walking and talking - and at 14-years old, getting him to do that is a minor miracle. I have walked with Luna every day in our beautiful woods and am watching our early Spring arrive and the animals wake up with renewed delight. I have talked to more friends and family "just because" recently and am feeling closer to them all, since we are all in this together. When I manage to keep the anxiety at bay, the simplicity of life right now is beautiful."

This is a great opportunity to reprioritize [what's important in life](#). The meaning of "success" is changing for the better. Due to unexpected circumstances out of our control, we're in a sense "forced" to redefine what success looks like. On the whole, the emphasis is shifting from quantity to quality. Put another way, in this day and age, success is becoming less about how much we have in life and more about how well we're living our lives.

Growing numbers of people are realizing that they've been missing out on the important things in life. Fortunately, we are waking up from our slumber. This is a great time to reflect on all aspects of life—especially [faith](#), family, friends, and career.

4. Count Your Blessings

I have a morning ritual that involves stopping by my favourite coffee shop to grab a "cup of joe" to go. I enjoy chatting with the folks that work there and also seeing the "usual" customers. On Friday, due to the lockdown in my state, they abruptly closed.

I'm ashamed to say that my first thought was, "poor me, what will I do without my favourite coffee?" Thankfully the self-pity was very short-lived. I quickly thought of the many minimum-wage workers who likely live pay check to pay check. Who knows when they'll be able to return.

Then I thought about the millions of people in similar straits not to mention the impact on small businesses. Of course, I thought of the number of people afflicted with the virus, their healthcare providers, and the many people serving on the front lines.

Finally, I thought of the thousands globally who have succumbed to the illness.

It made me realize that I should ignore the minor pinpricks of the day and [focus on the many blessings](#) in my life.

Let's all be more mindful in giving thanks to God for all blessings, large and small.

5. Strengthen Your Faith

Please take a break from the 24/7 "breaking news cycle." This is an excellent time to draw closer to God and deepen our relationship with Him. I suggest reading scripture, inspirational literature, virtual [Bible](#) study and [most importantly, prayer](#).

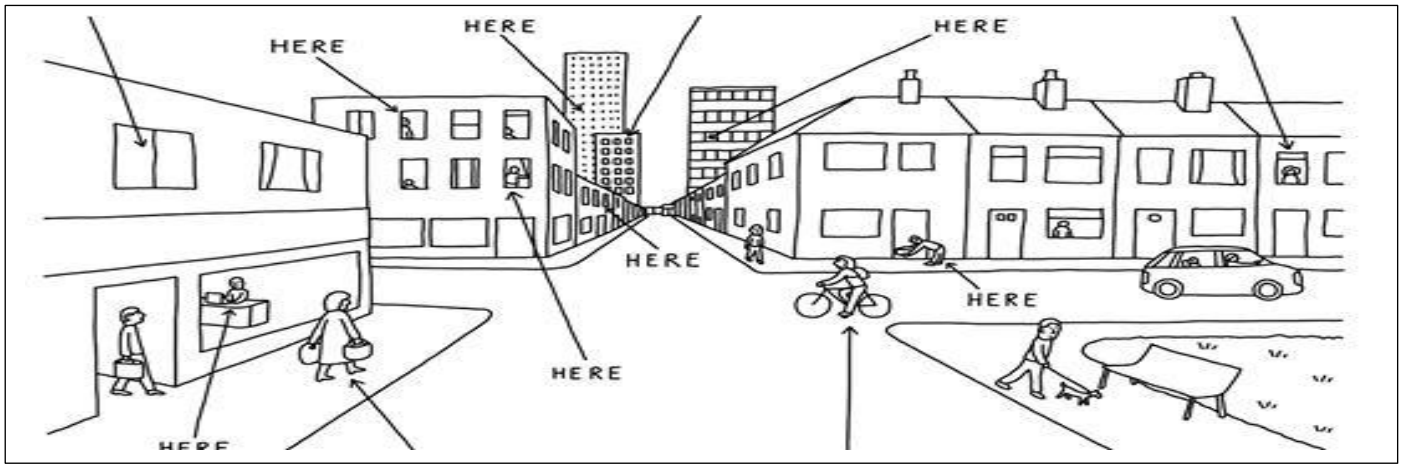
The following are insights and tips on prayer.

- There's no one formula – discover what works best for you. Ask God for discernment.
- Sometimes the words simply don't come so turn it over to the Holy Spirit, "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans." ([Romans 8:26](#))
- Make [prayer a habit](#) daily in your life, but don't approach it as 'routine.' Formulaic or rote prayers can be helpful but sometimes lose their meaning. Change it up and pray what's on your heart today.
- Match the intensity of prayer with the gravity of the situation. In Mark's Gospel, there's an account of the disciples unable to heal a young boy tortured by an unclean spirit. When Jesus heals the boy "his disciples asked him privately, "Why couldn't we drive the spirit out?" He told them, "This kind can come out only by prayer and fasting." ([Mark 9:28-29](#)) This is a time where intense prayer is vital.
- Pray and worship in "spirit and truth." Jesus reminds us in a sense not to be casual in our worship of God, "The hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must [worship in spirit](#) and truth." ([John 4:23-24](#))

These insights and tips are based on a combination of Biblical principles and through my own experience during my faith journey. I've drawn from many different sources over the years and suggest you do the same. The one thing I can say for certain is that effectiveness and quality of your prayer life is equal to the proportion of time and energy you invest in developing it.

Yes, this crisis will eventually pass. In the meantime, let's all use our time wisely and [behave in a manner pleasing to God](#)!

<https://www.crosswalk.com/special-coverage/coronavirus/the-coronavirus-what-would-jesus-do.html>



Tenerife (and others) Virtual Church

Dear Friends,

As Wendy has mentioned, all of our events have been cancelled, but whilst we are not able to meet at All Saints, I would like to invite you all to join in the Tenerife (and others) Virtual Church. This can be found on Facebook and YouTube. Rachel and Paul Garney from Tenerife South are celebrating every Sunday at 12pm a service that you are all most welcome to join. Here is the link and hopefully you will be able to join in.
https://youtu.be/5p_DiTEVUOs

This Sunday coming is Palm Sunday. Rachel asks us all to send her messenger or whatever you have a picture of yourself with a cross if you can. Bring some bread and wine too, as there is an agape meal.

Revd. Ron is also posting his Sunday Sermon and a recording on the All Saints Website, so please listen to that and have a good read of his sermon too.

Staying sane and staying connected during Lock Down

During this time it is important to keep in touch with each other, so if you are alone and would like to form part of a small group of 4 or 5 people who keep in touch with each other and make sure you are all ok, please contact Wendy on her mobile 605 486 792. She is currently trying to pull together groups of people who would like to chat, share thoughts, pray or simply stay in touch with other members of the congregation and wider community who may feel isolated or alone.

Personally, I am rather lazy when it comes to sending messages and WhatsApp. I much prefer to video chat as I talk far too much and frankly, can only type on my mobile with one finger.... Which is very odd as I can type properly doing about 70 wpm! I also think it's nice to look at the other person when you are chatting to them as it almost puts you into the same room as them. Communication is easier, especially for me, as being virtually Spanish I do tend to gesticulate quite a bit which make video chatting more fun. LOL.

So, don't be shy, get in contact with Wendy and put your name down for one of the small contact hubs or groups she is organising. Keep up to date with each other. It is by helping others that we help ourselves. God Bless you all. Love Cheryl.

Giving to the Church in times of quarantine

by Cheryl Douglas

I have been asked several times over the past few weeks how this period of quarantine is going to affect All Saints finances, and like most other churches, charitable organisations, businesses and people, I believe it will affect us negatively. We will of course lose our biggest source of income from our car boot sales, but as a congregation we can also try to mitigate some of these effects. Why do we not all put to one side our weekly offerings and collecting them to hand in on the first Great Sunday Celebration at All Saints when we can all meet again at church under the leadership of Revd Ron?

What a joyous celebration that will be! To be united as one again, to sing God's glory and praises with all our might, give thanks and prayers for the lives saved and for those who have died and are now in His Kingdom. To remember those who fought on the frontline to save lives, healthcare workers and emergency services, the army, and those who worked through the crisis, in shops, petrol stations, nursing homes, delivery staff and those who gave their all to help their fellow human beings.

Let this be the biggest and most joyful celebration and collection All Saints has ever had in living memory!!

As Christians it is our duty to give ourselves in God's service, besides just giving money to support the church though. I will conclude with some thought provoking questions and let us be honest, we all have plenty of time to sit down and think about them. Ask yourselves, is my giving in time and money pleasing to God?

1. How much am I sacrificing to support God's work? How much am I really giving up in comparison to what I have left?
2. Am I really carrying my fair share of the responsibility to support the work of the church, or am I leaving this up to others when I really could be giving more?
3. Am I seeking to give as much as I can, or do I try to "get by" with giving just a little to the Lord and spending the rest to please myself and my family?
4. How does my church contribution compare to other items in my budget? Does my giving indicate that the church and service to God are really the most important things in life to me?
5. Do I give the way I would want other people to give if they were giving to meet my need - if I were the lost person who needed to hear the gospel, or if I were the preacher or the Christian in need?
6. Do I give as much as Jesus would give if He were in my place? If He had my income and my family obligations, would He give more? (1 Pet. 2:21)
7. How much would I give each Sunday if I had to personally put the gift into the nail-pierced hand of Jesus Himself? Would I give more than I do now? Would I feel ashamed of what I give now? Remember, whatever I am giving now, He does know, and He will judge me for it.

Is God pleased with your giving?

Be Blessed this Easter everyone. Stay safe and take care.



How is the Church of England adapting plans for Holy Week and into Easter to meet the challenges of coronavirus?

This new blog - <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/stories-and-features/how-church-england-adapting-plans-holy-week-and-easter-meet>

summarises the range of national resources and content that will be shared in the weeks ahead. This includes details of new Lord's Prayer materials written in 2019 by Bishop Steven Croft, which will allow Christians to continue beyond Easter Day with content that lends itself to a context where personal prayer is paramount and gathering for worship is not possible.

Alongside the use of audio, app, smart speakers and social media, one of the main principles we are working to is to make as much as possible available in simple downloadable and printable formats for those who can't easily access the technology.

Prayer, liturgy and resources for Holy Week and Easter

Advice for marking Holy Week and Easter - <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-parishes/holy-week-and-easter-2020>

has been prepared. It includes practical activities to do at home, suggestions for prayer and Bible study, live-streaming services, and useful guidance for dioceses and churches.

A page has been created - <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer-resources>

containing: prayers and intercessions for personal or group use, special prayers for use if it isn't possible to meet in church and a simple form of prayer for the morning and evening, which can be downloaded, printed, and shared with those remaining at home or who are unable to access the Internet.

These resources are offered to help those who are struggling to find words at this difficult and stressful time, and to enable Christians to worship in solidarity with one another even if it is not possible to gather in church.

Make your own Holy Week devotional

If you prefer to create your own devotional plan, below are some suggested passages for each day:

Palm Sunday: Read and pray through Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem ([Mark 11:1-11](#))

Monday: Begin reading the account of Jesus' final week in John. Today, read and pray through Jesus' anointing at Bethany, when Mary pours perfume on his head ([John 12:1-11](#))

Tuesday: Read and pray through Jesus' prediction of his death ([John 12:20-36](#))

Wednesday: Read and pray through Jesus' prediction of his betrayal ([John 13:21-30](#))

Thursday: Read and pray through the Last Supper ([John 13:1-17, 31-35](#)) and Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane ([Matthew 26:36-45](#))

Friday: Read and pray through Jesus' arrest and crucifixion ([John 18:28-19:37](#))

Saturday: Read and pray through the burial of Jesus ([Matthew 27:57-66](#))

Sunday: Read and pray through the resurrection of Jesus ([John 20:1-18](#))

FOOD AID by Kath Delgado

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD ... hot sausage and mustard. While we're in the mood, cold jelly and custard As the song from the musical 'Oliver' goes.

We have had plenty of time to think recently. I wonder how many of us have brought out the old recipe books and are recreating some long-lost favourite meals. I have been going through some of mine I have to say, and I rediscovered the Food Aid cookery book of 1986. Who remembers that one? It followed the amazing effort by Bob Geldorf and fellow musicians in delivering Live Aid which raised in the region of £65,000,000 to help the fight against world famine.

The FOOD AID COOKERY BOOK has recipes ranging from the Late Princess of Wales' Watercress Soup, Ronnie Barkers Marinated Spareribs, B. A Robertson's Coffee Custard Pudding (yuk) to a mix of exotic and traditional recipes. Now *there* are a few blasts from the past. It does occur to me that food has such power. I recently observed a 95 year old being transformed from an almost lifeless bundle in bed to sitting up in a chair drinking tea. Now in truth it was a combination of antibiotics, food and water but the change was not due to antibiotics alone.

As a baby our very first form of communication is about food. How often did your children use food to communicate the otherwise incommunicable? How often does the smell, taste or appearance of food stir up some distant memory. There lies my interest today. I can recall people and moments of my life through recipes I find in my books. I can be transported back to a different time and place and be reminded of distant friends. In fact, my recipe books are like Eamon Andrews red book 'THIS IS YOUR LIFE' with entries like Auntie Lizzies gingerbread. Mums Johnny cake. The vicar's wife's tea loaf (sounds like an episode of Midsomer murders), The Boss' Texan chilli, Eva's Swedish meatballs, Urbans' Johansson's temptation, and so it goes on.

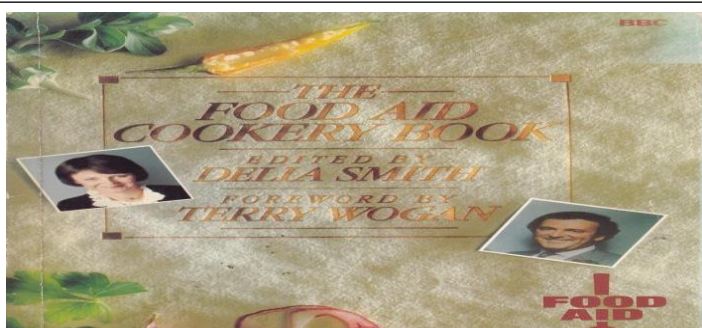
As a child, my family lived in a small village in the Scottish Borders which was about 25 miles from my grandparent's farm. 55 years ago, Cumbrian farming was totally different from the industrialised modern farming of today. Tattie picking and hay time were times of social gatherings with billycans of tea and sandwiches made from Grandmas homemade bread and bramble and apple jelly. When we ran out of daylight, we all rolled into the house and had chips and salmon fishcakes and more tea. Never since has anyone made salmon fishcakes like my Grandma. On Saturday nights after hot dusty days on the farm we were bundled into the bath, donned our PJs and carried to the back of the car to go home. We could never leave until the bread was ready and Grandma would cut us a heel each (a crust in English), slather it in butter and send us on our way. Unhealthy? No, we had run around all day. We had jumped over bales of hay and we had worked hard.

I recall as a student leaving an establishment in Edinburgh late one night with my boyfriend, whom I ended up marrying. It was in the days when enormous black Trench coats were fashionable, and he was nothing if not fashionable. It was beyond witching hour, but the local 24-hour bake house was open. John walked down the steps to the basement bakery in Haymarket in Edinburgh, bought his six Scottish breakfast rolls and emerged from the doorway like a spectre in the night. He had fallen down the stairs and his trench coat was totally covered in flour. Breakfast rolls can transport me back to a very cold and windy Edinburgh in the middle of the night.

So, why am I saying this.? Well, I have a suggestion. As we are unable to have car boot sales at the moment why don't we try to bridge the funding gap by composing an All Saints Food and memories book? There has to be a catchy title for it but for now I had in mind that everyone would send a recipe with a memory attached. It could be the memory of a moment in time or of a person. It could be for baking or for cooking. It could be a paragraph or a page. It will be so much more interesting than just the recipe. Please feel free to send as many entries as you want. The more interesting your life has been the more you may want to send.

If you would like to contribute something to the Food Aid memories book, please send your remembered moments to kath.delgadocabrera@gmail.com entitled RECIPES REMEMBERED by the end of April.

Have fun and take care folks. Stay safe



Holy Humour – Giggle with God



The Church Lady

There was a little old lady who was very religious who would step out on her porch every day, raise her arms to the sky and yell, "Praise the Lord".

One day, an atheist bought the house next door to her and he became very irritated with the religious lady. So, after a month of her yelling, "Praise the Lord" from her porch, he would go out, and shout, "There is no Lord." Yet, the little old lady continued.

One cold, wintry day,
when the little old lady couldn't get to the store,
she went
out on her porch, raised her hands up to the sky
and said, "Help me Lord, I have no more money, it's
cold, and I have no more food."

The next morning, she went outside, and there were
bags of food on the porch, enough to last her a
week. "Praise the Lord," she yelled.

The Atheist stepped out from the bushes and said,
"There is no Lord, I bought those
groceries!" The little old lady raised her arms to
the sky and said,
"Praise the Lord, You sent me groceries and you
made the Devil pay for them!"



Five Sisters left the Convent on a trip to St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City and were sight-seeing on a Tuesday in July. It was hot and humid in town and their traditional garb was making them so uncomfortable, they decided to stop in at Patty McGuire's Pub for a cold soft drink.

Patty had recently added special legs to his barstools, which were the talk of the neighbourhood. All five Nuns sat up at the bar and were enjoying their Cokes when Monsignor Riley and Father McGinty entered the bar through the front door. They, too, came for a cold drink when they were shocked and almost fainted at what they saw.

