



## **CHURCH NOTICES**

22nd March  
**Mothering Sunday**

### **STAYING IN TOUCH**

It is very sad that at such a difficult time we cannot meet together in church for fellowship and worship. In every other crisis the church has been there and open for people to come to and be supported by others. We do not know how long this state of affairs will last and we need to make sure that we care for each other and our neighbours as much as we possibly can.

There is a real danger of loneliness and isolation. To help with this we are going to do a number of things including regular mailings and additions to the church website <https://www.stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk/> We will also continue to print and distribute the Parish Magazine.

If you are in any kind of need please let the Rector, Simon (☎ 253010) or the office know (☎ 262211).

The ministry team and others are beginning a ministry by telephone to keep in touch.

### **WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

At such a time it is very difficult to know what to do to give life some shape and also keep faith and prayer alive so as well as looking at the resources for prayer we have made available (see above) here are some practical suggestions.

1. Look out for your near neighbours. If you cannot visit them then ring them or put a note through their door asking them how they are and offering to help (if you can). You might also assure them of your prayers.
2. Stay in touch with family and friends using your preferred means of communication
3. It is the season of Lent and soon it will be Easter. There is still time to practice some of the essential Lenten disciplines: Bible reading and reflection, prayer, a bit of self-denial (though, at the moment, you may think enough is being denied!) and giving to charity. That last one is most important. Charities will be hard hit by not being able to collect money and yet the need will not have gone away and may well increase. So why not make a donation to your favourite charity? It could simply be the money you will be saving by not going out.
4. If you can, get out of the house and go for a walk regularly. St Michael's church is surrounded by a large churchyard which, at the moment, is full of daffodils and the bluebells are not far behind. As you walk, pray and reflect and give thanks to God for the gift of life and your blessings.  
St Michael's Church will be open for private prayer from 10.00am to 12.00noon from Monday to Saturday and on Sundays from 10.30am to 12.00noon. St John's Church at Wall will be open whenever possible during the hours of daylight.
5. If you come to St Michael's when it is open – bring a donation for the Foodbank. They are going to need it.

## **LENT COURSE**

**LENT STUDY COURSE FOR ST MICHAEL'S AND ST JOHN'S**

### *Caring for God's World*

Though we have had to cancel the discussion groups all resources are now available on the website. <https://www.stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk/lent-resources-2020.html>

## **EVENTS**

**KALEIDOSCOPE CONCERT SATURDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY, 7.30PM CANCELLED**

**MOTHERS' UNION LENT LUNCH** - thanks to everyone who supported the lunch last Saturday in any way at all. Your attendance, donations and generosity enabled us to raise the princely sum of **£256** which will go to further the work of Mothers' Union projects. Thank you so much. Tune in if you can today to **BBC1 SONGS OF PRAISE, Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 1.15pm** who will be featuring the transformative work of Mothers' Union.

## **VOLUNTEERING AND CHARITIES**

**LICHFIELD FOOD BANK.** Thank you for your continuing support for Lichfield Foodbank. The latest needs are instant mash, jam, tinned tuna. **If you come to church for private prayer please continue to bring items for the Food Bank.** There is likely to be greater demand than ever.

## **CHURCHES TOGETHER**

### **All the following events have been cancelled**

**ST JAMES THE GREAT, LONGDON CELEBRATIONS**

**WALK OF WITNESS**

**I AM MARK**