**THE UNITED BENEFICE OF KELVEDON & FEERING**

***THE PARISH CHURCHES OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, KELVEDON, & ALL SAINTS’, FEERING***

[**https://www.kelvedonandfeeringchurches.co.uk/**](https://www.kelvedonandfeeringchurches.co.uk/)

**NEWSSHEET for THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - SUNDAY 7TH MARCH 2021**

May the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in your sight,

O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. *Psalm 19.14*

A MESSAGE FROM SIMON GARWOOD, OUR PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

Next Sunday is, of course, Mothering Sunday - we are so sorry that we have no services at either church. However both churches will be open, and posies will be available in the porch from about 9.30 am. Details of All Saints’ opening time are at the top pf page 2. There will also be a sheet with Mothering Sunday prayers and readings for you to use, either in church or at home. Please ensure that you pick up the posies and prayer sheets safely, keeping your mask on in the porch, observing social distancing where needed and using the hand sanitiser available.

Please also note that St Mary’s will be closed for the next two Wednesdays, 10th & 17th March, while ‘Skip’s Bell’ is put in place. More details are in the notice at the top of page 2. We are sorry for the lack of access, but we hope you will be pleased to hear about the bell - the chimes should be back soon!

May I again shamelessly plug our Night Prayer service, every Wednesday evening at 8.30 pm. Both the link below and the order of service for it are also on our website - see the link at the top of this page. Night Prayer lasts only 15-20 minutes and is a quiet, reflective way to end the day. It’s open to anyone, and is also a good way of catching up with church folk you may not have seen for a while.

Night Prayer (Compline): Day and time - Wednesday 10th March 2021, at 8:30 pm

 Every Wednesday up to 28th April, all at 8.30 pm

Zoom Link: [<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86528542261?pwd=NEpQb25OMjRHbnpET09MYXFzNGhpdz09>](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86528542261?pwd=NEpQb25OMjRHbnpET09MYXFzNGhpdz09)

Meeting ID: 865 2854 2261 Passcode: 099401

In this difficult time, if you need support or a listening ear, if you’re in need of prayer, or you know of those who are, then please let me know via 01376 573701 or at simongarwood@simonliz62.plus.com.

Stay safe, well and sane, everyone!

 *With my prayers & best wishes for your continued safety, Simon*

**FOR OUR PRAYERS**

* For all who have had or currently have the virus for their families and loved-ones. For those with other illnesses and conditions, who are struggling to receive proper treatment during the pandemic.
* For our NHS, emergency services and all frontline workers; for all staffing intensive care or working directly with Covid-19, facing extreme pressures; for all seeking to provide comfort and help, that they may be cared for too. For all vulnerable people still waiting to be vaccinated, and for those carrying out the vaccinations.
* For our villages, especially our Health Centre, local frontline workers, the Coronavirus Support Group; our church primary schools; our parish councils; for St Dominic’s & Drummonds; our local Foodbank & HomeStart, & their volunteers; for all in need.
* For our churches and for the Church as a whole that, where in physical or digital form, it may be a place of light, peace and hope for all in need. For Bishop Guli Francis-Dehqani, Bishop-elect of Chelmsford, as she prepares to take up her new and demanding role this year.
* For the peoples of Belarus, Hong Kong, Myanmar, Somalia and Eritrea, and Yemen: for freedom, security and peace.
* For all who have died recently and their loved ones; especially for Peggy Andrews, Martin Armstrong, Tony Karaskas, Monica Evans, Bridgette Reilly and Erik Trawny, all of whose funerals have taken place or will do so in the next few weeks.

**NOTICES**

**WORSHIP IN THE UNITED BENEFICE OF KELVEDON & FEERING - PLEASE NOTE:**

**WE HAVE STOPPED ALL CHURCH SERVICES DURING THE CURRENT NATIONAL LOCKDOWN.**

**St Mary’s Church is usually open for private prayer during daylight on Wednesdays & Sundays. BUT…**

**THE BUILDING WORK TO STRENGTHEN THE BELL FRAME AND INSTALL “SKIP’S” BELL IS DUE TO START ON MONDAY 8TH MARCH, AND WILL CONTINUE FOR TWO WEEKS. ST MARY’S WILL THEREFORE BE CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY 10TH AND 17TH MARCH, BUT WILL BE OPEN ON MOTHERING SUNDAY.**

**GUIDELINES WHEN VISITING ST MARY’S OR ALL SAINTS’**

 **St Mary’s remains open for private prayer during daylight hours on Wednesdays and Sundays.**

**All Saints’ will also be open for Mothering Sunday, from 9.30 to 11.30 am.**

* Please follow Social Distancing Guidelines
* Face coverings must be worn (children under 11 & those with certain medical conditions are exempt)
* Use hand sanitiser provided when arriving and leaving
* Place a ‘Do not sit on this seat’ sign on the pew you have used (St Mary’s) or sit in a pew where directed by one of the stewards (All Saints’).

If you have any concerns, please get in touch with Simon or with one of the Churchwardens.

**MOTHERING SUNDAY – NEXT SUNDAY, 14TH MARCH**

**1) POSIES -** Next Sunday, 14th March is Mothering Sunday and posies will be available on Sunday morning from both St Mary's Church and All Saints' porches. Our vulnerable ladies should receive a bunch at the weekend, but if you want to make sure of a delivery please ring either Geraldine for St Mary’s on 571862, or Lynn for All Saints’ on 07925 036364 (text or call).

**2) FAMILY SERVICE** - For Mothering Sunday, St Mary’s is preparing another pre-recorded Family Service with crafts for children. **If your child would like a craft bag with all the necessary items, then please ring Geraldine on 571862** **before 10 a.m. on Saturday 13th**, and a craft bag will be available for them in St Mary’s Church porch later in the day. We had good feedback regarding our last service, with lots of adults also enjoying the different format, so do look out for the YouTube link.

**LENT GROUP ON ZOOM**

Our new Tuesday evening Zoom Lent Group are reading *Being Disciples*,a very short book by Rowan Williams (SPCK, 2016 – ISBN 978-0-281-07662-8). There’ll be the 6 sessions, based on the 6 chapters: ‘Being disciples’; ‘Faith, hope and love’; ‘Forgiveness’; ‘Holiness’; ‘Faith in society’; and ‘Life in the Spirit’. Each session will last about an hour, and we do hope you can join us. We have had two of the six sessions, but you are still very welcome to join us - you’ll soon pick it up! Here are the Zoom details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81949421387?pwd=SnR2Uzd5RzVPOE9GS2RoYmlMTW1ydz09>

Meeting ID: 819 4942 1387 Passcode: 709773

**LENT GIVING 2021**

This Lent St Mary’s is supporting the Five Talents charity, raising funds for the Bishop of Chelmsford’s Appeal to finance work in our link diocese of Marsabit in Kenya, a dry, arid region where 80% of people live below the national poverty line of £25 a month. Five Talents provides finance training, mainly for women, to help develop businesses and ensure children are educated, improving many lives. For more information and to donate please go to: [www.chelmsford.anglican.org/bishops-appeal/](http://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/bishops-appeal/) or put your cash donation (or cheque payable to “CDBF”) in an envelope labelled “Five Talents donation” and drop off at the Vicarage, or to Anne Hackworth, ‘Lances’, Church Street, or Simon Prideaux, 59 Heron Road; or we can collect it – please just call Anne on 01376 571289.

**EASTER LILIES AT ST MARY’S.**

We plan to decorate St Mary’s for Easter with lilies as usual, despite the lack of worship. If you would like to donate a lily or lilies in memory of  departed family or friends, please contact Anne Hackworth (571289) by Wednesday 24 March. The cost is approximately £1.60 each for Longi or £2.60 for Calla. The names of those being remembered will be displayed in church, which will be open on Easter Sunday.