

ST MICHAEL'S COMMUNITY UPDATE

No 15: 29.4.20

INTRODUCTION

- During the present situation we intend to send out an email letter with news, a thought for the day and an 'always look on the bright side' item.
- If you want to be removed from this mailing list please let me know.
- If you have a friend or neighbour who would like to receive this please forward their details.
- If you are able and willing to print these and deliver to someone living nearby without email can you please let me have their names so that I know they are included.
- I also invite you to send in items, especially humorous ones!
- For all correspondence please use office@stombsands.org

Submitted by Wendy



SHOPPING, PRESCRIPTIONS, MAIL

For those who have to self-isolate we want to be able to support you as much as we can with practical things like shopping, prescriptions and mail.

If you require shopping:

Please send your name, address, post code, tel no and order to Terry Owen at:-

terryowen1944@me.com or ring her on 0151 924 4980.

We will do our best to get what you request but, if necessary, will get something similar.

We will deliver your shopping to your doorstep in new bags with the supermarket bill. We will not be collecting money from you. Every month we will be sending you a combined bill. We would like you to write a cheque made out to St Michael's PCC, put it in an envelope and hand it to your deliverer on the next occasion they call.

If you require a prescription collecting or mail taking to the box give her a ring on 0151 924 4980.

If you are worried about anything, or need some help give Terry or myself a ring.
Neil 0151 378 0332

START - GOD, JESUS, AND THE JOURNEY OF LIFE IN SIX SESSIONS

Start is an introduction to the Christian faith in six sessions, for use by any enquiring individual. We began last Wednesday, but you can still join in. It helps people:

- think about where they are going with their lives
- grapple with questions about God, Jesus and faith
- begin to consider the good news of Jesus for themselves
- consider how they want to respond to him.

You will need to download the worksheets for Sessions 1 and 2. These can be accessed by clicking on the following link:

https://www.leadingyourchurchintogrowth.org.uk/data/resource_files/CoronaStart%20Member's%20Notes.pdf

You will need a PC, laptop or iPhone to watch each session by clicking on the following links:

Week 1: https://youtu.be/pOcT_haLYDM

Week 2: <https://youtu.be/azTF9kxt4rA>

The video clip for each session lasts approximately 15 minutes.

You may find that the course raises questions which you would like to ask. You can email these to me at neil.short@stombsands.org or telephone me on 0151 378 0332.

CARING FOR OUR CARE HOMES

Over the past 12 months the Anglican Churches of L23 having been linking to local Care Homes as part of a national initiative called 'Care Home Friends'. Members of St Michael's pastoral team have linked up with Warren Park Care home.

Recently Neil interviewed Margaret the manager at Warren Park Care Home.

Neil: It must have been a very demanding time for all your staff. What has been most difficult?

Margaret: Yes, I would have to say the last few weeks have been difficult for everyone at Warren Park. The staff have been brilliant, not just looking after the residents on their normal shifts, but picking up extra shifts for colleagues who are shielding or self-isolating.

Neil: We have seen on the television that relatives have not been able to visit loved ones. How have you tried to overcome this?

Margaret: This of course has been very difficult for the residents, particularly those living with dementia and are not able to understand why their families are not coming to see them anymore. Luckily with the help of modern technology, we have been able to arrange some video calls for some of the residents. We have put updates on our website portal for friends and family. We have seen an increase in good old-fashioned mail, this has been very much appreciated by our residents. We are also assisting residents making telephone calls to their relatives and friends

Neil: Have you had many staff self-isolating?

Margaret: Yes, we have had several members of staff who have had to self-isolate and a couple who are shielding to protect themselves.

Neil: What could we pray for your residents and your staff?

Margaret: I think a safe and successful end to lockdown so we can all be reunited with our families and friends.

We have been lucky enough to have support from the community, we would particularly like to thank Helen, a member of your congregation who has made vital gowns for us, which we needed to protect the staff during a high risk procedures.

Neil: On behalf of the community of Blundellsands I would like to say a really big thank you to you your staff and all the workers at other care homes in the area. When we are out clapping at 8pm on Thursday night we will be thinking especially of you.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY – by Neil

Whatever your views on Brexit, a significant consequence was that the process unfortunately made us very divided as a country, in a way I can never remember. At the start of the year I wondered if we would ever recover.

One positive thing that has come out of this crisis is a stronger sense of community. Considering we are seeing less of each other, it somehow feels as if we are closer, and that has to be a good thing.

Hopefully, much of this warmth will continue after the lockdown ends.

PRAYER - Written many years ago by Elizabeth Fry, Quaker Social Reformer

O Lord, may we be directed what to do,
and what to leave undone,
and then may we humbly trust
that a blessing will be with us.

Enable us, O Lord,
to feel tenderly and charitably toward all.
Help us to have no soreness toward any.

Let us think no evil,
bear all things, hope all things,
endure all things.
let us walk in all humility before all we meet,
and into your sight. **Amen.**

ON LINE TALKS



I am giving a two minute talk each Wednesday on Prayer. Like many people I find prayer difficult, so in these videos I include tips on different ways to pray. To access the third video, click the link below.
<https://youtu.be/U6SWD96pGhU>

For those who missed last Sunday's talk you will find it here:

<https://youtu.be/6hSzKad9rfQ>

If you are new to accessing YOUTUBE clips and need some help, just give Margaret or I a ring on 0151 378 0332 and we will help.

A LITTLE GOES A LONG WAY

Thank you so much for all your generous donations of food for the South Sefton Foodbank on Monday. If you have any spare tinned fruit, tea bags, dried pasta or breakfast cereals, these are in great demand at the moment.

If you want to donate money, which can help them to buy food in bulk, these are the best 2 options:

- 1) Donate online: <https://southsefton.foodbank.org> and click on the red DONATE strip at the top of the home page.
- 2) Make out a cheque payable to 'St Leonard's Youth and Community Centre' and drop it through the letterbox at 3 St Michael's Road, or call Lucy on 924 5658 for pick-up. If you have any questions, please email Lucy on lucyfaulkner63@gmail.com

ALWAYS LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE OF LIFE

A clergyman in the USA is believed to be the first man to die as a result of following President Trump's ill- advised comments about injecting disinfectant.

His wife has been arrested and charged with causing a bleach of the priest, and domestos abuse. Submitted by Phil

Submitted by Sue



you know if
you keep a
glass of wine
in each hand
you can't
accidentally
touch your face

These sentences, submitted by Wendy, actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services (not St Michael's!):

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

Together we will get through this.

Revd Neil Short 29.4.20