**Parishes of Greatham, Empshott and Hawkley with Priors Dean** 21st March 2020

**From Peter Sutton**

Sunday is Mothering Sunday and a very different day from what we might have hoped for or expected. Support Groups have sprung into action which is wonderful and you will have had details of those through your letter box. If you have any concerns and would like to talk, or would like prayers said for a particular person or issue please contact be by phone 01730 827459 or email peter.sutton@portsmouth.anglican.org

The Archbishops of York and Canterbury have said that that ‘public worship must now stop for a season’.

You will be aware that across the Benefice, groups are being established to help those who are isolated and in particular need. That has been the first priority. The volunteer response has been very encouraging. Leaflets have been distributed and details will appear again in the Village Magazine.

In addition to public worship, bell ringing, Reflections, Yewlian Meetings, Compline, Coffee and Chat, Coffee Café, Benefice Bible Study Group, activities for children, Open Days and the Empshott Flower Festival are now suspended until further notice. ‘Meetings’ will need to happen electronically or by telephone and Annual Church Meetings are postponed. You will have heard on the media that whilst baptisms, weddings and funerals can still happen the arrangements for them will need to be different during the course of the pandemic. Please keep couples planning their weddings, parents planning baptisms and families organising funerals in your prayers.

At this difficult time it will be my responsibility to pray for and on behalf of the parishes in the Benefice. My intention is to have a brief 10-minute service each Sunday morning in each of our four churches. It is impossible to plan for more than a few days and so I will write again with appropriate news. As the weeks pass, I hope we will find innovative ways of enabling more people to share in Sunday worship but that will take a little time to organise.

Our churches remain open as places for prayer and in each there is guidance about health and hygiene for you and for others. Greatham, Empshott and Hawkley Churches are open every day. Priors Dean Church will be open between 1100 – 1200 on Thursday 26thMarch when I will be there.

Unless the Government or Archbishops’ advice changes this is the plan for Sunday …

**Sunday 22nd March - Mothering Sunday**

8.00am The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby is to lead a national broadcast as the Church of England responds to the challenge of becoming a “different sort of church” in the face of the coronavirus crisis. The service – including prayers, hymns and a short sermon – will be broadcast online by the Church of England and broadcast across 39 local BBC radio stations – including BBC Radio Solent.

**Prayers will be said at**

8.45am Priors Dean

9.30am Hawkley

10.30am Empshott

11.15am Greatham

Please note – I want you to know that these short services are happening in your Church and to for you to know that you and your families are being prayed for. Please also note that these are not public services and It is important for your safety and for the safety of others that you stay at home. Attached is a copy of the service I will use throughout the morning and you might like to use it at home, perhaps also at the same time.

My hope is to produce a short video reflection each week. This document will hopefully come to you later today with a link here for a personal reflection. This is new technology for us so please be patient!

7.00pm Light a Candle at home

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York invite us all to place a lighted candle in a window or on a table at 7pm. The intention is for the light to be a focus for our prayers and concerns - for those who are sick or anxious, for all involved in our health service and as a sign of solidarity and hope in the light of Christ that can never be extinguished. Please consider doing that and you may wish to use this prayer:

Lord Jesus Christ,
you taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need
as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,
and to assure the isolated
of our love, and your love,
for your name’s sake. **Amen.**

**To see services streamed from our Cathedral go the Cathedral website**

[www.portsmouthcathedral.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthcathedral.org.uk)

**For those who value the opportunity to worship using the Book of Common Prayer, this has come from the Prayer Book Society.**

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|    | Dear Members and Friends of the Prayer Book SocietyIn these extraordinary days when all our churches are closed for public worship, many are instead offering services streamed online. These are a few online Book of Common Prayer Services of which we are aware thus far. These are expected to be regular services rather than one-offs; but please bear in mind that most churches will be using this technology for the first time, so please be patient as they feel their way in this new landscape. For services being streamed via Facebook, please note that you do NOT require a Facebook account, or to be logged into Facebook, or to be familiar with Facebook, in order to view them.**SUNDAY, 22nd March:**8.00am: LIVE Holy Communion from St Mary’s, Nantwich (including lessons from the Authorized Version):[**www.facebook.com/stmarysnantwich**](https://url6.mailanyone.net/v1/?m=1jFbMc-000AY6-4C&i=57e1b682&c=E7MuTxnjnx242whSkc96AECqNTObvDTSN57d9jwA1Ui7C--19uQOD8EeJgEnnEI2L9IIrlFWA9tliXLJwqCuSWfZTb04huNQtBJVm-JxMfN-BY0f4b6vm9pwOfGIMsvi8S63g8lq4ZgfXeTIO0oYwrLktzAfhmGUM43fs_jV8IU7OgTez-YDhavLN_LHehP9q3uPVMlOZk4M91MgCw4V8i4KmAKN4MCiwRSnD98yQ_2jyCCFXLZE0n5t3m5W7MWyre_boxRgVn0s_fFT8-IL_M1xt5_Th3OceWyvBVsR-6_Vwe5sl_1OM-CqW_o1nqow-GrzkWLSjvF75i0YWBIm-IKIFxm6EdhgCb5_zi__HC83eI-zWRgGQxX5c9kg7SzACuAo_XFineCTVhpFU-meyO2-UpUH5qlbnefdbPykheVK2MKOWH-vUyAZMfVLJ9sIR3bFyl8UpNXwYB5DLbrKrXR_juvypwl1RFTx2n-hTzKuT9XLEnPpxqOCrO5FIKkE2U_MKivnxecBZQE3IXJ0s0n_nI6nsn0VM_W2e8JkhjH2SxgiIsjkoaghWPAgLU4b) Holy Communion (pre-recorded) from All Saints’ Pavement, York:[**www.facebook.com/ASPyork**](https://url6.mailanyone.net/v1/?m=1jFbMc-000AY6-4C&i=57e1b682&c=XY25i0zvjKh981W8erOg1Sf73Nwq96V0HoZ_n9ixRyPtx_F_Nlj2AVkMsdgpzofbdDCO_-RmPmTxNydpe00wFoGlcGpcQzjF5hV6o46jpeBAkMfU6r96E__ru2z31wAiqBXoJng6JLIADMkMk40pBNHVF6n7YMjE9XElqOJcyUKjS4dx3ccg8rGyERKA3zKVgzuX00Lghn4TPSVrqPyWdYzHt5U-GUumt5tKbhliovQXMjoywLLwEl7dQo4A-oc9JEVte7HX4zxRGdQBkNj2Obxadzh7AdjcDvISUmTJbZZfs_iIFiiAza-0l7GxcGTnUMA1j6YdTmX0hQurz43ou7RuK67BK7ZFUySHye3yDN0YahkgF9Q4kT6xVgqb52pTA2JdRCxpDUextkt-nVpkNz3B_phUxUvUDHXvD3vDWezF1QyJ-sHTrQuLqA_6E4iQsLh9agY4mNrVVcXvIUGJK-WqC8mkjJ6aON0z6rr6epnQ9Cb_ua0PJTu6lxdFyiw1Hb0zkaQOOE_HfUvxmEJdJwBqOqtvb8eGKHO9ILtfacs)**DAILY OFFICES (Morning and Evening Prayer):**Pre-recorded from St John the Baptist, Wimbledon by the Revd Dr Stephen Edmonds (PBS Trustee)[**https://tinyurl.com/stjtbsermons**](https://url6.mailanyone.net/v1/?m=1jFbMc-000AY6-4C&i=57e1b682&c=z9bmT_rA55p2-h46Cb4EV1Xcxpi0YU-E1wiF8sK-zzjuJG_1qKiNjoLClLW5z-DTvB4-3SpykE4HwjvSoxW7uFLdBs_Ok8St-uw5KqyFet7Bi2nqr1mNNDYOReRaOA34NkjkdciOb1iyHS4DGIzV7SPzlREWA7tFt44LWC6XWowRADTRyH9Kh9HwrXG4tJxLx-9-Jwflz_4E7tj2q_Fy8SDzfjG3q1wFbuzNZD24XmjksOMP85yFbKtP3jHlzlXVRQsXZ0llxUUW-QqjlDyvz8VHvKBD6AIebmp34LO6QEN0YX4Y0ekedn9AYZKK3wpiWdnVj70womdl4zQU6FFFqUN2US12erLtjRvELaSt-UWUruCcKt4O2t_--T96vFbm52aO7ixJ8FiUnMsjOW5OsONOBKXlUMei2c8ADw5-91OmmfiTKuwKp_jgvmI_sft4Qa6O9Pr0skCFRkkItXlekoc4PA8xWzKLhxTGNiWuWp_AY1NLMurdRaCjFrb1bHMaJQ_mtjHMDiGstwaV9PJp1DP-1f6-aa8qgJg-oKqSRe4) We are maintaining [**a list of these streamed BCP services on our website**](https://url6.mailanyone.net/v1/?m=1jFbMc-000AY6-4C&i=57e1b682&c=rp3C8uB4OLslMhWGACEiSxNafhbvzHqGKHbx7yQigWs9g7-e8065ilTXEkmH2tT8mp60POVSBCgGDQaxvCPh3eZZKzmy3X0jreTwcht4QdCNDccUdbWZMtF3vne59wGPJyWiKu1_QCplOUp8W7w1N0wWTWm34yVueKeSGl_TdE7-H-GbtuT4tYg7C8c1HZW1nQVnnevUAM1SyuRUGvZ2wdCiTxdwS3dpxHoDbabgByXBbP0TGLwkfcfYKBKx7PmL0ZoCMbi9BmY7QMizq5ex4TK26K50-tepkvHIj8v-DE88i2Vv6hHNcwxP-jtFslrMDvLI5947y_yNVrZ5kr45SahrOJQ3tJtYslbGThy_mUXUFI4FsaeJMpzUb6ygHTCYO1317cAyekGwVtP0s7yQ597YdgbSSwH-Sizfu35iVb5UD8_Hkdd5vcpnmd1Z8zdKOoIyOs0ZxbOg59Ka6cemqX-LgC49wP10TPuNUXJlqTBJZDTj_3UxrRV3e4oB25IPVyP_xBc-qhvcFGG4d_DFdktMboyrO9MzD737vqGV9-AVVk8uqIzhXk51frvlnG5I)which will be continually updated. If you are aware of regular online BCP services that should be added to this list, [**please let us know.**](https://url6.mailanyone.net/v1/?m=1jFbMc-000AY6-4C&i=57e1b682&c=_ZoADmBiKT8ekSEM1QiEyjAMZQxc-VqA27RRhjkzriGIJ5IwnaSEdkREXI84X1r_xHM4rKiT8LSxTPKJMXdDp-LVXGSMWb7y1G_IufK2wmaze6UlvPY_rgLRAGeZoQ8NA5KdmOXq9K9-g7PhO-9-07Ofwn8PnsqLknMnHXuqORAY-MtnQ3900uNNyZbKht_OvKj1uuZCx_52w24F82NmjXsOIRlVMMhrOnNo8kq65pnABSUWyds_IbAPzgTPBmlRGV9TYjcRIEH5N4rZjA9xZnB8DICowSFyaQid39nrwfnJFR1B19gAGWF-aMF3CABgwVGcdiDxQtuxvwDy6HAI-mwU4287T6AE1761H55iOTVIKs7g8Pt0PYR4Yu8qbQ8qpqAJL1IEDAfraOw_-q-r_5sGVfNKe9HFRfEKkctW5MJXlfWAI3KCsLf7prHJSzFWtfSbFo9GFfEJXpCO6_E6vg-OhpI3i14Udn8pbux584uhguokeizEhIHe_UgyqQKCxUWuXJRhlsM1zW2A38mJ7bYn24p0ZJxflWoEnnUvapQ)  |

Ven. Peter Sutton