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Dear friends

Halleluiah! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Halleluiah!

See you in Galilee!

'... .. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you.' (Matthew 28.5-7)

Jesus is risen and He is going ahead of you - what a great message for these times of so much uncertainty!

We may have concerns about our own lives, our health, our finances, our family and friends, church life and more.

In the New Living Translation of the Bible, Psalm 77. 19 & 20 reads as follows:

'Your road led through the sea, your pathway through the mighty waters, a pathway no one knew was there! You led your people along that road.'

God has led us through lockdown, and as we seek to trust and obey God in every part of our everyday lives, He will continue to lead us, however daunting the future looks. Whatever seems like a mountain, when it only looks like problems ahead, His resurrection promise is that He will see us in Galilee! Not literally of course, although that would be great! But He will meet us not only today, but tomorrow. He will meet us in the future that concerns us as well as in the present.

An old song goes like this:

*Because he lives, I can face tomorrow
Because he lives all fear is gone.
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth the living just because He lives.*

May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill you with his new

life, and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

With my love and prayers.

Kip

ST PETER'S NEWS

- **Services**

We are continuing for the time being to produce a weekly all-age online service. St Peter's is now open each Sunday for a 10.30 service, as we follow government guidelines to make church a safe place. We will keep you up to date with new developments as restrictions are eased.

It was a real joy to see so many at church on Good Friday and at the three Easter Day services (sunrise, 10.30 am and midday).

- **A thank you from Lorraine**

"Thank you so much for the generous and thoughtful gifts I was presented with in church last week. It has been an absolute pleasure and joy to serve the children and young people of St Peter's and I will miss being a part of the ministry and the staff team. It was lovely to be in church on Easter Sunday and whilst I missed the many children and young people we would usually have in our church, it was a real treat to look out and see in the pews adults from when I started volunteering in youth 17 years ago and children and young people who are still in our groups now – each one uniquely and wonderfully made and a privilege to be part of their lives. Thank you so much for your love and care shown to me since being in role – St Peter's is a truly special family to be part of."

- **Living in Love and Faith Course**

A 5-week course starting on Sunday 18th April 7.00 to 8.30 pm on Zoom.

This course has huge potential for being very significant for the Church of England. Parishes across the country are being invited to be part of a discernment process of seeking to hear what God is saying to the church at this time. We will be looking at the Bible, listening to each other and exploring Christian teaching and learning about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage. Like Alpha there will be video clips, Bible study, discussion, and time for prayer. The aim will be for each session to be a safe place to listen and speak.

It is not the best time to be doing this course during the pandemic and over Zoom is not ideal, but there is little flexibility in the process that the Bishops have set in motion over a long period of time. All things considered I feel it is right to be engaging with the process rather than opting out.

We have a wonderful team to facilitate breakout groups, should numbers require: Dot Baker, Sarah Beresford, Sue Craig, Paul Holt, Bruce Pennie, Julia and me. We would love you to join us.

You can find out more about the course at: www.churchofengland.org/LLF
To sign up to take part please email Julia: curate@stpeters-woolton.org.uk

- **Christian Aid Week, May 10th to 16th 2021**

The theme of this year's Christian Aid campaign is climate chaos - one of the greatest injustices in the world. There are lots of ways you can make a difference to people:

1. Give: for those able to attend church, there will be Christian Aid envelopes available at all four services from Sunday 25th April until Sunday 16th May. There will also be contactless card machines at these services for those who prefer to donate by card. You can give online by going to St Peter's own [Christian Aid donation page](#) . For the fit among you, Christian Aid have a 300,000 steps challenge – walk just under 10,000 steps a day in May! You can do this alone or in a team, and you can walk, jump, hop or skip your way through! To sign up, follow the link [here](#) .

If the thought of 300,000 steps doesn't appeal, you can organise your own sponsored event through the [Christian Aid Just Giving page](#). Some of you may remember that Andy Radford shaved all his hair off last year! If you are doing the 300,000 steps challenge, or a different sponsored event, it would be really helpful if you could let Sarah Beresford know (s.g.roberts44@gmail.com or 07941447029) so that we can add monies you raise to the St Peter's total.

2. Act: you are invited to [sign Christian Aid's petition](#) calling on the Prime Minister to fulfil the UK's responsibilities to build a more just, healthier and safer future for everyone. There are lots of other ways to take action listed on the [campaign for change](#) section of the Christian Aid website.

3. Pray: you may want to use this prayer throughout Christian Aid week:

*God of new life, raise in us a new hope and determination
to bring about real change in your world. Amen.*

There are lots of [prayer and worship resources](#) on the Christian Aid website.

Finally, some dates for your diary. Last year's quiz was such a success that we're going to have another one on Sunday 23rd May at 7pm – more details to follow! We are also hoping to have a Christian Aid stall at the May Farmers' Market on Saturday 8th May (to be confirmed).