

St Peter's Church, Woolton

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The Rectory
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20th March 2020

Dear friends

This letter comes with assurance of my prayers for you and your families at this disconcerting time. Those of us in leadership roles at St Peter's are looking at ways to ensure that none of us walks alone.

Care for everyone

It is with a heavy heart that we have made the decision not to have the church open at all for the time being. We will be looking at how we continue to be church over the coming weeks and how we continue to love and support each other and our community. Our priority is to protect and care for the most vulnerable in our communities and to limit the risk of the virus spreading as much as we can.

I hope you understand this decision has not been made lightly. Please be assured of our prayers, and love at this time, and do get in touch with us via the office number (0151 428 1853) if we can help in any way. More information will be on our website and the church Facebook page which are both being updated regularly.

Mothering Sunday

This coming Sunday is a day of mixed emotions: joy for some, and a day of remembering with sadness or pain for others. At the heart of the day is the message that God loves us like the most loving parent, and that we, knowing that love, are called to love one another and our neighbour. It seems like the most timely of messages.

Candle in the Window

Church leaders in Britain and Ireland are encouraging us all to take part in a National Day of Prayer and Action on Sunday (22 March) saying '... we have the great privilege and freedom to be able to call upon God, wherever we are, individually and corporately, for healing in our nation.'

We are also being asked to light a candle and place it in the window at 7.00 pm on the day as a sign of solidarity and hope in the light of Christ that can never be extinguished. (Please make sure you do this safely as we don't want the net curtains of the nation to go up in smoke!)

Virtual worship

The Archbishop of Canterbury will be leading a service of worship which will be broadcast via local radio stations and nationally, on the BBC at 8.10am on Sunday morning.

We're hoping to be able to livestream our own short act of worship at around 10.30 am via the website, if the technology all goes to plan. Please be patient with our exploration.

God's comfort

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." (Psalm 91. 1, 2)

A prayer

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen

This comes with my love and prayers

Kip