

Friends,

How quickly things change around us. The news of London's being in a near state of emergency with Covid cases shooting up, and hospitals being overwhelmed is alarming, and we are all being asked to be ultra-careful in order to keep us and each other safe and well.

All places of worship are being asked to consider closing for public worship, and after some consideration our PCC has decided that this is a wise course of action for the time being, until infections go down, and the hospitals are no longer in danger. It is not a decision we take lightly but we feel it is the way we can best show the love and care to the people most in need at this time. We WILL however continue to be open daily for private prayer, Monday to Saturday between 8.30am and 2pm and on Sunday from 8am - 12 noon. We know that people value the quiet space of our lovely church for prayer, reflection and peace. We look forward too when the weather is warm enough for the garden to come back into its own as a safe and beautiful space for our community.

The Parish office is being run remotely by Jane Ellard our parish manager, and she can be contacted via the parish number 020 7835 1440 or by email, office@stmarytheboltons.org.uk

Since we cannot worship together in church we will continue to podcast services during lockdown, and to provide paper copies of the service through the post, for those who aren't very technically minded. It may be that you are able to access emails but aren't keen on virtual worship via the podcast. Please let us know if you would like the paper copy to be sent along each week. It includes the script of the sermon, as well as prayers you can use at home, and words to the hymns which you might want to sing or say in the privacy of your own household. It is sent out on Wednesday each week in hopes that it will be with you by Saturday.

This Sunday, 10 January we will mark the Baptism of Christ We hope you will join us virtually at 10.30am and listen to the service by clicking [here](#). There will be a chance to renew your baptism promises, just as we would have done in church, and the words of renewal are included in the order of service which is found [here](#) and a large print edition found [here](#).

Sunday Zoomed Coffee Hour continues to meet at 1130 each Sunday, hosted by Leo Fraser Mackenzie. Do join us using the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82542854185?pwd=eFZsYXdpUWRrNTITaVh5N3Zvakcrdz09>

Meeting ID: 825 4285 4185

Passcode: 146321

Or join by telephone: 0203 051 2874

Morning Prayer will be said in church at 8.30 daily, and there is also a Zoom link – why not join us even if you can't make it to church?

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89322710829?pwd=MURjaXdtWWJXT3M1eUgySWp1YkZoQT>

[09](#)

Meeting ID: 893 2271 0829

Passcode: 639286

Or join by telephone, 0203 051 2874 and follow the instructions when prompted.

Here is a link to the CofE's page where you can find Morning Prayer order of service each day, <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer> or use their app on your smartphone or tablet <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps/time-to-pray>

Midweek Zoomed Coffee Hour While we are safe at home, we can still meet weekly for a midweek coffee morning, Wednesdays at 10am, via zoom.

Here is the link and telephone

number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89257501144?pwd=eDZkbCtDNzNnMXhPc2hzanFaUmZsQT09>

Telephone 0203 051 2874 – and follow the instructions when prompted.

Meeting ID: 892 5750 1144

Passcode: 049114

Classical Christmas Concert Danae Eleni Tickets for Danae Eleni's concert (streamed from Warsaw) are available here:

<https://www.danaeeleni.com/shop/christmas-concert-2020-online-ticket>. This concert of songs, arias and carols is about one hour in length and will be available only for a few more days. A ticket to access the concert is £5 - then you can watch it as many times as you want between now and 12 January.

Stamps Please remember to bring your used postage stamps with a small margin of envelope still round them, to church to be given to the Leprosy Mission who raise money from them. There is a specially marked collection box at the back of the church.

Food Banks and Shelters Thank you to all those who week by week remember to support the food bank and homeless charities by bringing in donations of food. These have been hugely appreciated by the people who receive them, who would otherwise struggle to put food on their tables. Please continue to help us to help those who in need, living locally.

Dad's House Food Bank is at 22 Lillie Road in Fulham. They are open 7 days a week, between 10am and 3pm and anyone is able to access their help without a voucher. This food bank's shelves are empty because of the huge increase in people accessing their help. Please help the most needy in our area by bringing along your donations of food to the church. [Here is a shopping list](#) if you aren't sure what to bring.

Glass Door Because of the pandemic, the usual model of church-based shelters is not possible. Instead, for the coldest months of the winter, Glass Door will provide Covid-safe single-occupancy rooms in two hostels in central London. Glass Door staff will be on-site

around the clock in each hostel, meals will be provided and guests will also have access to and increased contact with our caseworkers.

Glass Door also plans to deliver a dinner service in partnership with local churches in four London boroughs: Kensington & Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham, Richmond and Wandsworth.

People in need will be able to access the dinner service, with meals cooked and prepared by volunteers, every evening from early November until early April. Those who use the service also will be able to find food, water and other forms of practical support (such as phones and toiletries). The service also provides an opportunity for people to engage with Glass Door caseworkers who give advice and support to move beyond homelessness.

Finance and giving

Thank you to all those who have continued to support St Mary's through regular giving and one off donations. We can now receive your offering in church using cash or the contactless devices. We encourage regular members of the congregation to consider giving by bank transfer, whether each week or by standing order? It is easy; we can still benefit from your GiftAid, and it will help us to maintain our ministry in this difficult period. We now accept donations on line, via the website, and the link is [here](#).

PCC of St Mary with St Peter and St Jude

Barclays Account Number: 80692190

Sort code: 20-80-14

Blessings,



The Revd Jenny Welsh

Vicar

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