

## **Notices: October 4<sup>th</sup> 2020**

**Covid-19 guidance** The new 'rule of six' came into law on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September. Places of worship are exempt, which means that we can still accommodate more than six people in our building for public worship in accordance with our risk assessment. But please take care, especially when you arrive and leave the building, not to mingle in groups bigger than six and always maintain social distancing with those outside your household.

### **NHS Covid-19 App**

If you have the NHS Covid-19 App, please 'check in' to the church building using the QR code at the door when you come on Sundays or in the week.

### **Reflections on Mission in Covid Times**

Our church's mission has changed radically in response to the pandemic: with online services, increased communication, prayer meetings, stronger links with our neighbours and the local council, and in many other ways. There is much that is new and emerging, but also things that we have had to pause or let go of. Over the next few weeks, we will be engaging in a process of discernment, seeking God's wisdom as we reflect on what we have been learning during this time of pandemic. We will be using a reflection tool from Oxford Diocese, Emerging from Coronavirus, which is based around the Five Marks of Mission. Our sermons over the next five weeks will focus on each mark of mission, and we will be providing questionnaires to fill out to help feed into this process of reflection. Laura's sermon today will connect with the fifth mark of mission: to safeguard the integrity of creation.

**Soul Space on C.S. Lewis** The two Soul Space episodes exploring C.S. Lewis - his life, ideas and connection to our church—are available to listen to online. The programmes include extracts from Lewis's own original 'Mere Christianity' broadcasts on the BBC World Service, and a very moving interview with his stepson Douglas Gresham. You can listen on the church website, or Radio Cherwell (broadcast times are 7.30am on Sundays, 8pm on Tuesdays, 1pm on Fridays). Thank you to Mike and Ruth Wooldridge for this initiative, and to Mike for offering his time and expert broadcasting skills in the production of these programmes.

**Music in church** We welcome the new guidance about resuming live music in church, and Rosie is planning some choral and instrumental music to enhance our worship in the coming weeks.

**Harvest Festival: October 4th**

We are excited to celebrate harvest today. Please pray for the afternoon forest church for children and families! Harvest donations are to the Oxford community emergency food bank, who ask for donations of money rather than food. There is a donations page on our church website.

**APCM: Wednesday 21st October 7.30pm** Please note the new date for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting: Wednesday 21st October, 7.15pm for 7.30pm, postponed from April. This meeting will be held online, via Zoom. At this meeting, we formally appoint our churchwardens for the next year, elect new members to PCC and deanery synod, and say farewell to retiring members. We also review and give thanks for the year that has passed (in this case, 2019!), celebrate all we are as a church community, and seek God's direction for the future. Nominations for PCC and deanery remain open and we are particularly looking for one new deanery synod rep. The annual trustees report and church activities booklet is now available on our parish website. Please contact Helen ([office@hthq.uk](mailto:office@hthq.uk)) to request a printed copy of the activities booklet.

**Churchyard Work Party** There will be a churchyard work party on **Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 10am**. Would anyone who would like to help please ring Susan Houlton beforehand so that we can make sure we do not have more than the 6 people we are allowed. We must ask helpers to bring their own hand tools, and if anyone can manage to bring a digging spade and fork for their own use, this would be useful. This will be the last work party of the year

**Macmillan** Thank you to those of you who donated to Macmillan Cancer Support last week. In addition to those of you who made direct donations, the collection at church raised £40.

**Prayers for Hope and Healing: Thursday 8th October** This prayer meeting will continue fortnightly on a Thursday

evening—the next meeting will be held on Thursday 8th October at 8.30pm. Please let Laura know if you would like to lead a session and/or offer technical assistance to help explore the creative possibilities of Zoom.

**Morning Prayer:** Morning prayer will resume at 9am on Mondays only to begin with. We will meet in the Chancel – please bring your own Bible (or Bible App!)

**Church Building Development** We anticipate taking part in a council planning meeting before the final decision on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Please keep this process in your prayers in the coming weeks.

### **Abseil for Christian Aid**

Christian Aid are arranging a sponsored abseil from the tower of Mary Magdalen church in Oxford on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October, and Joan Walding is going to be taking up the challenge! More details about sponsorship to follow.

### **Readings and Intercessions for Sunday worship**

Please let Helen know ([office@hthq.uk](mailto:office@hthq.uk)) if you would like to volunteer to read and lead intercessions on a Sunday morning starting on October 4<sup>th</sup>. The same person or members of the same household will need to do the first reading and lead the intercessions. We can provide set intercessions as needed.

### **Shared knitting and crochet (Headington)**

[sharedknitting@gmail.com](mailto:sharedknitting@gmail.com) or 01865 738942

DURING COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS WE ARE STILL KNITTING

- We are still able to send woolly goods to Syria, JR Neonatal Unit, Dementia Services at the JR, The Porch, Oxford Baby Bank, and Knit for Peace
- Gifts of yarn (any type or colour) welcome.
- Yarn delivery to Members on request
- Contact us for updated plans as the situation allows

**Asylum Welcome** A message from Zig Nowicki: Asylum Welcome are now open for donations again, so please leave donations of foodstuff, toiletries and nappies in the box with the purple lid at the back of the church