

Changes to Guidelines for our Churches – an update

We have taken the decision to continue with outside worship wherever practical for the next few weeks to ensure we can do things as safely as possible. Given the current high number of cases both locally and nationally, we will be politely asking people to socially distance wherever reasonably possible, and to wear masks indoors. We will also continue to use individual cups for communion, however in a change to the previous guidance, **we will be allowed to have indoor singing**, should the service need to be indoors.

Many people will feel comfortable moving back to closer contact with others following the relaxing of the rules, however, equally as many people will want to maintain distancing and reduce the risk of transmission as much as possible to keep themselves and others safe. We ask that everyone respect each other's viewpoints on this as we want as many people as possible to feel comfortable coming to the services. We will review the situation again towards the end of the summer.

Summer Coffee Mornings followed by Midweek Communion

We will be holding 2 Coffee mornings followed by midweek communion at both churches over the Summer Holidays. These will be being hosted by TOT's / Lunch Club however anyone is welcome and there is no need to stay for communion if you do not wish to do so. These will be on the following dates:

Friday 6th August 10am at St Mary's followed by Midweek Communion at 11.30am
Tuesday 10th August at St Barnabas followed by Midweek Communion at 11.30am
Friday 20th August 10am at St Mary's followed by Midweek Communion at 11.30am
Tuesday 24th August at St Barnabas followed by Midweek Communion at 11.30am

Prayer for Myanmar

The letter below came from the Principle of the Theological College at Yangon to Angela Bushell on Sat 17th July and describes the desperate situation there regarding Covid and the control being exerted by the Military Junta. Investigations are underway to discover what further funds can be sourced to support them, and how to get them safely to the point of need, as so far the money collected by Diocese as part of the Lent Appeal has not yet reached them because if they don't make the right arrangements, the money will be 'diverted'.

Dear Ms Angela,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and saviour, Jesus Christ.

I would like to share with you about the covid situation here in this email.

The situation here is, honestly speaking, very discouraging. Under the irresponsible junta, people here have been suffering and dying unnecessarily and untimely. There are many sad stories every day. Many people are dying due to the lack of oxygen. People are not allowed to sell; not allowed to buy oxygen. People are not admitted to the hospitals. MDs are not allowed to cure the patients. Many dead-bodies everyday await in line and in piles to be cremated. Some of our church members have died already due to the lack of oxygen. Some of our priests are now sick due to the covid-19. We do not really know what the junta is doing.

We have to manage by ourselves for our safety as the junta is doing nothing. We have to lockdown by ourselves; we have to buy preventive materials and equipment such as sprays and spraying machines, ppe level 1, 2, masks, gloves, test kits etc.

One of our faculty living in our campus is now covid positive and is on oxygen. One female student is also suffering from covid now. It is very very difficult to get oxygen nowadays. We are trying our best though. The situation is terrible. The junta is responsible for all these.

Immediately we need to buy covid-preventive equipment and tools. We also need to buy food and medicine for our staff and family. On behalf of our school and community, I would like to request you to help us out, if it is possible. It is urgent and we are really in need of your help.

Thank you again for your love and concern.
in Christ

Praying for South Africa – Message from Margaret Manning



I grew up in the city of Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu Natal, South Africa. It was a beautiful Victorian city; the city hall is the biggest red brick building in the Southern Hemisphere. Since Monday the city has lost 99% of its economy, by people looting, stealing and then setting alight the business they have looted. All because ex-president Zuma is in prison for contempt of court because he failed to turn up at his trial for corruption.

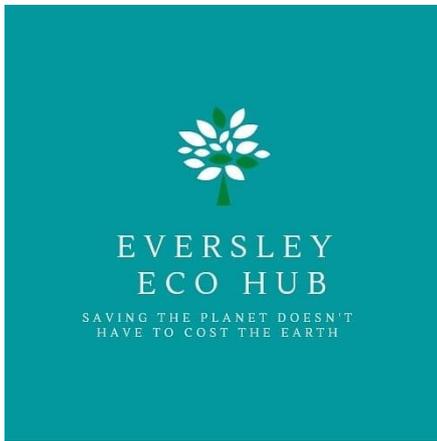
The photos are from Polly Shorts Pick n Pay where God's Warehouse buys all the food for the Food Bank, it was totally destroyed during the riots, but now they are selling some food on the curb next to their burnt out store. They are selling items at greatly reduced prices as people just cannot afford the very high cost of food.

98% of the stores in an area the size of Berkshire and Oxfordshire have been destroyed by looting and fire. All roads are either covered in stones or burnt out vehicles. The police are unable to control the looters. If you think of 100 policemen trying to control a crowd the size of those in Wembley Stadium, you will understand that they cannot do anything.

Food is now slowly making its way into KwaZulu Natal.

A few years ago, Caroline Wilmot challenged me to support something, I chose God's Warehouse in Pietermaritzburg. Debbie is the founder; she supports abused and abandoned mothers. Debbie does not get support from the government because she refuses to just support black African mothers, she will support any mother in need. I have successfully managed to transfer some money into God's Warehouse account which she is using to stock the food bank. Food is now so much more expensive if you can get it. I will be sending some more in the next few weeks. If you would like to donate any please let me know, you can either give me cash or ask for my bank details. 100% will go to God's Warehouse.

Thank you for your donations I have received. So far I have sent God's Warehouse **£235**.



Eversley Eco Hub

The rectory room has now been let and is a shop selling various eco products, its opening times are as follows: -
Monday and Wednesday 9-12 and 2-6:30
Tuesday and Thursday 9-12 and 2-4
Friday and Saturday - Closed
see [Eversley Eco Hub](#) on Facebook.

From the Hartlands

Rachel and Graham will be taking some time out over the next few weeks, so will be unavailable from Friday 23rd July - Friday 6th August, and again briefly across the weekend of Friday 13th - Friday 15th August. Thank you for your understanding and patience whilst she's unable to respond promptly to any inquiries.

St. Marys Rotas

With a return to "live" church we need to establish lists of those people willing to carry out the following roles at services.

Welcomer

Before the service stand outside the church to welcome people to the service.

Sidesman

Place and return candles Hand out and collect service sheets hymn books etc, Collect and count offering, organise communicants for Holy communion.

Reader

Read the selected bible passage from the lectern/front of church.

Intercessions

Lead us in our prayers of intercession.

Chalice Assistant

Set up the table for Holy Communion and assist the priest in the giving of holy communion. (You will have to be approved by the bishop.)

I will create a rota of people assigned to each role for each service at the beginning of each school term. The more people who volunteer the easier it will be for all of us. If you are willing to undertake one or more of the roles listed above, please contact me.

Tim Ellis, 14 Harvest Close, Yateley, GU46 6YS, 01252 409169
tim.j.ellis@ntlworld.com

Guardian Angels for Little Acorns

Following our Christmas gift to staff at Little Acorns Pre-School in Eversley Village Hall, they asked if we could make some more angels - this time for those children leaving to go to 'big school'. Thanks to Marion Green, June Coles, and Joy Brooke for helping me create them. They were safely delivered on Tuesday of this week.



St Barnabas weekly phone call initiative

Last autumn, this initiative was set up to help members of the congregation keep in contact with others through weekly phone calls. For many of the people who chose to be involved, this proved a helpful way of keeping in touch with at least two other people. Some got to know people they had not known before, and some said it helped them to feel more connected with the St Barnabas church family.

Now there are more opportunities for us to get together, there is less need for these weekly phone calls. Therefore, it seems appropriate to stop this initiative. However, I am very encouraged to know there are at least 2 groups who wish to continue anyway as they all feel they will continue to benefit from the phone calls.

I would like to thank everyone who has been involved, and especially the leaders of the groups. Jane Lister

St Bee's Pop-up Café



Outside Café

Every Saturday

(Weather dependant)

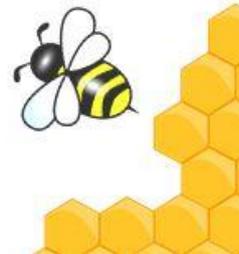
9.30am to 12noon

Hot and Cold Drinks, Cakes and Biscuits

The Community Café at St Barnabas Church, Brinns Lane, Darby Green will be re-opening outside.

RESTARTS Saturday 20th June
in front of the church.

We will be serving snacks and drinks with
**Covid compliant table service and social
distancing measures** in place.



Seeking the Spirit

We'd love to see more of you if you can. We are meeting weekly at **4pm on a Thursday at St Barnabas** to have a time of quiet and space where we seek to allow the Holy Spirit to meet with us and ask him to guide and shape our community. All are welcome to join us.

Keeping Up With The Cobwebs @St. Mary's

In the past we have had a cleaning rota for St. Mary's which had to fall into abeyance during lockdowns. I am hoping to resurrect it from September, all being well. Cleaning would take place once a fortnight on a rota basis hopefully in pairs. The more people from the community willing to do this, the less often each will appear on the rota. I will try and initiate a checklist too, so that folk know what to look at, but it will be largely dusting, pews and floors. There is a hoover and cleaning materials at church. If you are willing and able to help, whether or not you've done this in the past, please can you contact me.

Midweek Communion at St Barnabas

We are restarting our short, said Midweek communion at St Barnabas beginning again on Tuesday 20th July at 11.30am. If this is something you would like to come to, please could you let me know. **Lerys**

Please consider regularly giving to the church if you are able.

Give what you can, not what you can't.

We recognise that these are challenging financial times for millions in our country. Our churches alongside many other charities are also facing challenging financial circumstances. As we continue to support our communities and facilitate new ways of worshipping safely together, we continue to see a significant reduction in our income.

We are developing simple online forms of giving,

For St. Mary's: to give £5, £10, £20 or £50 please use this link: <https://st-marys-church-eversley.sumup.link>

For St. Barnabas: to give £5, £10, £20 or £50 please use this link: <https://st-barnabas-church.sumup.link/>

You may also consider giving online via BACS (banking details are available from our clergy and treasurers) and particularly via the Parish Giving Scheme, which now has a phone service: 0333 002 1271. For more details:

St. Marys - Sue Brooker via giving@stmaryseversley.org.uk 0118 973 0157

St. Barnabas - Richard Ranson via the church office email: office@stbarnabastheencourager.co.uk

Because St. Mary's is a charity it is able to benefit from you using **Easy Fundraising**, and **Amazon Smile** without it costing you anything when you select the appropriate charity. There is more information via

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmaryseversley/ and <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1128040-0>

CHANGE of DATE for **CAKES!** RAF Odiham Families Day to Saturday 14th August 2021

Due to the ongoing restrictions, this event has experienced a date change - sorry to muck you around. **Thank you to those who've already committed to making cakes. If you haven't room to freeze them, please let Rev'd Rachel have them before Wed 21st July.**

The cakes are a love-gift to RAF personnel, people who will have served us and others in all sorts of largely invisible ways. The stall is greatly appreciated by the personnel and their families who now eagerly come and find it. Arrangements are fluctuating, and numbers attending unknown, but Mothers' Union members would appreciate as many cakes as possible.

Can you please bake biscuits, cakes, buns, tray bakes, cupcakes etc?

BUT PLEASE MAKE SURE THEY ARE WITHOUT NUTS, FRESH CREAM, OR MARZIPAN.

MU members and other supporters from across the Winchester Diocese bake and help on the day, many from St. Peter's Yateley and across our Odiham Deanery. In the past Graham Hartland has done this and can tell you more about it, though prior commitments prevent him taking part this year.

This year, **we are also looking for financial donations to help with the cost of drinks**, as Waitrose in Yateley and Alton aren't able to provide consumables for free as they have done in the past. Members of the St. Peter's MU Branch can accept donations of cakes now and freeze them. This includes Rachel and Graham Hartland. They are also very happy to collect donations from you in the days leading up to Sat 10th July. Alternatively, phone Linda or Sue from St. Peter's (below) and they will collect from you.

Linda Hoskins lindahoskins49@gmail.com 01252 671260/07852 590050

Sue Tickell susantickell@gmail.com 01252 875776/07925 591543

Online House Groups

We have two house groups meeting online on a fortnightly basis. One led by Kate Campbell on a Thursday, and one led by Jane Hughes on a Tuesday. Please get in touch with them or the clergy if you would like to join.

Daily Prayer 10am Online and in person

Daily prayer at 10am is on our Facebook pages every day. On Wednesdays, St Mary's is open so you can join in-person. St Mary's then remains open until 12noon. On Saturdays you can now join in-person again at St Barnabas at 10am. Both these services use the Ffald-y-Brenin form of Morning Prayer. The videos remain available for you to access later via our Facebook pages and on our YouTube Channel. For St. Mary's it's:

www.facebook.com/StMarysEversley/

and for St. Barnabas www.facebook.com/StBarnabasChurchFrogmoreandDarbyGreen/

Our dedicated YouTube channel is at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwUN6hbEio3LnrOPzVG7lxw>

Together on Tuesdays

We have decided to delay the return of Tots until September term. As the indoor seating will prove quite restrictive should weather be wet or chilly. Also, we will not be able to serve our cold table as we would normally do. However, we are hoping to have a coffee and cake get together during August. More details will follow nearer the time.

Pat and Jackie

Prayer Chains

We now have active prayer chains in both churches, shared by email. If you have any prayer requests for them, please contact the clergy. If you are happy for these to be mentioned in our daily online reflections, they can be.

Who might need paper-based worship materials?

We now have several volunteers to deliver worship materials to those who aren't able to access our online offerings. We also have list of people who think might appreciate a service leaflet that they can follow through at home. **YOU may know other people who might appreciate these. If so, PLEASE ask them if they would like a weekly copy, and then let the clergy know their name and address.** We will then ask our "printer-deliverers" to drop off copies each week.



Currently our urgent needs are:
**Coffee, Instant Mash,
Tinned Potatoes, Sponge Puddings,
Shampoo, Shower Gel, and
Loo Rolls.**

Donations can be made via:

Centre Stores Eversley, The Co-op Yateley, the side of Discoveries by St. Peter's Church, Frogmore Community College, and direct to St Barnabas Church, Darby Green (Mondays and Thursdays, 1.30-3pm).



Please contact the clergy if you are viewing this newsletter online and would like to receive this weekly update and Zoom link direct.

GDPR: If you receive this newsletter by email, and no longer wish to do so, please notify the clergy.