

Nork with Burgh Heath Parish News and Updates - Thursday 4 June 2020

Dear Church Family Members and Parish Friends,

I hope you're well and continuing to manage in these strange times.

The news updates this week contain the following:

1. Two prayer updates - please keep praying for all the others from last week and I will give a full list on Sunday
2. News of our foodbank collection
3. Information about Alpha
4. The current situation with the churches

1. Two prayer updates

- a) A parishioner has asked for prayer for a dear friend who is very ill
- b) Please pray for someone in a neighbouring parish – the husband whose wife recently died.

2. Our Foodbank Collection

Thank you SO much! to all who came along to donate to the Epsom and Ewell Foodbank this afternoon. It was lovely to chat to so many of you and have the opportunity of some brief catch-ups in person... and the collection was sizeable (please see the photos attached). Let's pray that these gifts are a real blessing to some of the most needy families / people living in our local area - and for the continued wonderful work of this foodbank and all foodbanks across the UK at this time.

3. Information about Alpha

Alpha starts on Tuesday next week (9th June) - 8pm each week for 8 weeks, finishing by 9.30 pm.

If you have been in touch to say you'd like to join in, more information is coming!

If you'd still like to join in or have friends who would like to - it is not too late to sign up (or you can even simply join us for individual topics of interest, by letting me know so I can send you the Zoom link).

The programme is as follows:

Tuesday 9th June: Introduction

Tuesday 16th June: Who is Jesus? & Why did Jesus die?

Tuesday 23rd June: How can I have faith?

Tuesday 30th June: Why and how do I pray? & Why and how do I read the Bible?

Tuesday 7th July: How does God guide us?

Tuesday 14th July: Who is the Holy Spirit & What does the Holy Spirit do?

Tuesday 21st July: How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit?

Tuesday 28th July: What about the Church?

Please do email or ring if you would like further information.

4. The current situation with our churches

Some of you have been in contact - either excited, or anxious, or both! As we have heard in the news that churches may be opening for private prayer this month and opening for restricted gatherings in July.

As things stand at the current time, I have no instructions from the Diocese to begin either of these (though I suspect they may be coming in some form soon) and we are still told that only the vicar is to go into either church.

Please rest assured that as soon as this changes, I will update you - but that we will also prepare very carefully for your safety before this happens (including informing you of what to expect at the different stages).

My expectation is that this will be a very gradual process - but I will keep communicating as things unfold.

Love and prayers to you all.

Thank you for the way we are all drawing together - and for the many kind encouragements & expressions of love and care in recent weeks, as we continue to journey forward as church family.

Alex

07312 113019

Rev Alex Williams

Vicar

Parish of Nork with Burgh Heath

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