

Nork with Burgh Heath Parish News and Updates – Wednesday 11 November 2020

Dear Church Family Members and Parish Friends,

Hoping you are all staying safe and well during these challenging times.

It was a great joy to have around 50 of us gathered on Zoom for our Parish Remembrance Service last Sunday - thank you to all who took part.

This week we will be Zooming again, please join us from 10 am for a 10.15 am start.

The link is

here: <https://zoom.us/j/96950789602?pwd=eIVWZ1V2Z1lYZk55R1k4ajdmSWVyZz09>

Our church family news this week is on the following topics:

- a) Baby news!
- b) Shoe box collection
- c) The Baxter's School
- d) The next food bank collection

Please do stay in touch with your news whenever you wish - and please do be in touch if you are struggling in any way.

Love and prayers,

Alex

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a) Baby News!

Congratulations to lovely Jasmine Wakeford and family, who have recently joined St. Paul's, on the birth of Sofia who arrived last week at 8lb 5.

Jasmine - we are all so thrilled for all of you and can't wait to meet Sofia when we are back in church. She is beautiful!

b) Shoe Box Collection

Rather wonderfully, our parish managed to collect 49 shoe boxes which have been sent off this week to be distributed across the world, as well as nearly 30 hats and mittens which have been carefully knitted by various family members. This is a great achievement in COVID times when everything is so much more complicated than usual.

Thank you all for your generous contributions to this special cause - and thank you again to Deirdre Jackson and Tricia Peacock who have organised this. **A photo is attached!**

c) The Baxter's School

Attached are the photographs we sent out for prayer and praise with the last worship email, showing the re-opening of the Baxter's school in The Gambia, which is wonderful news.

John writes:

I thought I'd share some good news in these gloomy days. Our school has, this week, been able to re-open and has children queuing up to come back. I am attaching a few photos showing the children and the teachers. Through paying their salaries for the last seven months we have retained all but two of the teachers so that has been a great blessing and our charity is truly grateful for all the support from everyone in your parish. It has helped us to use other funds for PPE, sanitizer, soap and for facemasks for all the children as it is a requirement for them all to wear them in school. We have also had to have a new water tank installed. Just one of those additional costs that comes with a large building!

The infection rate in The Gambia is very low at the moment and we are praying that the opening up of schools and colleges does not change that situation.

d) The next foodbank collection:

Our next food bank collection will be on Wednesday 18th November from 2-4 pm outside St. Mary's. This CAN happen in lockdown, as it is one of the things which churches are able to continue with.

Please do add a few items to your shopping in the coming week if you can - and drop these up to St. Mary's (a supervised table will be outside unless it is absolutely pouring with rain, in which case we will be just inside the porch!).

The items the food bank needs this time around are: boxes of biscuits, tubs of chocolates, Christmas puddings (no alcohol), mince pies (no alcohol), yule logs (no alcohol), savoury snacks e.g. twiglets, crisps etc, mixed fruit and nuts, small boxes of shortbread, sweets and biscuits for older or single clients, custard, gravy granules, hot chocolate, Christmas napkins, disposable table cloths, new tea towels, wrapping paper, gift tags, sellotape

Love and prayers,
Alex

Rev Alex Stevens
Vicar
Parish of Nork with Burgh Heath

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