Nork with Burgh Heath Parish News and Updates – Monday 2 February 2021

Dear Church Family Members and Parish Friends,

Hoping you're all staying safe and well.

This news email contains the following information:

- 1. Zoom links for activities this week
- 2. The Archbishops call for prayer
- 3. 'Parcels of love' for the isolated / those who are struggling CAN YOU HELP?
- 4. Updates from two of our mission partners
- 5. The sermon & intercessions from our service last Sunday
- 6. An update from the Whartons
- 7. A message from the Southeys
- 8. Information on a possible coaching opportunity

Information and the link for next Sunday's service will be sent out later in the week.

Please do keep in touch Love and prayers, Alex 07312113019

1. Zoom links for activities this week

To zoom in to **THE PRAYER COURSE**, this evening (Tuesday 2nd February) at 7.45 for 8pm, please use this

link: https://zoom.us/j/99840290512?pwd=cXpjcXIYV1RNbzFWaldOUGNLUFdWZz09

To zoom in to **PARISH COFFEE**, tomorrow (Wednesday 3rd February) at 11 am, please use this link: <u>https://zoom.us/j/93287417151?pwd=TEdBZHQzMTRTOEZ2UkpsNFk5dG5OZz09</u>

2. The Archbishops call for prayer

Following reaching the horrific milestone of 100,000 deaths to COVID-19 in the UK, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have asked us all to pray daily (at 6pm if we can - or at other times if this isn't possible): calling on God in love and asking for His help for the many needs across our communities at this time.

A link to daily resources can be found here: <u>https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/prayer-nation</u>

On this webpage (on the link) a copy of their letter can also be found.

Please do respond to this call.

3. <u>'Parcels of Love' for the isolated / those who are struggling; CAN YOU HELP?</u>

Recently, several families in the community joined together to create some parcels of love, which I had the privilege of distributing to those in the church family, and beyond, who I prayerfully felt were most in need of a boost in these difficult times. A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE FAMILIES - you know who you are (though I know you also wanted to stay anonymous!)

Please see a picture of some of the parcels which is attached.

There are many more who are struggling and isolated at this time (I really wish I could have given out so many more of these wonderful gifts) - and I am wondering whether anyone else may enjoy making a parcel or two to be distributed to encourage / boost those who are known to be struggling or in troubling circumstances.

The parcels would include a mix of toiletry goods and also edible treats (with no nuts) - preferably which could be good for either a man or a woman to enjoy! (ie unisex). Each bag would have around 8 different items, which can be small - but together make up a really special gift for someone who needs to know they are loved by us and by God at this time.

If you would like to help with this, the deadline for creating your parcels is Wednesday 17th February.

It would be helpful if you could let me know whether you plan to do this - and how many parcels you can provide (for planning who may receive them).

4. Updates from two of our mission partners

In a separate email next week, I am planning to give a fuller update on our mission giving in recent months.

However I am delighted to attach an update from John & Dorothy Baxter about BACSECT.

We currently have 6 mission partners which are supported by our parish (again more information to follow in a separate email soon) - and each of these will be invited to give a presentation to our parish either in person or via Zoom at some point during 2021.

The first of these will be Sally & Yagya Singh, who are missionaries in Nepal. They have offered to do a presentation, via Zoom, for anyone who would be interested to find out their work on Wednesday 24th February at 8pm.

To sign up for this, please use this link: <u>https://forms.gle/xL85gZsvJUwLAxdm6</u>

5. <u>The Sermon and intercessions from last Sunday</u> Many thanks, again, to all who contributed to the service on Sunday.

Derek's intercessions are attached to this email and the link to Tomos' sermon is here: <u>https://youtu.be/d4bb-Ww8B7Y</u>

6. <u>An update from the Whartons</u>

Praise God! Dave Wharton is coming home from hospital today! Sue and Dave send thanks for all the love, support and prayers at this difficult time. Please do keep praying for a full recovery for Dave, who will need to rest carefully at home now.

7. <u>A message from the Southeys</u>

David and Judy send love to everyone and are delighted to announce that they have moved to: Nethercliffe Cottage, 150A Barnett Wood Lane, Ashtead, KT21 2LL. (They are still part of our church family and intend, when it is possible to do so again, to continue to attend St. Mary's).

Although when they moved they thought they would be keeping their number, they now have a new local number which is: 01372 811010

Mobile nos. are still 07544 569475 (David) 07415 699132 (Judy)

8. <u>Coaching?</u>
A lady who I have never met, called Sharon Strong, details:
Name: Sharon Strong
Email: <u>sharonstrong54@yahoo.com</u>
Tel: 07533243679
Has got in touch to offer free coaching to anyone who would like it.

Please do take a good look at Sharon's website and contact her directly if you feel you would be interested in this. (Not knowing her I cannot vouch for her work, but am sharing in case this is of help or interest to anyone)

Love and prayers, Alex

Rev Alex Stevens Vicar Parish of Nork with Burgh Heath

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