

Nork with Burgh Heath Parish News and Updates – Thursday 11 March 2021

Dear Church Family Members and Parish Friends,

Hoping you're well.

This is the second of two news emails coming out today (the other contains information on the plans for our churches and our parish for the next couple of months, including re-opening dates and other key dates).

Further to my last message people are already asking: I should have mentioned A BOOKING SYSTEM WILL BE NEEDED FOR EASTER DAY AND ALL SUBSEQUENT SERVICES and I will send out the link for this in the coming weeks, and then each week. This is because we have to keep below our maximum covid capacity in each church, which is still limited due to the social distancing of the seating. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis - and Zoom will also be available.

This one contains our other news from this week, including:

1. An update from Operation Christmas Child
2. Our Parish Youtube and Facebook pages (including links to the sermons from the last 2 weeks)
3. Videos about what Easter means to you - can you help?
4. News from church family members and current prayer requests
5. Information about two local charities - Crossroads and Age Concern

The information & Zoom link for Sunday's service will be sent out on Saturday this week.

Love and prayers,

Alex

(07312 113019)

1. An update from Operation Christmas Child

This week we heard that some of the shoe boxes we collected as a parish for Operation Christmas Child went to Moldova!

They went a couple of months after Christmas, as the charity had trouble (due to the pandemic) sending everything this year - but this is great news.

You can find out about this here: <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/destinations/occ-moldova>

If you printed off a code to add to your box you can now track where yours went.

You can also check if you packed yours online.

Tricia and Deirdre would love to know where yours ended up if you're able to find out!

There is also an Operation Christmas Child event online coming up which anyone can sign up for to find out more about this wonderful cause. It is on Saturday 20th March, from 10.30 am for 1.5 hours.

Please use this link to find out more (sorry it's so long!!): https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/connect-conference/?utm_source=O21EC5&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Operation%20Christmas%20Child&utm_content=Sign%20Up%20Today%20MSO%20Button

2. Our Parish Facebook Page and Youtube Page

A big thank you to Michael, who is quietly working behind the scenes to gradually unify and raise our online presence in the parish.

We now have both a parish facebook page (which many of you are following - please do if you aren't already as it will help us to get known more widely by others too): <https://www.facebook.com/Nork-with-Burgh-Heath-113571377219118>

And a parish youtube page, where we will now upload all sermons (it only has two at the moment, but you can subscribe to it and be updated as we gradually add more over time: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9jSNmprc6Fe8MMNFK_KvYA

Both of these will eventually link to our parish website - a rather bigger project - but which is also being worked on.

Please do take a look at these and share with anyone you think would like to see them.

3. Videos about what Easter means to you - can you help?

We are wondering if any of you would be happy to send a one minute video saying what Easter means to you this year, which would be both shared on our parish facebook page and also as part of our Messy Easter Youtube event.

If you are happy to do this, please record yourself on your phone and whatsapp the video to me (07312 113019). I will send on to Michael for facebook and Sue & Dave Wharton for Messy Easter.

If you would like to do this, but are cannot record on your phone and send this way, please do send me a message as I (or one of the others could also arrange to record you via Zoom).

4. News from our church Family and Current Prayer Requests

Yvonne Holdaway is delighted to be home from hospital and sends thanks to all the church family for the wonderful prayers, cards, messages, love and care over the last couple of weeks.

Yvonne would like everyone to know what a huge difference this support has made to her - so thank you!

Being at home, she is now on a fairly intensive post-stroke (it is official she has had a stroke and it helps her if you know this) rehabilitation programme, with people coming in every day to support her in gradually becoming more independent again. She says - thank you for all the lovely messages. Please know that she has so appreciated them, but please also understand that she may not be able to reply to everyone individually at the moment as she is still recovering from being so ill and things are still challenging for her.

She has an appointment next week at hospital for an Ophthalmic assessment she would appreciate our prayers for and she wants everyone to know she is optimistic, but values continued prayers for further recovery in the coming weeks and months.

Yvonne is also - potentially - a grandmother again. She thanks and praises God for Cameron, who is 7 months old, and is hopefully being adopted by her son Mark and daughter-in-law Claire. Cameron has moved in with the family and the other 5 children already and is settling in well. Please do pray for them all also!

The Shaw family have had some backwards steps this week, having hoped Sarah would be able to come home. Distressingly for Catherine, Andrew and Joshua, Sarah's left lung is not functioning properly and it is possible she has developed another infection. She is having various tests to work out how to treat & help her.

Please do keep praying for Sarah and all the Shaw family at this very difficult time.

The Quin family remain delighted at the birth of little Ethan, announced last week and praise God for him. Reuben loves his little brother and new family life is going well in this respect.

Sadly, Dan's mum Karen (2 Karens in the same family) has also just had further tests on the tumour on her brain and a second tumour has been discovered. The family have been told that there is nothing further that can be done to help her beyond palliative care. They remain optimistic - trusting God and valuing each day with Karen - but would appreciate your prayers.

Sue Sanderson remains very ill. David loved having Lucy (his daughter) to stay for a week as she came to help him for a while, but she has now gone home and David continues to look after Sue himself with the support of 4 carers a day. Please do continue your prayers for them - and also give thanks to God that Lucy was able to make the journey to visit safely, which was so important.

Beryl Gardner, is still very ill. Provisions are being made for her to go home again, but she needs a lot of support to make this possible. Please pray that all the arrangements fall into place well for her and for her family.

Ebony Cox has been diagnosed with juvenile arthritis in her ankle and possibly in her elbow as well. She is currently having tests - please pray for some treatment for her soon, as the family feel they are being bounced around referrals at present. Please pray for Ebony, Katie, Pete and Scarlett - the Cox family.

5. Information about two charities - Cross Roads and Age Concern

This week Cross Roads and Age Concern (two local charities) have both got in contact to share news of their work. These messages are attached for anyone who would like to read more.

Age concern are also asking anyone who is over 50, who would like to, to fill out a survey about what activities would be good for our area.

Love and prayers to you all.

Alex

Rev Alex Stevens
Vicar
Parish of Nork with Burgh Heath

The PCC of the Parish of Nork with Burgh Heath is a Registered UK Charity No 1180563