

## **WEEKLY MESSAGE FROM OUR VICAR, ALEX – 26<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

Dear Church Family Members and Parish Friends,

Hoping very much that this finds you well.

This news email contains information on the following:

1. Our services from this Sunday (29th August)
2. Booking links for the services at both churches this weekend (29th August)
3. The Archbishop of Canterbury's visit to the Diocese and Alpha
4. Two messages from Doug Nurse
5. Heritage open day at Reigate Town Hall
6. A local club for those who are blind or partially sighted

Love and prayers,

Alex

07312113019

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### **1. Our services from this Sunday (29th August)**

From this Sunday (29th August), we will continue to

- be 2 metres socially distanced in church
- wear masks throughout our services, including for singing
- waving or nodding for the peace
- book to attend services

However we are trying to move both churches back to looking 'more like church' and so are experimenting with different ways to organise the seating. Please bear with us as it may take a couple of weeks to hone this exactly.

As we are in the experimenting stage (including lots of chair moving!) we may still allocate specific seats to people for this week, whilst we are working everything out. However the hope is to move back to more freedom of choice on this as we move forward.

### **2. Booking links for the services at both churches this weekend (29th August)**

To book to attend the 9 am service at St. Paul's on Sunday (29th August) please use this link:  
<https://forms.gle/JVjT2zRL1a9hXgN69>

To book to attend the 11 am service at St. Mary's on Sunday (29th August) please use this link:  
<https://forms.gle/RYcuNEU92CwiQ87s9>

Both services will be 'Zoomed' as usual and the links and information for this will be sent out on Saturday.

Please (if it is possible) make any bookings by Saturday at 12 pm. This week there is a particularly large amount of sorting out (in terms of seating arrangements over both churches) and so early bookings are enormously helpful!

### **3. The Archbishop of Canterbury's visit to the Diocese and Alpha**

As many of us are aware, the Archbishop of Canterbury is visiting our Diocese between the 24th and 26th September.

As part of this weekend, there will be a big event on the evening of Friday 24th September for church families, at The Lakeside Centre near Camberley at 8pm, for which tickets can be booked on this link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-evening-with-justin-welby-tickets-160856571335>

This will be followed by smaller, more local, deanery events and the one for Epsom deanery (ours) is at 3.30pm on Saturday 25th September at Blenheim High School. We are encouraged to invite friends who may not be familiar with church to attend this event with us.

More information can be found, and tickets can also be booked, on this link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/big-questions-with-the-archbishop-of-canterbury-epsom-tickets-162246091427>

Two flyers about this event are attached. David Senior says there have been some booking problems, but these have been fixed. He advises we book swiftly to avoid missing out if tickets sell out.

Following this weekend we will be running ZOOM Alpha (ie Alpha on Zoom) in the parish on Wednesday evenings, which will be headed up by Andrew Shaw and a team of helpers. More information will follow next week and then throughout September, but please be thinking about whether this is of interest to you and / or about others who may wish to join in too.

### **4. Two messages from Doug Nurse**

Here are two rather lovely messages from Doug Nurse:

a) Sunday 12th September.

You are invited to bring a picnic to our garden at 117 Wilmot Way, Banstead Surrey SM72QA. 1-3 pm.

Bring a chair or blanket to sit on and a drink. Please let us know if you are coming 01737 355670

b) Possible canal trip.

Anyone interested. For 12 people 90 mins £15 for 3 hrs £21.

Date to be arranged. Let me know on 01737 355670

### **5. Heritage Open Day at Reigate Town Hall**

Reigate Town Hall are holding a heritage open day on Saturday 11th September, for which a flyer is attached in case it is of interest.

### **6. A local club for those who are blind or partially sighted**

Peter Wilson, who lives near St. Paul's and is a friend of the parish - regularly supporting the food bank - runs a club for those who are blind or partially sighted, which is starting up again on Monday 6th September.

It is on the first Monday of every month (unless a bank holiday, where it moves to the second Monday). Meetings run from 2-4pm, with a charge of £2 a meeting and there are refreshments and entertainments put on.

The club is able to offer door to door minibus collection and return, starting collecting members at 1pm and returning them home by 5pm.

Please do pass this information on to anyone who you think may be helped by a club like this - Peter can be telephoned on 01737 213809 for further information.

Peter is also happy to ring people who are interested but who may not be able to make the call themselves.

Love and prayers,  
Alex

**Revd Alex Stevens**  
**Vicar**  
**Parish of Nork with Burgh Heath**

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