

WEEKLY MESSAGE FROM OUR VICAR, ALEX – 16th September 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. Booking links for this Sunday's (19th September) services
2. The dates overview for our parish from September through to December 2021
3. Our food bank collection on Wednesday 22nd September, next week
4. Our collection for Afghan refugees on Wednesday 22nd September, next week
5. The Archbishop of Canterbury's visit to our Diocese
6. Alpha in our parish
7. Operation Christmas Child
8. Our Sermon Series on Joshua

There will be another opportunity to pray for the situation in Afghanistan and for all affected by this on Tuesday morning (21st September) at 10 am. This will last for approximately 40 minutes and the Zoom link for this is

here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81374074315?pwd=RFhlem4wckljc0cyakExZWRSYUNlZz09>

Love and prayers

Alex

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1. **Booking links for this Sunday's (19th September) services**

To book to attend the service at St. Paul's, at 9am, on Sunday 19th September, please use this link: <https://forms.gle/BRPYU3aE4Jk8QNS46>

To book to attend the service at St. Mary's, at 11 am, on Sunday 19th September, please use this link: <https://forms.gle/TZyYJC8hL8V7vEeG7>

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

2. **The dates overview for our parish, September - December 2021**

Attached, in case you missed it last week, is the overview of key dates (so far) for our parish between September and December 2021.

3. **Our food bank collection on Wednesday 22nd September, next week**

On Wednesday next week, 22nd September, between 2 and 4 pm, we will be collecting for the Epsom and Ewell Foodbank at St. Paul's.

Items currently needed are:

Long life sponge puddings
Powdered milk
Meat pies (no alcohol)
Tinned Vegetables
Rice
Cooking sauces
Treats and snacks for children
Mayonnaise
Ketchup
Shampoo
Washing powders
Washing up liquid
Bags for life

4. **Our collection for Afghan refugees on Wednesday 22nd September, next week**

We are having a collection of goods to support refugees from Afghanistan and other places. This will run alongside the food bank collection, at St. Paul's, between 2 and 4 pm on Wednesday 22nd September next week.

Items needed are:

Tents
Men and boys coats, especially medium sized
Sleeping bags and blankets
Jogging bottoms and jeans, size 26-34 waist
New boxer shorts (especially medium and small, tight if possible)
Socks, hats and gloves
Hoodies and jumpers
Unlocked mobile phones with chargers (unlocked being essential)
Power banks
Tarpaulins
Rain ponchos
Back packs
Torches
Toiletries and toiletry packs
Roll mats
T-shirts
Trainers
Bin bags
Anti-bacterial hand wash
Children's sports wear
Women's sports wear
Women's leggings
Women's new underwear
Dried fruit and nuts
UHT milk
Sugar

Biscuits
Cakes
Coffee
Tinned food e.g. meats (not pork), lentils, beans, tomatoes
Cooking oil
Tea
Long life fruit juice

5. **The Archbishop of Canterbury's visit to our Diocese**

It is not too late to sign up to attend the local event for our Deanery, at Blenheim School on Saturday 25th September at 3.30pm, where the Archbishop of Canterbury will be speaking and answering questions on matters of faith.

Please do think about who you may invite and / or book to attend yourself.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/big-questions-with-the-archbishop-of-canterbury-epsom-tickets-162246091427>

Please also see this video for more information:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bhB_VPF6Ae4

6. **Alpha in our parish**

We are running Alpha in our parish, for 8 Wednesday evenings at 8pm, from Wednesday 6th October. This is a wonderful opportunity to explore the Christian faith, whether you have been a believer for a long time or you are simply wondering about it.

Please think about friends and family members who you may like to invite to take part.

For more information, please contact Andrew Shaw: LLM@norkwithburghheath.com

We will be giving out invitation cards this Sunday for all of us to share with others.

To find out more about alpha, please look at this website: <https://alpha.org/>

7. **Operation Christmas Child**

We are collecting Christmas shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child again this year and empty shoe boxes, ready to be filled, can be picked up during our services at both churches this Sunday and from the churches from this date. We will need them returned to either church by Sunday 7th November.

Thank you so much to Tricia Peacock and Deirdre Jackson for heading this initiative up in each church.

For more information, please also see this website: <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

8. **Our Sermon Series on Joshua**

For our sermon series this term, we are studying the book of Joshua.

Please find links to our first two sermons on Joshua 1 and 2 below:

Joshua 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rvWs-32nJuo>

Joshua 2: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMXOX_cpYRg

Love and prayers,
Alex

Rev Alex Stevens
Vicar
Parish of Nork with Burgh Heath

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