

WEEKLY MESSAGE FROM OUR VICAR, ALEX – 7th October 2021

Dear Church Family Members and Parish Friends,

Hoping you're all well.

This week's parish news contains information on the following:

1. 3 Marathons
2. A new noticeboard at St. Paul's
3. 'Little Roots' our new Toddler Group
4. The Prayer meeting on Tuesday 12th October
5. Community Alive and Messy Church - our 'All-Age' services at each church
6. Alpha
7. Food Bank
8. Our next parish walk

Love and prayers,

Alex

1. **3 Marathons**

Very well done to both George Drewitt and Oli Moore, who completed the London Marathon on Sunday - we are really proud of you! George was running for Afasig and Oli was running for Vision Foundation. Photos are attached of them with their medals. I also had the privilege of completing the Brighton Marathon, for the NSPCC, a couple of weekends before... so have attached photos of all three of us, following encouragement from some of you to share this too 😊

2. **A new noticeboard at St. Paul's**

To complete the photograph set, I have also attached a photo of the new noticeboard at St. Paul's (the other one was completely rotten through), which was designed and created by Michael for us (saving the parish a huge amount of money which we would have had to pay to replace it otherwise). In the photo you will see Michael, Michelle and I posing after we had spent several hours putting it up this week. This is another step forward in giving us even better ways of communicating and sharing with the local community. (Thank you Michael!)

3. **'Little Roots' our new Toddler Group**

On Tuesday next week, the 12th October, we are delighted to announce the launching of a new Toddler Group at St. Paul's: 'Little Roots'. This will run from 9-10.30 am, every Tuesday during term time, and the team will be headed up by Sophie Drewitt. (Thank you Sophie!).

We are really excited by this - please share the attached flyer far and wide, around as many people as you can, to 'get the word out there'... and please do pray for Sophie and the team as this gets underway.

4. **The Prayer meeting on Tuesday 12th October**

The next Parish Prayer meeting will be on Tuesday 12th October, on Zoom, at 7.30 pm. The link for this is

here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87823454953?pwd=QXY4ckYwVHpKYVdhNEZEzdzMzZDIKdz09>

We will be praying for the needs of the parish, including all of our initiatives which are restarting - or launching new. We will also incorporate some aspects of Compline, a traditional night prayer in the Church of England.

5.

6. **Community Alive and Messy Church - our 'All-Age' services at each church**

This weekend at St. Paul's (Sunday 10th October) we re-launch 'Community Alive' and next weekend at St. Mary's (Sunday 17th October), we re-launch Messy Church. These are our 'All Age' services, aimed at children & families.

Please pray for both as they resume - and come along too.

Thank you very much to all involved in preparing for and leading these.

6. **Alpha**

Alpha started well this week - many thanks to Andrew and the team for leading this initiative. Next week's topic is 'Who is Jesus?' It is not too late to join in if you'd still like to - please contact Andrew LLM@norkwithburghheath.com to find out more or to join the course. Please do continue to pray for the group as they journey together.

7. **Food Bank**

Our next Food Bank collection will be on Wednesday 20th October, from 2-4 pm, outside St. Mary's.

Items needed this time are: deodorant - male and female, powdered milk, shaving foam, shower gel, noodles, squash, tinned fruit, coffee, meat pies (no alcohol), bags for life.

Thank you so much for your continued support of this very important ministry.

8. Our next parish walk

Our next parish walk will be on the morning of Saturday 16th October and will be a 4 mile walk on Banstead and Walton Heaths, starting somewhere near St. Mary's. Thank you very much to Simon & Jane Morrison for co-ordinating these walks. If you are not in the walking group already and would like to find out more information, please do be in touch.

Love and prayers,
Alex

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Alex

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