

WEEKLY MESSAGE FROM OUR VICAR, ALEX – 24th October 2021

Dear Church Family Members and Parish Friends,

Hoping very much that you are well.

This email contains information on the following:

1. Exciting news for Jo & Kevin Blair
2. Parish Forest Church
3. Remembering Loved Ones
4. Remembrance Sunday
5. Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes
6. Refresh@10
7. Christmas Crafts at St. Paul's

Love and prayers,
Alex
07312 113019

1. Exciting news for Jo & Kevin Blair

Jo and Kevin Blair are thrilled to announce that they have become grandparents! Aira Bobbie, a beautiful little girl, was born on Wednesday weighing 5 10.

Congratulations Jo and Kevin from all of us. We are delighted for you and hold you and all the family in our prayers at this time.

2. Parish Forest Church

This afternoon, we held a pilot for 'Forest Church', which was a lovely success. Members of five families joined in and the children LOVED IT!

We decided to try 'Forest Church' because we have some woodland, belonging to the parish, behind the St. Paul's church hall and we want to make better use of this for worshipping God and reaching out to those in our local community in new and different ways.

Today we read and talked about Psalm 8, went hunting for God's creations and celebrated the different things we found, shelter-built and finished with a packed lunch together - all of which was interspersed with prayer.

Forest Church will definitely be running again - the pilot has showed us some things to work on and work out, but overall was great fun. Thank you to everyone who prayed and / or came along.

Watch this space for the next one!

3. Remembering Loved Ones

On Sunday 7th November we will be holding our 'Remembering Loved Ones' services at St. Paul's at 9 am and St. Mary's at 11 am.

Please do invite friends and neighbours who may be helped by this opportunity. A flyer is attached.

As usual we will be lighting candles, having reflection time and reading the names of loved ones.

If you would like the name of a loved one read in the service, please send the name (and any guidance on pronunciation) to Michelle: operations@norkwithburghheath.com , stating which church service you would like the name read at.

We will print out the lists ready for Sunday 7th November - and any additional names can be added on the morning too.

4. Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 14th November is Remembrance Sunday. For this morning, we will be holding a Parish Remembrance Sunday Service at St. Mary's for which we are asking people to arrive at the church by 10.45 am, ready to begin the service at 10.50 am to include an act of Remembrance from 10.58 am, including, at 11 am, the 2 minute silence.

At St. Paul's that morning, it is the monthly 'Community Alive' all age service, where there will also be two baptisms. We will have a short act of Remembrance there also - but this is the reason for the main Remembrance Sunday service being at St. Mary's this year.

Poppies will be on sale at both churches from next Sunday.

5. Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes

Thank you to everyone who has taken Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes to fill for children who would otherwise receive no gifts this Christmas. You have two more weeks to fill them!

The final deadline for returning these to the churches is Sunday 7th November, to enable us to then deliver them to a processing centre in time to be sent overseas.

Continued thanks to Tricia Peacock and Deirdre Jackson for leading this important ministry.

6. Refresh@10

Refresh@10, the monthly coffee morning run on Saturdays from St. Mary's is starting again in December!

There will be a 'Christmas Special' on Saturday 11th December, before the mornings resume on their usual 'final Saturday of the month' morning from January.

We have a wonderful team of people who run these mornings, but would always love to have more people join as well. Please do be in contact if you would like to join either to help with the 'set up' for the morning or on the morning itself. (The team operates on a rota system - you do not have to be there all 12 Saturday mornings of the year!)

7. Christmas Crafts at St. Paul's

We are holding a Christmas Crafts morning at St. Paul's on Saturday 4th December, from 10-12pm and would love it if you would either like to help or to join in.

Please be in contact if you would like to find out more.

Love and prayers,
Alex

Rev Alex Stevens
Vicar
Parish of Nork with Burgh Heath
07312 113019

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