

WEEKLY MESSAGE FROM OUR VICAR, ALEX – 23rd JUNE 2022

Dear Church Family Members,

Hope very much you're all well.

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to the collection of items for David & Margaret to welcome them to their new home... and thank you also to all who donated to our food bank collection yesterday afternoon. Both were very much appreciated.

My apologies that the news has been a little erratic in the last few weeks...it's, as usual, been rather busy in the parish! However, I am now resuming the weekly updates as a number of you have said that these are helpful.

This news update contains information on:

- a) Our Whole Parish Service at St. Paul's at 10 am on Sunday (26th June)
- b) Refresh@10
- c) Forest Church
- d) David Packham's ordination as deacon
- e) The overview of dates for June - August (some people have asked for another copy of this)
- f) The 'Big Five': 5 key events for inviting people to in July and August
- g) A notice from Susan Major, from All Saints Banstead

As always, please do ask if you have any queries about any of the above - or anything else.

Love and prayers

Alex

a) Our Whole Parish Service at St. Paul's at 10 am on Sunday (26th June)

Please do spread the word far and wide, that it is another Whole Parish Service this Sunday (26th June) at 10 am at St. Paul's.

It is at St. Paul's again because the Jubilee was an added extra to our usual monthly swaps between the two churches - and there is also an extra whole parish service at St. Mary's in August for the Parish Praise event (please see below).

Information for those who will be attending via Zoom will be sent out on Saturday.

The next whole parish service will be at St. Mary's on Sunday 31st July, at 10 am (one week later than usual for that month only, to enable us to have the parish picnic afterwards).

b) Refresh@10

It is Refresh@10 on Saturday morning (25th June), from 10 am - 12pm, at St. Mary's. This is an opportunity for coffee/ tea, cake & chat. Everyone is welcome - please do come and bring a friend too!

c) Forest Church

It is Forest Church on Sunday afternoon (26th June), at 3pm in the St. Paul's Backlands (behind the hall). This is great fun and it's lovely to worship outside in God's creation. Please do come along and join us. Please also tell others who may enjoy this different opportunity for informal worship!

d) David Packham's ordination as deacon

David is being ordained on Sunday 3rd July, and prior to this will be on a retreat for several days where he will pray about the call God has given him and prepare to be our Curate.

I will be going along to his ordination on all of our behalf, to support him - and also to take part in the service. (I will share photos via email after this for everyone to see!)

Please do continue to pray for him, and for Margaret, as they prepare to officially join us in the parish from Monday 4th July, with their first Sunday services being on the 11th.

e) The overview of dates for June - August (some people have asked for another copy of this)

Attached again is the overview of key dates for the parish from June - August.

Thank you to those who spotted a typo for one of the Refresh@10 dates. The Refresh@10 date for July is Saturday the 30th.

f) The 'Big Five': 5 key events for inviting people to in July and August

There are a lot of things happening in the parish in the next few months - and please do invite friends to any or all of them.

However there are five key events, which may be easier to invite those who may be a bit shy of church to than others.

These are:

- The Craft Morning at St. Paul's on Thursday 28th July, from 10 am - 1 pm
- The Parish Picnic in the Vicarage Gardens (or the St. Paul's hall if wet), from 12 pm on Sunday 31st July
- The Parish Coach Trip to Hever Castle on Saturday 13th August (please see flyer attached for information).
- The Tea, Cake and Board Games Afternoon at St. Mary's on Monday 15th August, from 2-4 pm
- The Parish 'Songs of Praise' evening at St. Mary's at 6pm on Sunday 21st August

Flyers for all of these events are attached (click on the links) - please do share them / send them on to anyone who may be interested.

g) A notice from Susan Major, from All Saints Banstead

'Exploring the Faith' is an ecumenical group that meets fortnightly on Tuesday mornings to read and discuss books of general Christian interest. Our next book will be Twenty Questions Jesus Asked by John Pritchard which we'll start on 28th June. If you'd like to come along or find out more please speak to Rosemary Whipp (01737 359764) or Susan Major (susan.major3@btinternet.com). You'll be welcome!

Love and prayers,
Alex

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