

St Giles' Church, Costock

Dear Friend

You will have heard that all Church buildings have been closed until further notice. You may wish to visit our Churchyard for quiet reflection and prayer, but please keep at least 2 metres apart from others who may be doing the same thing. The Churchyard is as tidy and welcoming as always.

We did have a list in the porch for prayer requests, but I'm afraid that we can't do that now, in case using the paper passes on the virus. Instead, if you would like prayers said for anyone please contact Gill or Kath. Our contact details are at the end of this letter.

Tim and the clergy team will continue "live" streaming from East Leake at 10 am and 6 pm on Sundays. If you wish to hear these services, you can click on <https://eastleakechurch.org>. You should be able to see them later on YouTube if you miss the exact time.

There is a weekly St Mary's News Sheet available online from the web site above or from some shops in East Leake. If I can work out how to print a readable version I will make some available in Costock, please let me (Kath) know if you would like to see one.

It includes a simple pattern of prayer which you may wish to follow. The prayer for our community seems particularly appropriate:

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those in need, as if we were caring for you. Bless our community, that it may be a place of trust and friendship, where all our known and cared for. We pray especially for our community support group, for shop workers and all who work for the common good. Amen

The News Sheet refers to 'cell groups'. These are small groups of people from the St Mary's congregation with a couple of leaders who will keep in touch to offer help and support. Gill and I will do this for the St Giles' congregation mainly through these letters. However we are happy to talk to anyone who wants someone to chat to or any practical support. Sue Waterston is also willing to talk to people. If you know of people who may find this newsletter useful, please ask them to contact us.

We have a number of people offering practical support and help in the village. Please contact Kath if you need assistance.

In addition to the services being streamed from St Mary's, there is a daily service at 9.45am on Radio 4, Sunday services each week at 8.10am on

Radio 4 and Choral Evensong on Sundays at 3.00pm and Wednesdays at 3.30pm on Radio 3.

The Bishop has put messages on the Southwell Diocese website which you can access if you have online facilities.

Let's stay well and continue our shared fellowship in new ways! We are fortunate to be part of this very caring community.

May the Lord comfort us in sorrow, calm us when anxious, befriend us when lonely, embolden us when afraid, guide us with the light of his presence and protect us with the golden wings of his love. Amen. (Annette Sampson)

Kath and Gill

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