

Dear Friends

When we first went into lock down it was Mother's Day. At that point we were still allowed to live stream from church and Elizabeth and I with our camera man Bishop Alan worked out (just about) how to show our service on our Facebook page. Shortly after that the building was closed completely and apart from a brief inspection visit a couple of times a week it has remained closed.

As you know we've been doing our best using various means to keep in touch and broadcast what services we can. We've developed a pattern of 0800, 1000 and 1800 services on Sunday and both at compile and during the week there have been various members of the congregation contributing to worship and with beautiful literature. There is even a way now for those who don't have a computer to listen in to the 1000 on Sunday on the phone and last week 4 people did just that. The various live casts on VE day which drew on our own community and memories was very special. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

Now there has been a very small change in the rules. One priest is allowed in and could go with a member of their household as the camera person and live stream from inside the church.

Elizabeth and I have discussed this, and both feel that there is something painfully sad about trying to take a service alone in an empty church building. We think that until there is some sense of a worshipping community, even if it is only the two of us, we would rather wait and continue our present pattern. So -this coming Sunday will be as usual.

Please let us know what you think! There have been very heated discussions about this whole subject which you have doubtless seen in the press!

Time marches on and next Thursday is Ascension Day. Please do join us in the usual Facebook way for a service at 1230.

We have been given the go ahead for some crucial work on our exterior stonework and at the same time hope, at long last, to get the floor tiles inside the church fixed. This is thanks to a very generous grant from the Friends who are giving £7,500 towards the cost.



Meanwhile, all the best working out exactly what the new rules mean -and please bear teachers and our families in mind as they consider what is safe for their children.

Do get in touch if you'd like a chat, a prayer or help. We will write again soon.

With our love and prayers,

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