

Dear Friends,

We are at a time when the world is going through uncertain times whilst dealing with the outbreak of Corona virus. You are all in my thoughts and prayers, especially now that our church services are on hold. I have some sense of how hard it must be for all of us as we are faced with frightening health challenges as well as economic disruption. These challenges pose existential and practical questions at this time. Personally, whilst also dealing with these same challenges, I am faced with the existential question of what it means to be a priest and pastor in these circumstances; But something deep down tells me that we will all meet these challenges with wisdom and faith because the truth of God always endures -wherever I am, God is!

It is good that plans are being made in our community to care for everyone and in particular the elderly, those who are isolated and in great need; it is crucial that attention is given to those most at risk. As a church community we can play a great role in helping with people's wellbeing across this period. Much of our prayer and work will not be visible in the public view, but a valuable part of the church ministry will be going on.

And so, I am inviting you as a church community that we join together and help where we can. We will partner with the local groups in the village – the Belles, WI and the parish council - to support the community and pastoral/spiritual needs of all kind. Here are the plans I have in place at the moment:

- Holy Trinity Church will be open on Sundays 10.30 am – 12.30pm for private prayer, light candles, people to leave prayer requests. There will be some prayer resources to take away. The church will also be open during midweek. Details to follow and will soon be available on our church website and Facebook.
- There is now a team of people who will be available to talk or pray with those in need via phone or Skype. An advert with this message will be in the Messenger and on the church website.
- We will also be recording a short service that will go out every Sunday. This recording will be available online. Again, details will follow shortly on our church website and Facebook.

I am very thankful to all the volunteers who have stepped up to make it possible for us to offer this spiritual and pastoral support to our congregation and the wider community during these uncertain times.

Let us show compassion and resilience, and above all praying and caring for one another. It is our calling to share the love, peace and power of God that is within each of us.

Keep safe

Norbert