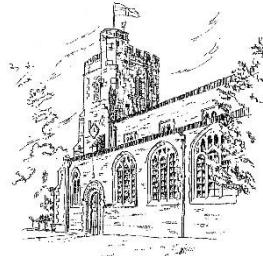


# All Saints Church Caddington

Pastoral Letter 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020



## Dear Parishioners,

'May you live in interesting times,' as the rather ambivalent Chinese saying goes ... we most certainly live in interesting times right now. No one could have predicted that churches and other public places would be closed down. With this letter I want to assure you that All Saints is still there for you even though you might have to isolate at home. This Sunday morning would have seen posies and chocolates and celebrations of Mothering Sunday, always a welcome break in the more austere time of Lent. Alas we will all have to spend Sunday Morning in our homes but I am still going to be praying for you.

Many churches are putting their messages online and you might have already seen some of them and I would like to encourage you to make use of what is on offer.

On Sunday Morning at 8:00am on BBC Radio 4's Sunday Worship programme (repeated at 8:10 on all local BBC stations) you will be able to hear the Archbishop of Canterbury giving an address to us all. There are many Church Services online you might be able to follow if you search the internet.

I know that most of you have your families close by who are looking after you but please don't hesitate to contact me on the regular Vicarage number **01582 731692** if you have any needs or just want a chat or a prayer.

It is important at this time that we stay in contact and if you have any novel ideas about how this can be achieved, please let me know.

I shall be updating the church's Facebook page regularly and there will be a devotional activity posted every day for you to use. If you don't have access to the internet, please let me know and I will personally deliver a booklet version of the same devotional so we are all reading and praying in sync.

If you are having difficulty in getting hold of some essential items please call me or consider contacting Caddington Care: **07548 264672** / [www.caddingtoncare.com](http://www.caddingtoncare.com).

The Archbishops have asked everyone to put a lit candle in a window at 7.00pm on Sunday evening. It would be nice if many could do that but be aware of your net curtains!

Many ideas for worship at home can be found on the Church of England website: [www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org) or our diocese: [www.stalbans.anglican.org](http://www.stalbans.anglican.org).

It remains for me to assure you of my prayers and good wishes. Stay well in these uncertain times and may God be with all of us as we watch and wait for what is to come. Maybe we can use this time to read and study God's Word which is alive and full of encouragement.

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus:

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy.  
Sustain and support the anxious,  
be with those who care for the sick,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may find comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Amen.**

Yours with love from All Saints,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob".

Revd Rob O'Neill  
Vicar, All Saints Caddington  
01582 731692  
[rob@vicar.org.uk](mailto:rob@vicar.org.uk)