



E-News 19 March 2020

Dear Friends,

Having to pause all Sunday worship has come faster than we thought. We will miss you all and we will miss worshipping together as God's family. We can only remember our brothers and sisters in countries where worship is forbidden and recognise the sacrifices they make and realise we don't have to go underground! We are still able to openly support, pray and offer practical help to any who need it. This is a time to truly be church where we are. Our families, our streets, our neighbourhoods, our city and beyond through amazing social media blessings, and small acts of kindness.

Worship:

St Helen's, Sandal

This Sunday is "Mothering Sunday" we will have St Helen's open as an open prayer space from 9.00am-12.00. You are welcome to come for a time of personal prayer and reflection and we will make sure with the social distancing that no one is at risk. We realise many people are taking advice to stay at home and we totally support and understand this is the right choice to make.

John Arnold has offered to play some quiet music to aid prayer and contemplation at 9.15 and Mark Taylor will be worshipping from 10.45 again to aid any in prayer and a quiet time.

St Paul's, Walton

will be open for an hour this Sunday 10.30-11.30am. Again you are welcome to come and pray and know you are not alone.

Sadly all groups that meet in the Emmaus Rooms and the Barnabas Rooms will stop meeting from next Monday.

The Spring Cafe and Shop:

After much thought and prayer, it is with a heavy heart that I can confirm that The Spring Community Shop & Cafe will be closing its doors to the public from *4pm on Friday 20th March*, until further notice.

However, as a firm believer in hope over adversity I very much hope that from *Tuesday 24th March* we will be able to offer a range of Food and Drinks that can be purchased to take away and be enjoyed in the comfort of your own homes - not quite sure what that looks like yet but we will be formulating a plan over the next few days and after our Staff team meeting on Monday should have a better idea !!

As we will no longer be opening I would respectfully ask that over the next few weeks you bless other charity shops with your donations - we simply do not have the storage space if we are not selling anything and moving stock on.

We pray for your well being and that of your family and look forward to welcoming you back very soon when once again our doors will be flung wide .

Much love to you all at this time,

Catherine & all at the Spring

Portobello Community Forum:

We have made the decision with all our beautiful groups who meet in Portobello Community Centre that we will have no group meetings in the Centre from today until it is safe to re start.

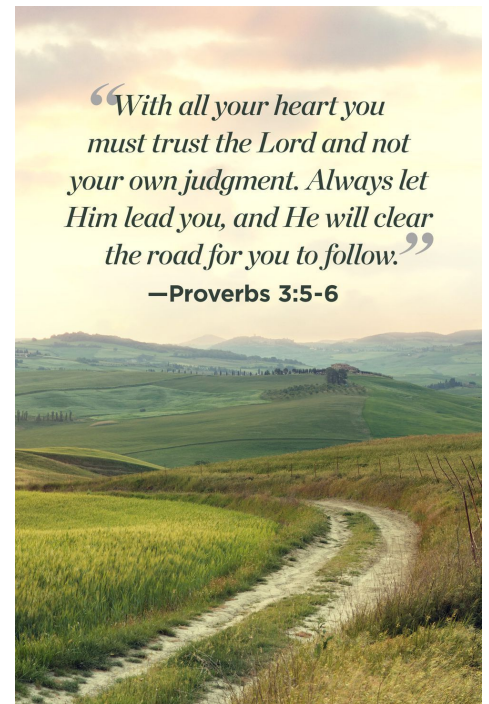
Our Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre will continue to work with Portobello Community Forum staff out of the office in the centre.

*Please can you encourage folk to sign up through the website to receive e-news as this will be our main way of communicating weekly with everyone.
Also you can follow SandalMagnaParish facebook page for news and spiritual sustenance.*

Please do use the parish office phone number 01924 259966 if you are in need of anything from a loo roll to a chat. Leave your phone number and a message and someone will get back to you within 48 hours and hopefully much sooner.

If you would like to volunteer in any way please can you e mail sallymartinpcf@gmail.com saying how you think you could help. Or any ideas you have in how we can support each other during this time. Over the next couple of weeks we will be putting together a different plan led by the Holy Spirit and we pray that we will see kindness and hope planted all over our city.

Circle us Lord,
Keep love within,
Keep hatred out.
Keep joy within,
Keep fear out.
Keep peace within,
Keep worry out.
Keep light within,
Keep darkness out.
May you stand in the circle with us,
Today and always
Amen.



“Our mission is that with Jesus, the lost are found, the found grow and the lonely are enfolded.”