

NOTICES FROM REVD LIZ : Watch this week's service by visiting our website and click on 'services' in the top menu or select www.capelandockleychurch.org.uk/services/services-on-line/ Our website has all the latest information on how our churches are responding to the Coronavirus and daily updates from our diocese of Guildford.

Join me 'in prayer' 9.30am and 5.30pm each day - Daily Prayer online: www.churchofengland.org . Go to Prayer and Worship. Click on Morning or Evening Prayer. If you require a paper copy let me know.

Reopening of churches - Wonderful news - from 5th July places of worship can reopen for services. Please see across the page for more details. We have been pleased to see that people have been using our churches for private prayer and reflection and respecting the guidelines. Funeral services can also now take place in church although they will be restricted to family members only. Weddings also can take place with a limit of 30 in number. Baptisms may have to follow a similar policy. Please make sure you follow the hygiene guidelines when entering and leaving the church building and that you practice social distancing should there be others inside the church. You will not need to be reminded I am sure but if you have symptoms of Covid or are suffering with the virus please do not enter the church. St John's at Capel will be open daily from Monday 15th June from 10am till 4pm and St Margaret's at Ockley will open only at weekends, beginning Saturday 20th June from 10am till 4pm. If you wish to leave a prayer request please bring your own pen or pencil to write with!

WARNING Please be careful if you light a candle in Capel Church that your hands are completely dry from hand sanitiser as it will contain alcohol!

Hymn Books - When you enter our churches you will notice that all hymn books, prayer books etc have been removed. This is following government and national church advice so that visitors may not become contaminated.

Face Coverings - Please contact by phone or email (Liz) if you would like to order one.

We continue to pray for all those who have asked for our prayers and help us as we adjust to the next steps as lockdown is eased. We pray for those who are unwell praying for Graham Webster, Nick Ward, Jennifer Morshead, Eileen Steeden, Anne, Sally Calvert, Nicky, Sandy, Ron Backhouse, Douglas James, Win, Betty, Clare, Finley Relf and all who are very vulnerable and self isolating at this time. We thank you Lord for answered prayers. We continue to pray for all who are bereaved and any who are suffering in body, mind or spirit. May peace be with them and may they know Christ's healing presence at this time.

CORONAVIRUS PARISH ANGELS are here to help if you are self isolating. Capel - 0739 596 followed by 3129 or 3147 or 3156 For Ockley assistance contact Amanda Barclay by e-mail (ajbopc@gmail.com) or telephone (07879898807) CAPEL ASSIST - for help with all the above - 07593 714513

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO RUBY SAWYERS this Monday! Happy Birthday Ruby!

VICAR : Liz Richardson	vicar@capelandockleychurch.org.uk	01306 711260
	liz@hostmyserver.co.uk	
PASTORAL ASSISTANT		Sylvie Beckett 07711 849338
CHURCH WARDENS:	Capel	Norman Ede 01306 713247 and Joy Harman 01306 711482
	Ockley	Shirley Dean-Webster 01403 822967
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER		Leigh de Souza 01306 713448
EDITOR of InSpire magazine		Suzanne Cole 01306 711449

The Parish of Capel & Ockley.

3rd Sunday after Trinity: 28th June 2020.

"Whoever welcomes you welcomes me"

These words of Jesus act as a summary for the disciples as Chapter 10 of Matthew's gospel draws to a close. The twelve are about to be sent out into the world to deliver God's message to humanity in Jesus' name; to teach and proclaim the gospel and to heal the sick. Their time of training and preparation had come to an end and now they have to face the world, with all its dangers, opposition and indifference. But whoever welcomes the disciples welcomes Jesus and Father God. This will be a blessing upon any household who welcomes a disciple. We too in a sense have been given permission to go out, to leave our homes, to go to work, to use the shops, to begin to meet up socially, as lockdown continues to be relaxed. I wonder whether our way of seeing things will be different now?!

Well I am pleased to be able to tell you that we are hoping to resume services at both our churches next Sunday July 5th. There will be a service at St Margaret's at 9.30am and a service at St John the Baptist at 10.30am. The service may be shorter to begin with and can include Holy Communion taken in one kind only, i.e wafer bread as before lockdown. There may be a limit to how many people can be together in one building socially distanced. I know that some may still be shielding or not be ready to be together in groups indoors so I am not anticipating this will be a problem. In any case we will be recording the service at one of the churches and posting it online later so those who wish to view that way still can. Confirmation of these arrangements will come to you from Wednesday onwards by email or by telephone or other means if you are on my home delivery list!!

Back to today - all of our readings set for today are concerned with the ways in which the people of God who bring the message of God are received by others. The Romans' passage discusses the response of the believer to their new status in Christ; should they continue to live as they used to, effectively as Paul puts it remaining slaves to sin? Or should they continue to live as they used to, effectively remaining 'slaves to sin?' I think perhaps this is explained by being dominated by a 'sin'. Or should they act in the way appropriate to their new found status and know the freedom that God gives them so that they are no longer so called slaves? The Old Testament reading is from the middle of the story of Jeremiah and Hananiah, two prophets who, like many politicians today are having a stand off. The task of a prophet was in general, the hard work of calling the people to come back to God. Jeremiah's visual aid is a yoke which God had advised him to make for himself, to put it round his neck and prophesy to the King of Judah and other local kings. This was to illustrate that they should submit to the rule of Nebuchadnezzar (to wear Nebuchadnezzar's yoke) as this was God's will. Rejecting this message another prophet, Hananiah had prophesied the breaking of Nebuchadnezzar's yoke by God. Today's passage gives us Jeremiah's response: he would love Hananiah to be right, but will believe it when he sees it - the proof or not, of Hananiah's status as a prophet will be shown in the way that events work out.... And so to the gospel reading for today, in a culture that placed hospitality as a priority, even to offer a cup of water to one of Jesus' 'brothers' will be welcomed and rewarded the coming Kingdom of God. I have written the sermon which I have recorded for today which will reflect further on this promise.

A final thought taken from a speaker on BBC's Question Time this week. The easing of lockdown doesn't mean we will be back to as things were before. We have to live with a new 'normal'; that of living with the Coronavirus until a vaccine or treatment is found. Only then will we be able to live without the restrictions we are having to grapple with. Please bear with us as we reopen our churches along with everything else we have to juggle service wise, and things are often updated. However, I can't wait to be together again! All blessings Liz.