

St Mary's Speen Pew News 338 on 12th June

Dear friends,

- 1) **Opening of churches.** A message from Rev Joy Mawdesley: You may be aware that it is now possible for places of worship to be open for individual and private prayer. Quite what that looks like is down to individual parishes and so St Mary's PCC has been thinking about how and when we might open the church.
The present plan is that we would like to open St Mary's from Sunday 28th June from 10am-12 noon for anyone who would like to come and sit in the building and pray privately. Although we could have opened sooner, we felt we need time to prepare for this and to make sure that all appropriate measures are in place so that we can be sure that the building is a safe place to be. We are also mindful of the fact that the restrictions have only been eased quite recently and that there may be value in waiting to see if the impact of these on the infection rate before opening the church.
If you are able to offer any time on a Sunday over the next few weeks to volunteer to be present in the church on a Sunday morning, please do let Mavis know. We are planning on there being at least 2 people in the building when others come to pray.
Please keep an eye on Pew News for further information. And please pray for our life together as we take this next step. JM

- 2) **A Message from Shoemakers.** We are delighted to say that our plans for re-opening are coming together and we intend to open on TUESDAY 16th JUNE. We will initially be running reduced hours, so our new opening times will be 10-2, Tuesday to Saturday, and there will be some changes. The café will remain closed of course, and we will have social distancing measures in place, but we will be fully open for books, cards and gifts, both in person, on the phone (01635 37836) and of course at our website (www.christophershoeemaker.org.uk)

- 3) **Robert Sandilands School.** Pam Harrison very kindly made cakes again to encourage the staff as they open the school for a limited number of pupils. They already have 17 children of Key Workers coming in anyway. This week the teachers have been busy preparing the school for Years 1 and 6 children. How fortunate they are to have such lovely grounds that they can use. Do please include them in your prayers.

- 4) **St M's Swap Shop.** Do you have anything you would like to get pass on, that someone else in St M's might like? Do let me know, preferably with a photo, and maybe I can advertise it. Don't forget I have a big box of jigsaws in our hall if anyone would like some.

- 5) **Locking up.** There is a local rumour that it might be a good idea to take extra care to lock garages and sheds for a week or two. Probably nothing to worry about, just useful to know.

- 6) **Scams.** Whilst I am on the unfortunate subject of crime, there are a number of telephone and email scams going round. I have had calls asking if I would like a

personal alarm and loft insulation. There are the usual emails purporting to be from HMRC, TV Licensing, and PayPal. If you would like further information on how to deal with such things, Jill Wilson is the one to contact.

- 7) **The Community Service Group** will be again helping to keep our grounds looking their best today Saturday.
- 8) **Hymn of the week.** To accompany Julian's "Thought for the week", may I suggest "All creatures of our God and King" Click on the blue line below to listen.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y3kxfFe3mKY>

Here are a few of the verses:

All creatures of our God and King
Life up your voice and with us sing
O praise Him, Alleluia
Thou burning sun with golden beam
Thou silver moon with softer gleam
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in Heaven along
O praise Him, Alleluia
Thou rising moon in praise rejoice
Ye lights of evening find a voice
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Let all things their Creator bless
And worship Him in humbleness
O praise Him, Alleluia
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit three in one
O praise Him, O praise Him
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Best Wishes, Mavis
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