

St Mary's Speen Pew News 340 on 20th June 2020

Dear friends,

1) **Hymn for the Week:** Rather than a hymn, I am going to recommend that you listen to a beautiful anthem which I first came across many years ago and have sung many times. *"For He shall give His angels charge over thee; that they shall protect thee in all the way thou goest; that their hands shall uphold and guide thee, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone"*. Click on the blue line below and listen along while you read on in Pew News.

It is from Mendelssohn's Elijah, and uses words from Psalm 91:11 ¹¹ **For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways"**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qwHImYcg7IE>

2) **OPENING OF ST MARY'S SPEEN.**

a) The first message from Rev Joy Mawdesley about opening was in last week's Pew News.

b) And this week we can move on! **St Mary's Church Speen will be open for private prayer between 10.30 and 11.30am from Sunday 28th June.** Joy and Jill Wilson will be in attendance. Social distancing will be observed.

NB This will not be resemble a Church Service. We are not permitted by the Government to do that yet, and we are not yet allowed to sing in church. (which, of course, grieves me particularly!) If you go, and you need to bear in mind "shielding" etc, it might be a good idea to take a copy of Janice's Sabbath Sustenance with you and there may well be other printed material to assist in private contemplation.

c) It is the intention that **the church will be open midweek** as well, possibly on a Wednesday or a Thursday afternoon and discussions are carrying on about how everything will work out. There is every determination to make it work.

d) **But we really need your help.** We will be needing volunteers to come and help man the church on both occasions during the week, Just to be in attendance, (I guess alongside a member of the clergy). We have a couple of volunteers but this is not enough yet to make these arrangements sustainable. **Please let us know** (by just a quick email to this if you like) even if you are even just thinking about being willing to do so, and possibly even just occasionally. **It will get passed on to help discussion and questions can be resolved on the way.**

e) Joy has suggested that Rev Pam McKellen prepares a letter to the congregation, in conjunction with our Church Wardens which will make things clearer than this and I expect to be sending it out to you all early next week.

3) **OUR NEW CURATE.** Our Rector, Will, has passed on to us a video of Jackie Fountain and her family. Please click on the blue line below to watch this. Hopefully we will be able to meet her in person very soon.

<https://youtu.be/NxKjX3ZIR2w>

4) **St Nicolas Newbury is now open** between 10-4 daily or individual and private prayer. I have taken some photos. The flower arrangement in the porch is absolutely stunning (I am looking forward to the lovely creations by our flower team!) and invites you to go further. And there are more inside. I do encourage you to visit if you feel able. You can either sit and pray or progress round a number of prayer stations with inspirational prayers



5) The weather is set fine for next week. Our daughter, a teacher who has become exhausted teaching full time online is looking forward to meeting and teaching her pupils in person this week, for the first time in months, in a marquee set up in her school grounds.

St Mary's is one step nearer meeting up!

"One more step along the world I go,
one more step along the world I go;
from the old things to the new
keep me traveling along with you".

Best Wishes, Mavis

01635 43120

mhughesdon@hotmail.com

