



**Parish of Fleet**  
**All Saints**  

---

**St Philip & St James**

**News Sheet for Sunday 22 March 2020**  
**Mothering Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent)**

**NO PUBLIC SERVICES IN THE PARISH UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**A LETTER FROM REVD MARK HAYTON**

Dear Friends,

We live in extraordinary times, the like of which none of us have seen before. We must remember however, that we have an extraordinary God, who knows all, has power over all, and holds us all in the palm of his loving hands.

The Parish of Fleet has two priorities at this time

- to continue the worship of God and to enable all who wish to share in this task.
- To ensure we provide care and support for those who need it.

With this in mind,

- Although all our services and activities are suspended, we are keeping P&J and FPCC open as much as possible for people to come in to pray, sit, reflect, or worship.
- We will be celebrating communion at P&J at 10.00am on Sunday morning (behind closed doors), which we hope you will all engage with either online, or in spirit, by praying yourself at home at that time along with us.
- We are inviting you all to contact the clergy or the office if you are ill, self-isolating, or just not going out so that we stay in touch and check on you regularly.
- Please do continue to pray for God's mercy and protection for our community and for our world. Forms of daily prayer you can use are available from the Church of England website via the link overleaf:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer> and you can also download the “Time to Pray” app from <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps/time-to-pray>

We will be praying daily at 9.00am, pray “Morning Prayer” along with us if you can.

Please do reach out, if you can, to neighbours who might be in need or distress (whilst keeping yourself safe).

Please be sure to obey the advice and instructions of government - this is a time for courage but not for recklessness.

You are all, whether a regular communicant or someone who lives in Fleet, in our prayers and please do let us know if you are in need of help support prayer or a listening ear.

Together, and by the grace of God we will get through these extraordinary times.

*Revd Mark Hayton*

### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK . . .**

**Those in urgent need of our prayers including...** Angela, Melanie Brant, Marion Brown, Chris Butterfield, Jonathan Eddy, Timothy Rayment, Isaac Smith and Malcolm Taylor.

**Members of our extended church family in need of our continuing prayers...** Steph, Gladys Barber, Patricia Bull, Pearl (Frances) Draper, David Dunk, Cathy Gibbs, Alan Harvey, Mollie Hayes, Dexter Heard, Bonnie Lewis, Roger Matcham, Gill Page, Matthew Parkes, John and Barbara Simson, Barry Taylor, Eileen Taylor, Erica Taylor, Jean Thomas, Tyler Thompson, Molly Wilson, Janice and Peter.

**Those who have died recently...** Peter Pimm.

**Those from our two memorial books whose anniversaries fall at this time...** Mona Seaver, Peter Callop, Gladys Butterworth, Mary Boulcott, Louise Akerman, Brian Meeres, John Watts, Daniel Barfield, Kenneth Butcher, Derek Vincent.

## PRAYER DIARY FOR WEEK BEGINNING 23 MARCH 2020

Meditation: 'Christ, as a light illumine and guide me.

Christ, as a shield overshadow me.

Christ under me; Christ over me;

Christ beside me on my left and my right.

This day be within and without me,

lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.

Be in the heart of each to whom I speak;

in the mouth of each who speaks unto me.

This day be within and without me,

lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.

Christ as a light;

Christ as a shield;

Christ beside me on my left and my right.'

*St. Patrick's Breastplate.*

We give thanks that we follow a Lord who has power over wind, waves, sickness and death, and who will see us through this time of trial.

Please pray....

Mon - For our parish administrators.

Tues - for all who work in the health service.

Wed - For all those around the world who do not have access to medical care.

Thurs - For those in fear of losing their job or business at this time.

Fri - For our Archbishops, Bishops and church leaders.

Sat - For all who are suffering in any way from the consequences of covid19.

Sun - For us all, when we find it difficult to understand why God allows evil and suffering in our world.

ALL WEEK - For those who live Heathfield Court, Heathland Close, Heckfield Drive, Herbert Road, Hereford Mead, Hermes Close.

## PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Please note that items with headlines underlined are new this week.

**PARISH OFFICE UPDATE** - The Parish Office will not be routinely staffed in the coming weeks but will be open remotely (Monday-Friday, 9.30am-1pm) for receiving 'phone calls and emails. If you need to visit the office in person please ring/email to make an appointment to be sure that Chantelle/Elly will be there to meet you.

**ALL SAINTS UPDATE** - Despite the difficult times we live in, the rebuilding project is now moving ahead fast. The architects and the rebuilding committee are planning to put the work out to tender in the next few weeks, and although these are unpredictable and unchanging times, we are optimistic that work will start on rebuilding in the summer.

**PETER PIMM'S FUNERAL** - Please do not attend Peter's funeral on 23 March at Aldershot Crematorium, there are restrictions on the number of attendees that may gather together.

**NATIONAL CALL TO PRAYER** - 7.00pm, Sunday 22 March, Christians of all denominations are invited to light a candle in the windows of their homes as a visible symbol of the light of life, Jesus Christ, our source and hope in prayer. You can read the full statement from Churches Together in England via [www.cte.org.uk/calltoprayer](http://www.cte.org.uk/calltoprayer).

**CORONAVIRUS BUDDIES** - We all need to look out for each other at this difficult time. We can do this by contacting our immediate neighbours and asking them whether they might appreciate help with running errands if they are ill or self-isolating or, on the other hand, whether they would like to volunteer to be a "Coronavirus Buddy". Our job could be administrative, fitting buddy to person in need, so could be done even if we are stuck at home. See more, including a template for a letter, on our website, [www.parishoffleet.org.uk](http://www.parishoffleet.org.uk)

**FOODBANK** - Hart Foodbank currently have reasonable stock but please still bear them in mind when you are shopping as demand is likely to increase in the coming weeks - P&J Church is still open for you to leave donations there. They are also looking for volunteers for various activities so if you are able to offer some help please go to [hart.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/volunteer/](http://hart.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/volunteer/)

**PARISH FACEBOOK PAGE** - We are planning to live stream our Sunday service through Facebook this Sunday (22 March) at 10.00am - you don't need to be a subscriber to see this, just go to [www.facebook.com/parishoffleet/](http://www.facebook.com/parishoffleet/) - you may get a popup box telling you to log in but you can click "not now" and continue to view the page.

**NEWS SHEET DISTRIBUTION** - If you have an email address but aren't subscribed to our list at the moment then now is a good time to do so as we are emailing out additional updates using this list - please email the Parish Office to let us know your details.

**ELECTORAL ROLL AND APCM** - The Electoral Roll 2019 is on display at the back of the church\*. If your name is not on this roll or if your details are incorrect please complete a form and put it in the box provided. To be included you must satisfy the provision stated on the form. Unless you are on the electoral roll you cannot hold any official position in the parish or vote at the Annual Church Meeting. Forms must be in by 2 April 2020. \*If you are unable to get to the church to check the roll please contact the Parish Office and we will check for you.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting, currently scheduled for 27 April, will not go ahead as planned and can be legally deferred until later in the year - further updates will be made available as soon as possible.

**CONCERT CANCELLATIONS** - As you might expect, the concerts on 28 March and 9 May have been cancelled. They may be rescheduled for later in the year but we are refunding online ticket purchases automatically and will endeavour to contact people who purchased tickets in other ways as soon as possible but please bear with us.

**MORNING SERVICE ON RADIO 4** - 8.10am, Sunday 22 March, BBC Radio 4, the Archbishop of Canterbury will reflect on this troubling time in this service recorded in the Chapel of Lambeth Palace. The service is led by his chaplain, the Revd Dr Isabelle Hamley, with music by St Martin's Voices.

## PRAYERS AND READINGS FOR SUNDAY 22 MARCH

### MOTHERING SUNDAY(FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT)

**TODAY'S COLLECT** God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### First Reading

##### Exodus 2:1-10

A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I

go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?'

Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it.<sup>10</sup> When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because,' she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

**Comment** *The passage immediately before this describes how Pharaoh instructed the midwives to cast all male Hebrew babies into the Nile. Interestingly it was a feature of Egyptian mythology that a newly born great leader would be hidden in a rush-basket in a reed bed.*

## **Second Reading**

### **Colossians 3:12-17**

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**Comment** *A recurring theme in the New Testament is to list vices and virtues without necessarily targeting specific people or their failings. The previous five verses to this passage dealt with vices – here we have virtues.*

## **Gospel Reading**

### **John 19:25-27**

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

**Comment** *This can either be read as a loving and dutiful son caring for his mother or an implied invitation to us to regard Mary as the New Eve, a mother to us all.*

## KEEPING IN TOUCH

**Visitors and Newcomers:** Welcome! We'd love to keep in touch with you so please fill in your contact details, tear off this section and post or email to the Parish Office (address below).

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email/phone number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please let us know why you'd like us to get in touch** (e.g. add to mailing list/ prayer request/visit request/information about services)

We will not use your details for any other purpose without your consent and we do not sell or pass on information to third parties.

**Hospital and home visits:** If you know of anybody who is in hospital or housebound and would appreciate a visit, please use the above section giving your details and we will contact you for information. Please give to the duty warden at church or the Parish Office.

**Pastoral Assistants:** Should you have a pastoral need or any other kind of a problem and wish for a listening ear, there is a Pastoral Assistant available after the 10.00am service. Please ask the duty warden at the door for more information.

**For any other need, suggestion or query, see contacts below:**

### PARISH CONTACTS

**Vicar, Revd Mark Hayton** ☎ 01252 219281

✉ vicar@parishoffleet.org.uk

**Revd Carol Dunk** ☎ 01252 444872

✉ carol@parishoffleet.org.uk

**Safeguarding Officer, Sheila Buller** ☎ 01252 629346

✉ s.m.buller@btopenworld.com

**Administrators, Chantelle Gardner & Elly Wilson**

*Office hours: Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 1.00pm*

✉ Parish Office, Parish Community Centre, Church Road, GU51 4NB

☎ 01252 812114 ✉ office@parishoffleet.org.uk

**website: [www.parishoffleet.org.uk](http://www.parishoffleet.org.uk)**