

St. Mary's Hadlow News



17 March 2020

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

I am writing to let you know that the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued a joint letter suspending all public worship 'for a season'. Their letter could be found by clicking [here](#).

Sadly this means that there will be no Wednesday or Sunday services at St. Mary's until we are told otherwise. However there is a meeting taking place this evening to discuss how it may be possible for us to 'live stream' services and I hope that we can update you on that soon.

However, as the letter makes clear, this does not mean that the church is 'shutting up shop'. On the contrary, we are still all capable of praying and I would commend to you the [Church of England Daily Prayer](#). We are also commended to keep active in serving our communities and each other to the extent that we are able. This may be even more necessary at this time than any other in recent history.

Given the infectious nature of the challenge we face there is no doubt that pastoral care is going to look different. People may need to physically isolate themselves and we do not want visitors to act as 'super-spreaders'. However, just because people may be physically isolated does not mean that they have to be incommunicado. We can email, we can talk on the phone, we can use social media to keep in contact and I would urge you to do all of these things. If you have never used Facebook before then think about signing up and seeing me here: <https://www.facebook.com/pauljohnwhite>

If anyone needs anything please do not hesitate to call either Nicky or I and do not cease to be in contact with one another.

This is 'for a season' and the thing about seasons is that they come and go. This will not last forever and I look forward to our first service of the new season, whenever that may be!

God bless, keep well and keep in contact,

Paul