

Dear friends,

There is something very peaceful about a harbour. Few things are more tranquil than a flotilla of boats bobbing gently on the water, safely moored within the embrace of a harbour wall. But serene though such a setting may look, it is not what boats are finally built for, any more than cars are bought to sit permanently in a car park. A harbour is a sanctuary from the storm, but any true mariner or sailor is never happier than when out on the open water.

There's a verse in Psalm 107 that says 'they cried out in their time of trouble to the Lord, and he rescued them from their plight; he stilled the storm and calmed the surging waves. Then they rejoiced as he brought them into the tranquillity of the harbour.'

The writer of Psalm 107 speaks of God leading us safely into the harbour, the one in whom we can take refuge during the storms and squalls of life. But we shouldn't take this that faith is a retreat from the world, a running for shelter into some safe spiritual haven. Though scripture certainly talks about withdrawing from the hurly burly it speaks also of serving God within it, of living out our faith in the trials, demands and duties of everyday life.

In many ways, the above is symbolic of the last few months as we have faced lockdown and the impact of the corona virus. We have certainly been in the storms of life. And yet, we have seen so many examples of faith in action and of serving God in the community – helping neighbours, shopping for those shielding, phoning the lonely, supporting the isolated to name but a few. We have been aware of impact of key and essential workers, acts of kindness and self-sacrifice in care homes and a generosity of spirit.

Within those storms have been harbours of tranquillity – time to be with family, re-connecting with nature, church brought into our homes and support from friends and family.

God offers us a harbour, but he also calls us to a journey, a continuing expedition of faith.

Every blessing,

Deborah

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

There are no events to record

CALENDAR FOR AUGUST

The calendar for August continues to be very limited whilst lockdown restrictions are gradually eased.

Some public services have resumed at St Margaret's:
10.00am Wednesdays
9.45am Sundays

Please note that due to social distancing numbers attending these services are limited; places have been allocated – please contact Rev Deborah or Rev Sue if you are unsure, or if you wish to be added to one of the lists.

Meanwhile, our digital communications and services will continue:

The weekly service sheet will continue to be provided by email, on our website and via Facebook. It will be the opportunity to reflect on the readings.

Sermons will be on the website: <https://stmargaretsprestwich.com/blog/>, our Facebook page, and our Twitter account @StMaggieP

The magazine will continue to be produced and delivered by email.

We will continue to live stream on our Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/StMaggieP/>:

- Peregrini Morning Prayer daily at 8.30am,
- Compline daily at 8.30pm,
- Wednesday services at 10am.

For technical reasons, our Sunday services will be videoed in church as they happen. The recording will be uploaded to our blog, Facebook page, Twitter and Tumblr feeds afterwards.

We have a WhatsApp group for any prayer requests that you may have. If you have any donations for porch boxes, please leave outside Church until 10.30am on Thursday mornings.

If we can help in any way, please contact Revd. Deborah on 0161 773 2698 or Revd. Sue on 07761 565428.

Please look after yourself and each other.

JULY AT ST.GEORGE'S CHURCH, SIMISTER

Hi Everybody

I hope you are all safe and well and keeping in contact with everyone. Life is very different at the moment. This will change and we will get back to some normality. Hopefully we will be able to make plans to open the church but this will take time. If you have any problems, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me and I will try to help.

Will you please pray for those who are sick remembering especially:-

Tom Porter, Joyce Roebuck, Tony Anderton, Barbara Peeling, Mary and Colin Hargreaves, Rita Evans, Barbara Cass, Bob Hardy and Revd. Deborah.

All our church families, own friends, relatives and mankind.

Anniversaries of death. There will be no flowers in church

In August we remember:-

Edward L. Tow, Godfrey Shimmin, James and Mary Watkins, Anne and Jim Watkins, Bertha Bradley and Derek Clark.

The Poppy Banner

It will be hung outside Lady Wilton Hall on the weekend of the 15th August marking **V-J DAY** 75th anniversary of victory in Japan. After the weekend the banner will go into St. George's ready for our re-opening.

Please keep safe and well much love and God bless Joan and Carol

St. Margaret's Church REREDOS FLOWERS

There are no flowers in church at present



Church Re-opening

So, where are we up to in re-opening church for public worship?

We have risk assessed St. Margaret's Church and using the 2m rule we are able to accommodate 30 members of the congregation to our Sunday 9.45am service and thirty to our Wednesday 10.00am.

We do have some guidelines,

- Please sanitise your hands on entry and exit.
- Please remain seated throughout the service.
- Please be aware of social distancing throughout the service.
- Although we are not allowed to sing at the moment, Tom will be playing for us whilst we enter and exit the church and during communion.
- We will only be using one reading and the gospel reading.
- At the peace no kissing, hugging our touch please (unless in a family group).
- During communion we will be receiving bread only. Sue or Christine will bring it to you and drop it into your hands.
- Please sanitise your hands prior to receiving the host, and after. There is a small container of sanitiser on each chair.
- Please take your service sheet home with you but leave the service book and sanitiser on the seat. We will leave everything for 72 hours before cleaning.
- Our live and recorded services will continue for the immediate future so that those you yet ready to return or shielding can still have access to worship.
- I will be remaining in the sanctuary area for the immediate future, so will not be at the door on exit, However, I will wave from the vicarage path.

Although it is different, it still is the opportunity to meet together and worship God in church and we have had many positive comments about being back in church.

I would like to say a big thank you to all who have helped throughout our time of closure, especially those involved in recording and live streaming services and for those who have sent in videos for readings and prayers. I would also like to thank Carol Porter, Sue and Bishop David for their technological skills

A special thank you to our church wardens, Laurel and David for all that they have done, especially in enabling our church to re-open.

We will be re-opening St. George's again in the not too distance future. Please do come and join us.

Deborah

LATEST GUIDELINES FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND FOR WEARING OF FACE COVERINGS IN CHURCH

COVID-19 Advice on Face Coverings Issue Date Version Issued by 21st July 2020

1 The House of Bishops Recovery Group has been set up to support the Church of England as government guidance changes through the COVID-19 pandemic. This document has been prepared with information available by the issue date. It will be kept under review and updated as the situation develops, with each update issued as a new version. The current version will always be available to download from the Church of England website via the Coronavirus FAQs page.

This guidance is to help ministers and their congregations to understand the current advice on wearing face coverings, and how this applies in churches. This advice is reflected in the specific Government guidance for conducting various worship services within enclosed spaces such as church buildings.

1. Q. Should I wear a face covering in a church building?

A. Face coverings are currently mandatory on public transport and will be mandatory in shops and in supermarkets from 24 July 2020. People are also encouraged to wear face coverings in enclosed public spaces where there are people they do not normally meet, such as a place of worship. We strongly advise that face coverings should be worn by all those attending a place of worship, including ministers, worshippers, staff, volunteers, contractors and

visitors, where there may be other people present; remembering that they are mainly intended to protect other people, not the wearer, from coronavirus COVID-19 and that they are not a replacement for physical distancing and regular hand washing.

2. Q. What is a face covering?

A. A face covering is something which safely covers the nose and mouth. You can buy reusable or single-use face coverings. You may also use a scarf, bandana, religious garment or hand-made cloth covering but these must securely fit round the side of the face. These are different from surgical and other face masks that are part of PPE used in health and social care settings. We do not recommend the use of PPE in church buildings other than for specialist cleaning activities.

3. Q. Why should we wear face coverings?

A. Coronavirus (COVID-19) can spread predominantly by droplets and perhaps aerosols from coughs, sneezes and speaking. The best available scientific evidence is that, when used correctly, wearing a face covering can reduce the spread of coronavirus droplets in certain circumstances, helping to protect others.

2 Version 1 – issued 21 st July 2020 Because face coverings are mainly intended to protect others, not the wearer, from coronavirus (COVID-19) they are not a replacement for physical distancing and regular hand washing.

4. Q. How should I wear a face covering?

A. A face covering should:

- cover your nose and mouth while allowing you to breathe comfortably
- fit comfortably but securely against the side of the face
- be secured to the head with ties or ear loops
- be made of a material that you find to be comfortable and breathable, such as cotton
- ideally include at least two layers of fabric (the World Health Organisation recommends three depending on the fabric used)

- unless disposable, it should be able to be washed with other items of laundry according to fabric washing instructions and dried without causing the face covering to be damaged

When wearing a face covering you should:

- wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before putting a face covering on

- avoid wearing on your neck or forehead

- avoid touching the part of the face covering in contact with your mouth and nose, as it could be contaminated with the virus

- change the face covering if it becomes damp or if you've touched it

When removing a face covering:

- wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser before removing

- only handle the straps, ties or clips

- do not share with someone else to use

- if single-use, dispose of it carefully in a residual waste bin and do not recycle

- if reusable, wash it in line with manufacturer's instructions at the highest temperature appropriate for the fabric

- wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser

5. Q. Are there exemptions from wearing face coverings?

A. You do not need to wear a face covering if you have a legitimate reason not to.

This includes:

- young children under the age of 11

- not being able to put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment, or disability

- if putting on, wearing or removing a face covering will cause you severe distress

- if you are travelling with or providing assistance to someone who relies on lip reading to communicate

- to avoid harm or injury, or the risk of harm or injury, to yourself or others
- to avoid injury, or to escape a risk of harm, and you do not have a face covering with you
- to eat or drink, but only if you need to
- to take medication
- if a police officer or other official requests you remove your face covering

There are also scenarios when you are permitted to remove a face covering when asked:

- If asked to do so by shop staff for the purpose of age identification
- If speaking with people who rely on lip reading, facial expressions and clear sound. Some may ask you, either verbally or in writing, to remove a covering to help with communication

6. Q. How can I make a face covering?

A. If you want to make your own face covering, instructions are widely available online. If you would like more information on how to make a face covering with materials from around your home please visit the Big Community Sew website.

7. Q. How can I store or dispose of a face covering safely?

A. Do not touch the front of the face covering, or the part of the face covering that has been in contact with your mouth and nose.

- Once removed, store reusable face coverings in a plastic bag until you have an opportunity to wash them.
- If the face covering is single use, dispose of it in a residual waste bin.
- Do not put them in a recycling bin. Make sure you clean any surfaces the face covering has touched using normal household cleaning
- If eating in a restaurant, for example, it is important that you do not place the face covering on the table.
- Wash your face covering regularly and follow the washing instructions for the fabric. You can use your normal detergent. You can wash and dry it with other laundry. You must throw away your face covering if it is damaged. For more information go to:

Bit by Bit

When we first got married, we moved into an empty flat. The chess table David made at school took pride of place in the middle of the living room. That was it. It was so exciting getting furniture delivered, bit by bit. We really appreciated having a table and chairs, and it was even better when a bed arrived. Every new item was savoured before the next one came. Coming out of lockdown has been a bit like that. A gradual return of things we had to do without for months, each savoured before the next one comes. Last month we had the church open for private prayer. This month we have been able to worship together once more in St Margaret's. Not everything is as it used to be. It is odd to be preaching to a congregation who are dotted around the church and wearing facemasks. And there are still people missing, people who are shielding who we haven't seen for months. It's not the same without you! There is a gap where you used to be. We haven't as yet resumed our normal rota of readers and intercessors, and that is something that's important to me. It's not just about the Ministry Team delivering the service to everyone else, it is a collaboration of the People of God creating worship together. I miss the variety of voices, and the different styles of prayers. I miss being at St George's, with its beautiful building and its small but faithful congregation. I miss coffee after the service, especially on Wednesdays when there was no hurry, and we could all sit round one table. And I really miss the singing. It has been lovely to hear Tom playing, but we dare not let him play hymn tunes, because I, for one, start to sing along – I can't help myself. Maggie's Music Makers have continued to practise, but it's only possible to hear oneself sing, not others. And I can sing along to the hymns I can listen to online, too, but I want that feeling of singing as a congregation. Who knew it was so important until we couldn't do it? The expression of our faith, our hopes and joy, our fears and grief in song, knowing that we are not alone, but united with each other. I miss even the standing up and sitting down, using our bodies to express our attitudes of prayer and praise.

But enough of what is missing. What we have is precious. We have the words of the liturgy, the familiar words that keep us anchored in the drama of the Eucharist. And in church we have communion itself, the blessed sacrament, if

only the bread. That is still the gift of Christ himself in a special way. His grace was with us throughout, but receiving the bread helps us to experience it in a personal way for each of us. We have one of our buildings open, and each other (though not all in person). These things are truly blessings.

I wonder how life will be different in the future? Because one thing is certain, that we will have been changed by the experience. We have had the opportunity to look at our lives, and to realise what we value the most. Perhaps there are some things you thought you would miss, but don't. Are there other things you hadn't realised were so important until they were taken away? As individuals, as a church, and as a society, we can begin to take stock. What do we value and what sort of future do we want? Let's put our future back piece by piece, examining each item, and deciding which ones are for keeping.

Rev Sue

He Ain't Heavy

Rev Deborah starts Peregrini Prayer each morning with a short story. It is always linked to the forthcoming bible reading and the theme for the day's prayers. On Monday 19 July she told the story of Albert and [Albrecht Durer](#), which was followed by a reading from the Gospel of John, in which Jesus commands us to love each other as He has loved us, and that greater love has no one than to lay down his life for his friends; and we are Jesus' friends if we do as He commands. Judith Murphy's response to this in the comments was, "he ain't heavy, he's my brother".



Many of us will recognise Judith's words as the title of the 1969 worldwide hit song for The Hollies. But where did Scott & Russell (the songwriters) get the words from?

Back in 1884, James Wells told in his 1884 book "The Parables of Jesus" the story of a little girl carrying a large baby boy. When asked if she was tired, she replied with surprise, "No, he's not heavy; he's my brother".

The lyrics are:

The road is long
With many a winding turn
That leads us to who knows where?
Who knows where?
But I'm strong
Strong enough to carry him
He ain't heavy, he's my brother

So on we go
His welfare is my concern
No burden is he to bear
We'll get there
For I know
He would not encumber me
He ain't heavy, he's my brother

If I'm laden at all
I'm laden with sadness
That everyone's heart
Isn't filled with the gladness
Of love for one another

It's a long, long road
From which there is no return
While we're on the way to there
Why not share?
And the load
Doesn't weigh me down at all
He ain't heavy, he's my brother

He's my brother
He ain't heavy, he's my brother

This is so relevant to us today, as we reflect on how we each coped with lockdown, relying and being relied upon, and continues its relevance as restrictions are slowly eased. Our brothers and sisters are those whom we

love, those who we support, and those who support us. May these burdens always be light.

You can listen to The Hollies sing this song here: <https://bit.ly/37DVuih> *

Carol P

*For those of you receiving this issue by post, I'll play this song to you when we're all back together again.



MESSY CHURCH

Our next Messy Church is on Wednesday 16th September, 4.00-5.30pm at the Lady Wilton Hall, if the guidance gives us permission to do so. If not then we will have 'Messy Church at Home', which can be found on www.facebook.com/StmaggieP . Watch this space!



I'm sure it will come as no surprise that this year's visit to Stockport Plaza to see TOP HAT musical has been postponed until next year. It is still doubtful if any theatres will open this year. We just hope that they can still survive until at long last we will be able to attend live shows. At this time, it is still too early to be able to confirm if we can have our September meeting. Fingers crossed. I do hope that you are all keeping well and look forward to being able to spend some time in each other's company.

Joan Evans

STAYCATION

STAYCATION WEEK AUGUST 2020

Our annual staycation week is continuing this year, all be it in a very different format. We have had to cancel our parish retreats to both Foxhill Conference Centre and Parcivall Hall, so we thought that we would incorporate a quiet day into staycation. This will start with Compline on Monday 3rd at 8.15pm and on Tuesday 4th August there will be a series of reflections throughout the day on

the theme of 'we are not alone'. Each reflection will be 20-30 minutes leaving plenty of time for personal reflection at home and a coffee before the next session. There will also be worship, in terms of morning prayer at 8.15am and a service of wholeness and healing at 4.00pm. If you have never been on a retreat, it is a good opportunity try a 'taster session'.

This can be accessed on **facebook.com/stmaggiep**

Other events during staycation include a picnic (virtual or real dependent on the weather and current guidelines), a zoom quiz and a talk Land's End to John O'Groats – the journey so far.

Staycation will culminate with 'Songs of Praise' on the Friday evening, which looks like being a highlight of the week. There will be plenty of opportunity for singing (from home of course), some poems, psalms, readings and prayers, as well as some instrumentalists. There will also be some surprises and a meeting of old friends throughout the evening. Once again, this can be accessed through the parish blog <https://stmargaretsprestwich.com/blog/> our Facebook page www.facebook.com/stmaggiep and our Twitter feed @StMaggieP.

We will also be setting up a 'Staycation WhatsApp Group' so that you can be kept informed of events and have the opportunity to comment. If you want to be in this WhatsApp group, please contact Revd Sue and give her your mobile phone number. This will also be the way in which we will give any Zoom details we will be using. **There is also the opportunity for those with no internet access to join in staycation. Once again, please contact Sue, who will give further details.**

STAYCATION WEEK PROGRAMME 3rd-7th Aug

Mon/Tues – Quiet Day

Mon 3rd August 8.15pm Compline

Tues 4th August 8.30am Morning Prayer

Tues 4th August 9.00am Session 1 (30 mins plus time for reflection)

10.30am Session 2 (30 mins plus time for reflection)

12.00-1.30pm Lunch

1.30pm Session 3 (30 mins plus time for reflection)

3.00pm Service of wholeness and well being

Wed 5th August 2.00pm Picnic, virtual or real depending on the weather and guidelines.

Thurs 6th August 2.00pm Zoom Quiz led by Chaz Ginn

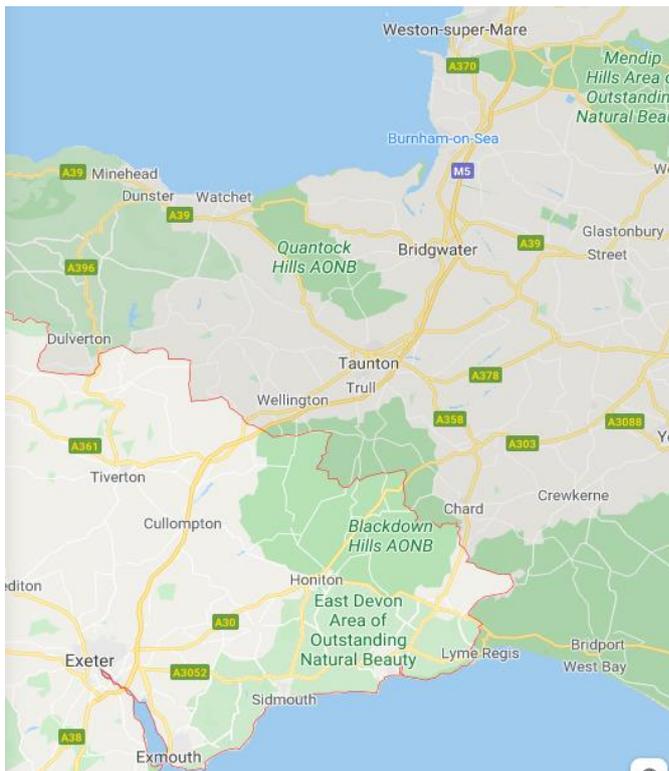
Fri 7th August 2.00pm Land's End to John O'Groats – the journey so far.

Fri 7th August 7.30pm Songs of Praise followed by Zoom coffee.

Please do join us for staycation.

DEBORAH'S WALK/JOG FROM LAND'S END TO JOHN O'GROATS – VIA THE GARDEN

STAGE 3



Exeter to Cullompton (15.1 miles)

Cullompton is a historic market town in the tranquil Culm valley which has been the centre of rural life in mid Devon for centuries. It is a great place to explore the peaceful surroundings, get back to nature and view the wildlife, with a range of footpaths, bridleways and cycle paths. Nearby is Bickleigh Castle with 900 years of history and the National Trust property of Killerton House.

In Cullompton itself is St. Andrew's Church, generally regarded as one of the finest parish churches in England. The present building dates from 1430 although a church has stood on the site since Saxon times. It is a lively, welcoming and thriving church with a vision of revealing the heart of Jesus in the local community. There are a wide range of worship opportunities as well as groups and activities for all ages. There are many opportunities to serve in the local community, including 'love Cully' which is about practical projects within the town and 'Keystone', which is about seeking a transformational impact on the social, emotional, emotional and physical need of people and communities in Cullompton. A message from Ed Hobbs, the vicar at St. Andrew's

Bless you Deborah... thank you for your encouragements... bless you on the rest of your run... quite a long way still to go!

Ed

Cullompton to Tiverton (6.5 miles)

The town of Tiverton takes you back into a simpler time with romantic castles, historic houses, and horse drawn barges. Tiverton is set on the banks of the Great Western Canal and the town is full of history and heritage to be explored. Tiverton Castle is a royal fortress commissioned in 1106 by Henry. Bickley Castle is an 11th century with moated gardens. Knightsayes Court, built in 1869, is one of the finest surviving Gothic Revival houses owned by the National Trust. The Tiverton Museum of Mid Devon Life has 14 galleries of exhibits including the Tivvy Bumper GWR locomotive. Just north of Tiverton is Exmoor National Park – stunning moorland with the north Devon coastline not far to enjoy.

I decided to visit St Peter's Church and St. Thomas. Early in the tenth century, a wooden church, which may have been dedicated to a Celtic saint, was sited within the area of the present churchyard. St Peter's Church was rebuilt in stone on the site of the present chancel and was consecrated in 1073 by Leofric, first Bishop of Exeter. Today it is still is a place of worship and prayer and there are a wide variety of groups, including tapisers, flower arrangers, MU and bell ringers.

Dear Deborah,

Thank you for your message. I'm sorry I missed it when it came in. What a great idea! I hope you have been able to keep going with it. Where have you got to now?

Thank you for your prayers. God bless you and the people of Simister.

Yours in Christ,

Robert

I replied to Robert's E-mail and this was his response.

Good work! That used to be our route from Tiverton to Shepton Mallett for New Wine and Soul Survivor - sadly no longer.

Running on the Somerset Levels will be a lot easier than you'll find further north. Have you got any mountains in your garden?

How long do you run for each day? It sounds very tiring to me but I'm full of admiration. Time for a cup of tea!

Robert

Tiverton to Taunton 24 miles

The walk from Tiverton to Taunton is a long one, but fairly easy going as it follows the Grand Western Canal. Yay! No hills and one lock. The Grand Western canal was built to carry limestone from Taunton to Tiverton, where it was fed into lime kilns and burned. From Tiverton, the canal runs for about 11.5 miles and then stops. The last 13 miles are along what used to be the canal and, at times, you would be hard pressed to see that there had been a canal there in the first place. The route meanders through all sorts of terrain, from farmers' fields to copses, but it's never too far from the remains of the canal.

I have arrived in county of Somerset and the town of Taunton with a history going back to 7th century. Sometime around AD 680, King Ine of Wessex built a fortification here by the River Tone. The king gathered a council of his leading nobles to Taunton to draw up a code of law. The fortification was later destroyed by Ethelburga, his queen, to prevent it being seized by rebels. The name Taunton comes from Old English meaning a settlement by the River Tone (Tone Tun).

Taunton grew in importance during the late Saxon period, and Alfred the Great made it a burgh, or fortified town. During the medieval period, Taunton's wealth grew as a centre for the wool trade, and fulling mills were built to

process the raw wool. Throughout the medieval period, the manor of Taunton was owned by the Bishop of Winchester. Around 1125 a priory was founded and the Bishop began to build a castle beside the priory.

Taunton supported the Parliamentary cause in the Civil War. In 1643 a Royalist army marched on the town and the natives surrendered without a fight. The Royalists controlled the town for a year but in 1644 it was captured by Parliamentary troops. The Royalists mustered a fresh army and attacked Taunton once more, forcing the Parliamentary soldiers to retreat into Taunton Castle.

There is lots to see and do in Taunton, but first of all, a cider made in Taunton!

Now for the heritage trail. The Burma Memorial is at the centre of Taunton. The Market House is a red brick Georgian building faces the memorial and A few steps from it is a timber-framed building once known as the Tudor Tavern. It is a short walk to Bath Place, which is a series of independent shops with colourful 19th century shop fronts. Gaumont theatre was built in 1931 in art deco style. To relax in is the Cider Press Garden, a small public garden named for a large stone and timber cider press given to the people of Taunton Cider company to commemorate their golden jubilee in 1971. Just the excuse I need for another pint of cider.

I decided to visit the church of St. Mary Magdalene, a large civic church in the town centre. Their aim is to be a community in Taunton worshipping God and making Christ better known in a beautiful but broken world. The church is used by small local groups, it is a venue for concerts and performances but are primarily a committed gathering of Christians, united in the worship of Jesus Christ and dedicated to serve the community in His name. There are a variety of services, a parent and toddlers' group, a café for young people, MU, coffee shop, book shop, 20's and 30's group and home groups.

Taunton to Street 22 miles

The route that I am going to take is the Bridgwater and Taunton Canal (no prizes for guessing which two towns this canal connects). Initially it passes through the industrial parks, factories, and concrete of the eastern suburbs of Taunton before the fields take over. After four miles, I the follow the river Tone which is straight. It is man-made and runs through a large area of wetland that

is watered by straight irrigation channels that feed of the river. Part of the trail includes a 1.5 stretch of King's Sedgemoor Drain.

Two highlights on the way include Burrowbridge and Middlezoy. Burrowbridge is a tiny, pretty village at the northern end of Stanmoor. Bank Burrow Mump is a conical hill that rises straight up out of the flat wetlands, and on the top of this presumably man-made hump is a ruined church.

Street is the largest village in Somerset with more facilities than many small towns. If I had brought some money with me, I would have been at the Clarks Village, the country's first outlet shopping village. Much of the look of the village is down to Clarks. Founded in 1825 by Cyrus and James Clark, the shoemaking business followed its Quaker principles and gave back to the village, by building comfortable workers' housing and providing leisure facilities, like the open-air swimming pool. The Clark's legacy and the history of shoe making can be seen in the nearby Clark's Shoe museum.

However, there is more to Street than just bargain shopping. Street has many fine buildings such as two terraces on Wilfrid Road, the Clock Tower on the Clark's headquarters, the Crispin Hall and Millfield House designed by Norwich-based architect George Skipper. The Spode Theatre hosts professional performance, provides space for local amateur dramatic companies and dance schools and is a respected cinema venue.

An E-mail from the benefice of Street, Walton, Crompton, Dundon

Hi Deborah

Thank you for your email, what a lovely thing to do, even if a bit mad!

I ran a marathon around my garden at the end of March as the trail marathon that I had been training for was postponed; that was 582 laps and took about 6 hours. Do have any idea how many laps you will be doing and how long it may take in total.

I will put your email in our weekly news sheet as it is such a lovely thing to be doing, stopping and praying and looking into various areas.

Good luck with the rest of your run.

Street to Glastonbury 2.4 miles

Only just over two miles away, Glastonbury is famous for bohemian and New Age culture, druids, Arthurian legends, mystics, hippies and of course, The Festival. The main street is thronged with an assortment of crystal sellers, vegetarian cafes, mystical bookshops and emporiums. Glastonbury has been a spiritual centre for a long time. It is supposedly the birthplace of Christianity in England and several of Britain's most important ley lines are said to converge on Glastonbury Tor.

Legend has it that Joseph of Arimathea owned mines in this area and returned here with the Holy Grail after the death of Christ. Joseph supposedly founded England's first church on the site of the ruined abbey. The earliest proven Christian connection dates from the 7th century when king Ine gave a charter to a monastery. In 1184 the church was destroyed by fire, where the ruins date from. On the site is the supposed tomb of King Arthur and his wife Guinevere. The gardens also contain the Holy Thorn tree, which supposedly sprung from Joseph's staff and blooms twice a year at Christmas and Easter.

Glastonbury Tor is 160m high hill just outside the town. According to some, it is the home of a Faery King. Celtic legend suggests that it is the stronghold of Gwyn ap Nudd, king of the underworld. Others see the Tor as the mystic Isle of Avalon where King Arthur was taken after he was mortally wounded in battle by his nephew Mordred.

The Chalice Well and gardens was a site of pilgrimage since the Celts. The iron red waters from the 800-year-old well are supposed to have healing properties. Some say that the well was the hiding place for the Holy Grail.

I enjoyed visiting St John's, an Anglican parish church linked with the parishes of St Benedict's Church in Glastonbury and St Mary's & All Saints Church in the village of Meare as a joint benefice. They seek to do God's work through being a Christian spiritual centre at the heart of the town for everyone. It is a place of welcome, a place of peace and a place of refreshment - both physical and spiritual.

I loved Glastonbury (and always have). It is the myth and legends, the New Age culture and the festival. I'm not so much into camping now and I don't think that I could cope with the toilets – so I will stick to watching the Glastonbury Festival on TV. Wasn't David Bowie good on the Glastonbury TV past highlights not so long ago!



“There are few hours in life more agreeable than the ceremony known as afternoon tea” — Henry James

Saturday 1st:

Grant us a vision Lord, to see what we can achieve; to reach out beyond ourselves; to share our lives with others; to stretch our capabilities; to increase our sense of purpose; to be aware of where we can help; to be sensitive to your Presence; to give heed to your constant call. Amen. **David Adam**

The Psalm for this week is 125

Sunday 2nd:

In all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. **Romans 8:28**

Monday 3rd:

Praise the Lord all living creatures! Praise the Lord. **Psalm 150:6**

Tuesday 4th:

"He stood beside a cottage lone and listened to a lute,
One summer's eve, when the breeze was gone,
And the nightingale was mute." - **Thomas K. Hervey, 1799-1859**

Wednesday 5th:

Guide our feet into the way of peace - **Luke 1:79**

Thursday 6th: The Transfiguration of our Lord

Father in heaven, whose Son Jesus Christ was wonderfully transfigured before chosen witnesses upon the holy mountain, and spoke of the exodus he would accomplish at Jerusalem: give us strength so to hear his voice and bear our cross that in the world to come we may see him as he is.

Friday 7th:

Day by day the Lord observes the good deeds done by godly men and gives them eternal rewards. **Psalm 37:18**

Saturday 8th:

In my distress I called to the Lord My cry came to His ears. **2 Samuel 22:7**
When has God been your refuge? God, I am grateful You've always been and will always be my secure place to land. Amen

Psalm for this week is 126

Sunday 9th:

Mary Sumner, Founder of the Mothers' Union - Faithful and loving God, who called Mary Sumner to strive for the renewal of family life: give us the gift of your Holy Spirit, that through word, prayer and deed your family may be strengthened and your people served.

Monday 10th:

How kind the LORD is! How good he is! So merciful, this God of ours! The LORD protects those of childlike faith; I was facing death, and he saved me. Let my soul be at rest again, for the LORD has been good to me. He has saved me from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.— **Psalm 116:5-7**

Tuesday 11th:

He did not say, "You shall not be tempest-tossed, you shall not be weary, you shall not be discomfited". But He said, "You shall not be overcome". **Julian of Norwich**

Wednesday 12th:

Thank you, dear God, for the joy of life and the everyday things that make life a joy. Amen

Thursday 13th:

Though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me. **Psalm 23:4** Thank you, God, for being with us even in the darkest valley as we imagine the glories of heaven. Amen

Friday 14th:

If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? **Matthew 5:46**
Jesus pour your love into me so I may pour it out to others-even those who can't repay the favour.

Saturday 15th:

The Blessèd Virgin Mary - Almighty God, who looked upon the lowliness of the

Blessèd Virgin Mary and chose her to be the mother of your only Son: grant that we who are redeemed by his blood may share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen

Psalm for this week is 127

Sunday 16th:

Wisdom is worth much more than precious jewels or anything else you desire. **Proverbs 8:10** Illustrating Wisdom is a challenge, but Psalm 119 says that Wisdom is found in God's word.

Monday 17th:

God of ever-changing life, who knit me together in my mother's womb: you are with me even when I feel alone, and you know my thoughts before I speak. Help me to seek out your marvellous works in the shadows and in plain view, and let me leap for joy at their appearing. Amen

Tuesday 18th:

Dear God – the only source of healing and hope and the one fountain of peace and hope – look down in pity and mercy on Your many children who are facing adversity and afflicted by the miseries that this world system is imposing. Amen

Wednesday 19th:

God of ever-changing life, who knit me together in my mother's womb: you are with me even when I feel alone, and you know my thoughts before I speak. Help me to seek out your marvellous works in the shadows and in plain view and let me leap for joy at their appearing. Amen

Thursday 20th:

For it is by God's grace you have been saved through faith. It is not the result of your own efforts but God's gift so that no one can boast about it. **Ephesians 2: 8-9**

Friday 21st:

Let all that I am praise the LORD; with my whole heart, I will praise his holy name. Let all that I am praise the LORD; may I never forget the good things he does for me. He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases. He redeems me from death and crowns me with love and tender mercies. He fills my life with good things. My youth is renewed like the eagle's! — **Psalm 103:1-5**

Saturday 22nd:

Dear Lord, guard our friendships, encourage us, inspire us, strengthen us, and remember us that we may encourage, inspire, strengthen and remember one another. Amen

Psalm for this week is 128

Sunday 23rd:

Be
Be still
Be still and know
Be still and know that I am God.
Just simply be.

Monday 24th:

Bartholomew the Apostle - Almighty and everlasting God, who gave to your apostle Bartholomew grace truly to believe and to preach your word: grant that your Church may love that word which he believed and may faithfully preach and receive the same.

Tuesday 25th:

The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.
Job 1:21

Wednesday 26th:

Wherever you go I will go, wherever you live I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God **Ruth 1: 16-17**

Thursday 27th:

There is nothing in all creation that will be able to separate us from the love of God which is ours through Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 8:39**

Friday 28th:

God will show us the way, because that's what good shepherds do. "He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside quiet waters. He restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake." **Psalm 23: 2-3.**

Saturday 29th:

God's own peace to the mountain, God's own peace to the plain: God's own Paradise garden grow in the world again. **Lois Rock**

Psalm for this week 129

Sunday 30th:

A light in the darkness stops everything falling apart. **Let Jesus be that light.**

Monday 31st: Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne

Everlasting God, you sent the gentle bishop Aidan to proclaim the gospel in this land: grant us to live as he taught in simplicity, humility, and love for the poor.



Long warm days... The pace of life slows... A time for picnics and rest in the shade...

Lord, help me to rest awhile in the cooling shade of your presence. Slow down my restless heart and fill me with gentle compassion for all your people. Amen.



Maggie's Music Makers

For fairly obvious reasons, we are not physically meeting at present. Instead we are meeting via Zoom for weekly singing practices every Wednesday from 5.30-6.30pm in the comfort of our own homes. Please contact Carol P if you would like to join in.

Articles for future editions of our parish magazine should be emailed as an attachment (Word doc, A4, portrait, no columns) to stmargaretsprestwich@gmail.com no later than:

September Magazine
October Magazine
November Magazine
December Magazine

23 August
27 September
25 October
22 November

Large print version of the magazine. We are planning to produce a larger print version of the magazine. If text this size easier for you to read, let whoever brings your magazine know.

TOP TIPS

This month's Top Tips come from our friend Mary. Do you have any Top Tips you could contribute in future months?

- When the nights are too warm fill a hot water bottle with cold water and pop your feet on. Bliss

Face Coverings

As you will know, fabric face-coverings are now legally required in public spaces such as shops, when using public transport, and are strongly encouraged inside our churches.



Under my trading name of JeaniusBags I have been making and selling these in all kinds of colours and prints. As I have no wish to profit in any way from the pandemic, every penny raised from the sales of these items is donated to Porch Boxes (<https://porchboxes.wordpress.com/>).

£1000 has been donated so far! Sincere thanks to all who have purchased masks and helped with this fundraising effort.

Please take a look at my website (<https://jeaniusbags.com/ppe/>) or facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/pg/JeaniusBags/photos/?tab=album&album_id=690675425061916) and contact me if interested.

Carol P