

St Peter & St Paul, Appledore - St Mary the Virgin, Stone

PEW NEWS for a VIRTUAL CHURCH - 2nd August 2020

Seventh Sunday after Trinity - LAMMAS

WELCOME to Pew News for a virtual Church Community. Though, for a while, we are unable to meet 'in the flesh', this is a chance to keep in touch with each other and to share our worship and prayers. You will find the Collect for the Day, and the designated readings for this Sunday. One of the readings, or an extract from it will be printed on the sheet, together with resources you may wish to use in your daily prayer.

Once again there will be a chance to join others tomorrow for a Zoom service at 10.30am. You can do so by clicking on the link in the email carrying this copy of Pew News

Go to www.tentendenceofe.co.uk/listen for a service of Night Prayer led by Lindsay or Jeanette.

GOOD NEWS! OUR CHURCHES ARE OPENING!

Risk assessments have been carried out by the PCCs, and the necessary arrangements for social distancing put into place, for example posters, blocking off pews, and thorough cleaning of the buildings. All books, pens etc have been put away and please use the Hand gel on entering and leaving the church.

St. Mary the Virgin, Stone-in-Oxney will be open every day from 9am to 5pm.

St. Peter and St. Paul, Appledore will be open every Sunday and Wednesday from 9am to 5pm. These times will be kept under review.

The PPCs have been looking at when we might be able to meet together again, in church, for public worship. We will start by opening on the following dates and will reassess the situation afterwards

Appledore we will meet at 10.30am on Sunday 16th August

Stone will meet at 9am on Sunday 23rd August

In our prayers today, and throughout the week

We pray for all who are suffering or in need, all who are unwell and those who look after them, including all NHS and key workers at this difficult time. In our own community, we continue to pray for Michael, Jeanne and James. If there is someone who you'd especially like the church community to pray for, please email Alison

algil@btopenworld.com (cc patricia.fogden@btinternet.com)



The Collect for Today

**Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard
seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Readings:

Exodus 16.11-15; Psalm 104.10-15;
2 Corinthians 9.6-11; John 6.28-35
Find Bible passages in many different versions
at: <https://www.biblegateway.com/>

John 6:24-35

Once the crowd realised that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus.

Jesus the bread of life

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, 'Rabbi, when did you get here?'

Jesus answered, 'Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval.' Then they asked him, 'What must we do to do the works God requires?'

Jesus answered, 'The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.'

So they asked him, 'What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: "He gave them bread from heaven to eat."

Jesus said to them, 'Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.'

'Sir,' they said, 'always give us this bread.'

Then Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. We pray for the church around the globe. Where Christians are assembling for worship, protect them from viral infection.'

I saw this on the South Kent Methodist Circuit Facebook page yesterday.

https://scontent.flhr3-1.fna.fbcdn.net/v/t1.0-9/116708083_3198662576907644_5296636242550628042_n.jpg?_nc_cat=110&_nc_sid=8bfef9&_nc_ohc=TZDVZywBkWAAX9F25VQ&_nc_ht=scontent.flhr3-1.fna&oh=d7ca27dbf815d99e99e08476c9bd4c04&oe=5F4C3216

We may never know how God uses the seed we sow, we may never see the fruit, but we are just called to keep on sowing

Today I spotted an apple tree growing in a disused mine in Cornwall...wondering if maybe a miner threw down his apple core one day never imagining a tree would grow. It made me reflect that sometimes we sow seeds of the gospel and don't always know the fruit it will bear even for future generations.

'Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.' Galatians 6:9

Today maybe someone needs to hear those words of encouragement: don't give up.

Let us pray

Where Christians are worshiping with print and screen, grant them steadfastness in your word. Strengthen those believers who doubt your goodness. Bless our clergy, lay leaders and committee members as they serve our congregations in this difficult time. Amen

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www.facebook.com/stoneinoxneychurch

www.facebook.com/pages/St-Peter-St-Paul-Appledore

Please do get in touch if there is anything that
we can do to help

GOD BLESS