Dear Friends

'God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.' (Psalm 46.1, NIV)

As expected, we will move to unlocking Phase 4 on Saturday 30th May and within Phase 4 congregational worship will once again be permitted. However, new guidelines and measures issued by the States late last night will mean that it will be necessary for us to make changes to both the pattern and content of our worship.

The Churchwardens of St. Sampson's and the Trustees of St. Mary's and I concluded late yesterday that congregational worship for St. Sampson's and St. Mary's should therefore continue to take place by Zoom this coming Pentecost Sunday – 31st May.

Over the coming days, we will be making the necessary preparations to allow congregational worship to take place. I will be back in touch during the course of next week to advise you of the arrangements that we are making for Sunday 7th June.

Since Ascension Day we have been in the period of prayer – praying 'Thy Kingdom Come'. I do hope that you have found the resources for Thy Kingdom Come helpful and that you have been able to take part. Thy Kingdom Come prayer event concludes on Pentecost Sunday. However, if you have been praying for 5, then please do continue. And, please also continue to pray in Jesus' name 'Thy Kingdom Come'.

Worship this week – Pentecost Sunday

This Sunday's weekly worship will take place via Zoom Sunday at 10.30am.

This week's order of service is attached.

Please click on the following link to access and join this Sunday's service:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87080834674?pwd=dlhxbTJ0V1YrZTRVWGpJK3hJSTY4dz09

Worshipping in this way won't be everyone's cup of tea and so I highlight below, the religious broadcasts on the BBC this coming week.

TELEVISION:.

Sunday 11am (BBC1) *Sunday Worship* The Bishop of Hereford leads a service from his cathedral.

1.15pm (BBC1) *Songs of Praise* The Revd Kate Bottley celebrates Pentecost, with stories from the archive.

Tuesday 3pm (Sky Arts) *Michelangelo's Pietàs* A look at the artist's relationship with his mother, and why he continually returned to the subject of the pietà.

RADIO:

Sunday 8.10am (R4) Sunday Worship An Elim Pentecostal service from City Church, Cardiff.

3pm (R3) *Choral Evensong* A repeat of last week's archive recording from St David's Cathedral, first broadcast on 27 May 2009.

Wednesday 3.30pm (R3) *Choral Evensong* An archive recording from St Mary's Collegiate Church, Warwick, recorded on 7 May 2017 and first broadcast on 7 June 2017.

Thursday 10.05am (World Service) *The Forum* Bridget Kendall and a group of scholars examine why Bible stories about Babylon have endured.

Monday – Friday

9:45am (R4 Long wave) Daily Service

The following free resources, complimenting this Sunday's lectionary themes are available from Roots on the web:

For adults

www.rootsontheweb.com/adultsathome31may

For families

www.rootsontheweb.com/familiesathome31may

Bible Study Group

Our online Bible Study Group continues on Thursday evenings (via Zoom) using the Bible Society's 'Bible Course'.

If you would prefer to join a daytime group, please let me know and I will set one up.

Pastoral Support

'Elevenses on Tuesday' – a coffee morning every Tuesday morning at 11am by Zoom. Make your coffee, bring your cake (not obligatory!) and get comfy on the sofa. Dial in to Zoom by clicking on the following link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83052156281?pwd=ZDIORUhQaFN2UVdBcGlRVnR4N28vUT09

Prayer - Collect from Thy Kingdom Come

Almighty God,

your ascended Son has sent us into the world to preach the good news of your kingdom: inspire us with your Spirit and fill our hearts with the fire of your love, that all who hear your Word may be drawn to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God bless Gill Revd Gill Nobes Rector of St. Sampson

29 May 2020

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