



# CHURCH AT HOME

## Issue 1: March 21st 2020

Welcome, brother and sisters to the first edition of our Church at Home bulletin. Each week we will keep you updated and in touch with each other. There will be thoughts, prayers, bible verses and items to help you spiritually. There will be things for you to do such as quizzes, Books, TV and resource suggestions. I hope you will send short updates on what you are doing to keep busy, healthy and happy and to send short messages of love and encouragement to each other (photos appreciated).

During this time, I am asking you to help the more vulnerable in our church family if you can. Please contact me at [revclive@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:revclive@hotmail.co.uk) if you are able to give practical help during the crisis. We are already helping many and if you need help please ask. One of the aspects of this crisis is that people are in need who we might not have thought of, so once again, if you need help, Ask.

Finally, I need content. So, if you have come across something uplifting, helpful or encouraging send it to me. Got a question for Auntie Lauraine then send it. If you have an idea for a section of this bulletin let me know. Above all, follow the guidance, encourage each other, pray and stay safe.  
Rev Clive

## **Noticeboard**

To confirm all church meetings including standing committee and PCC have been cancelled. We will bring you updates on the APCM when we hear more from Church House.

Both Alpha and the Confirmation Service have been postponed to later in the year.

Even if the APCM isn't held as a meeting we still need your reports. If you have been asked to write one please still do so.

## **Prayer**

**There a many who still need our prayers. Those who have asked for our prayers are :** Andrew Bennett, Charles Brooke, Elizabeth Foster and Joan Handy. For Marjorie and Eileen Hoare, Monica Lindridge and Alex and Wai Ming Martin, Christine Meaton and Christine Minns. For little Orlagh, still very poorly. For Carol & John O'Connor, John Ralph and Amanda Ralph. For Jane & George Stafford. For Karen Vaughan (Cameo), Peggy Vidler, Jeanette Watts and Mark Williams.

We would also like to pray for you if you are experiencing symptoms or have been diagnosed with Covid 19. Please let me know.

## A PRAYER FOR ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY CORONAVIRUS

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy.  
Sustain and support the anxious,  
be with those who care for the sick,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may find comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen

### **Resources for children and young people**

#### **Primary**

VeggieTales (Netflix)

Superbook (Amazon Prime & Youtube)

#### **Secondary**

Bible society short videos -

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/study-the-bible/gnb-youth-edition/videos/>

Bible Game for Apple or Android - "The Guardians of Ancora"

<https://guardiansofancora.com>

## **Books**

Christian publishers SPCK have some recommendations for uplifting reading during the crisis. First up is Terry Waites book of poems and reflections "Out of the silence". This is from Chapter 2 and is entitled "Evening".

As I sit in the calm of the evening I am reminded yet again that I am in the final stage of mortal life. I don't feel in any way morbid about this, simply grateful that I am in good health and able to enjoy these latter years. Across the years I have brushed with death many times and in the years spent as a captive it was my daily companion. I cannot say that I was, or am, afraid of death for it is inevitable and a part of life itself. We die and the atoms that constitute our body are redistributed throughout the universe from whence we came. Ashes to ashes. Dust to dust.

Here are some other book suggestions.



### **Utterly Brilliant!**

Full of unexpected moments, Timmy's account of his pilgrimage along a route travelled by so many over the centuries weaves together history and biography in a hugely entertaining manner.



### **Faith Lists**

Filled with interesting lists and beautiful illustrations, this book is for those who enjoy documenting their faith through notebooks or prayer journals.



### **Unpopular Culture**

Guvna B, one of the UK's biggest Christian rap artists, shares his own story and testimony and helps young people to rediscover their purpose, live out their faith, and transform <sup>4</sup> the world.

**Mission – A word from one of our mission partners,**  
**Tearfund.**



Dear friends,

**Tearfund is praying for you and all our supporters during this time of great uncertainty. You mean so much to us and we are deeply grateful for your ongoing support.**

As you would expect, Tearfund is currently assessing how coronavirus is affecting the world's poorest and most vulnerable communities. We are looking carefully at how we can best support our locally based partners and churches to make a meaningful, sustained response to this pandemic. As always, we are spending time in prayer, asking for God's protection and his wisdom to deal with this unprecedented global situation. We would greatly value your prayers in the weeks and months ahead.

**We have a faithful God who cares**

It's understandable that many of us feel anxious during times like this. At the time of writing more than 169,000 people have tested positive for coronavirus globally. We've all heard or read frightening estimates of the number of people who could die; and naturally, we are all concerned<sup>5</sup> for our loved ones.

It is important to remember we have a God who loves and cares for us. He has told us, 'Do not fear, for I am with you' (Isaiah 41:10). We can have courage when faced with the fear of the unknown, because we trust in an all-knowing God who has promised to be with us wherever we go (Joshua 1:9).

At a recent Tearfund Prayer Day, we received a prophetic word about the ship that leaves a safe harbour to go out into rough waters, with the promise that our Lord will be with us. This feels very real as I write to you today. And it is a huge encouragement to me personally to have the reassurance that Jesus is Immanuel, God with us.

### **Caring for the most vulnerable**

In these uncertain times, I can assure you that Tearfund's work will continue through our amazing network of courageous, caring Christian partners and churches around the world.

I am daring to dream that this could be the opportunity in our generation for the church to be known globally for its brave and compassionate response, putting the needs of others before our own, just as Jesus did. We know this is possible. We see acts of heroic love every day in the countries where we work.

Please visit [\*\*www.tearfund.org\*\*](http://www.tearfund.org) to check for updates in the coming weeks.

Nigel Harris – CEO Tearfund

## **Access Church services online**

A number of places are offering closed services online. If you are able why don't you try some of the following.

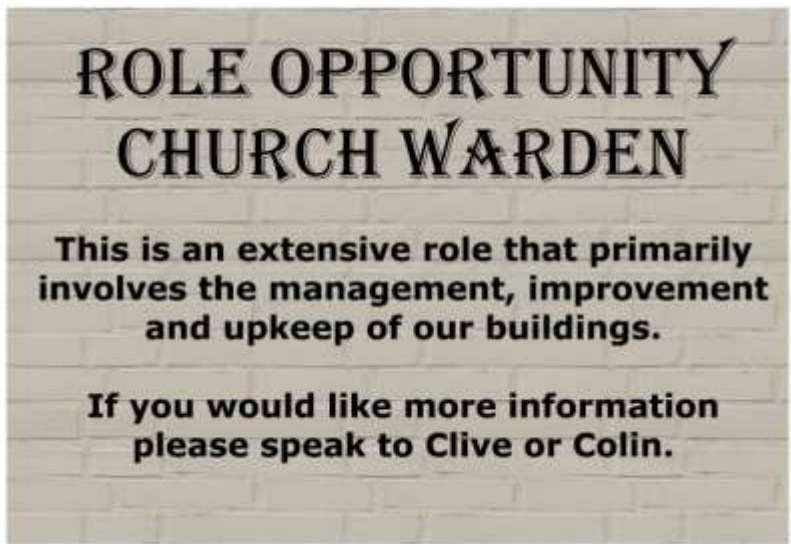
Holy Trinity Brompton <https://www.htb.org/sundayonline>.

All Hallows By the Tower  
<https://www.ahbtt.org.uk/live-stream/>

Buckingham Parish Church  
[https://www.bpchurch.uk/Groups/224904/Buckingham Parish Church/Whats On/Services/Livestream Services/Livestream Services.aspx](https://www.bpchurch.uk/Groups/224904/Buckingham_Parish_Church/Whats_On/Services/Livestream_Services/Livestream_Services.aspx)

## **Watch on TV**

TBN (Freeview 65 / Sky 582)  
Hillsongs TV (Sky 595)



**ROLE OPPORTUNITY  
CHURCH WARDEN**

**This is an extensive role that primarily involves the management, improvement and upkeep of our buildings.**

**If you would like more information please speak to Clive or Colin.**

## **#Live Lent**

This Lent, we hope both adults and children might engage in God's plea for us to "Care for Creation". It is an opportunity for us to rebuild our relationship with our planet, and in turn with the God who is Lord of everything.

**Archbishop Justin Welby & Archbishop John Sentamu**

**Find out more and sign up here -**

**<https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/living-out-our-faith/lent-holy-week-and-easter/livelent-care-gods-creation>**



## **Bible reading Apps**

There are many of these available. Here are two suggestions, but let me know what ones you use.

Youversion – <https://www.youversion.com>

Wordlive - <https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/wordlive>



# *Ask Auntie Lauraine*

**Our resident theological agony aunt answers your questions.**

**"Why did God create others planets if there's no life on them? What was the point?" - Pippa Beazley-Long**

Many people, Christian or otherwise, struggle with the notion that the earth is the only inhabited planet in this enormous universe. In short, is there life on other planets? In my experience, this seems to be the major underlying reason why people think that there must be other life 'out there'. However, our thinking should be based on what God said He did (the Bible), and not what we think He would, should or might have done.

Since God is the one who made the universe, it can scarcely be 'big' to Him. We struggle with its vastness because our comprehension is limited to the created time/space dimensions within which we exist and it's mind-bending to try to comprehend anything beyond our dimensional existence. But God isn't bound by time and space (which He created).

It should be remembered that expressions like "the heavens and earth" ([Genesis 1:1](#)) are a figure of speech. Similarly, biblical Hebrew has no word for 'the universe', so instead it uses the term "the heavens and the earth". It is clear that New Testament passages like [Romans 8:18–22](#) and [Hebrews 11:3](#) are pointing back to the Genesis ("heavens and earth") creation, and thus, everything that God made and when time as we know it began.

**Be 'awe' inspired** - [Psalm 19:1](#) tells us a major reason that the universe is so vast: '[The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork.](#)' There are many similar passages in Scripture. They help us understand who God is and how powerful He is. It reminds us that the more we discover about this incredible universe, the more we should be in awe of the One who made it all. In short rather than looking up and wondering 'I wonder what else is out there?' and imaginary aliens we've never seen. We should instead be considering the very One that made it all.

## **And now for something a little lighter!**

*I am the very model of effective social distancing!  
I listen to the experts on the topic of resistance-ing;  
I know that brunch and yoga class aren't nearly as imperative  
As doing what I can to change the nation's viral narrative.*

*I'm very well acquainted, too, with living solitarily  
And confident that everyone can do it temporarily:  
Go take a walk, or ride a bike, or dig into an unread book;  
Avoid the bars and restaurants and carry out, or learn to cook.*

*There's lots of stuff to watch online while keeping safe from sinus  
ills  
(In this case, it's far better to enjoy your Netflix MINUS chills)!  
Adopt a pet, compose a ballad, write some earnest doggerel,  
And help demolish Trump before our next event inaugural.*

*Pandemics are alarming, but they aren't insurmountable  
If everybody pitches in to hold ourselves accountable.  
In short, please do your part to practice prudent co-existence-ing,  
And be the very model of effective social distancing!  
Author Unknown*

# Mrs T's quiz page

## CRYPTIC TOWNS AND CITIES

The following clues provide the names of towns and cities within the UK.

1. Tub full of water
2. Spread before morning
3. Has a letter to spare
4. Crank Miss Ranzen
5. Half a score is alongside
6. Cranium stuck in rabbit hole
7. Professor of rollers
8. A chocolate bar without for instance
9. Nearly the colonel's twelve inches
10. A person who is leaving

## Dingbats

## Answers on Page 15

1 <b>ALL EARTH</b>	2 e r e r KIDS q i u	3 <b>FO</b>
4 CCCCCCC	5 pppppp BU	6 r o b n i
7 boy → yob	8 ccrreeaamm	9 ever ever Thursday ever
10 Henry bored	11 IT	12 <b>EACK</b>
13 BUS BUS	14 Dust Dust Dust	15 <b>CHESS</b>
16 <b>MOTHER</b>	17 Lounge	18 glutony stress glutony greed greed slith envy slith envy anger

With thanks to  
Dot Turner.

## What you're up to. – Pictures and messages



### Andrew Bennet with daughter Heidi

'Unconditional love is the most powerful stimulant to the immune system.' Quote from Bernie Siegel. To all my wonderful friends whatever your situation is due to the Covid 19 Heidi and I are sending you a dose of unconditional love today. A tous mes amis qui sont en train de s'isoler beaucoup de courage et affection de notre part. xx

### Noah Gill

Noah's chilling out and enjoying his new Roman Reign's T-Shirt



### Neil Bridge

Neil Celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Please send me your pictures and messages to each other. Let's encourage each other and stay in touch. It will be good to see familiar faces each week.

[revclive@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:revclive@hotmail.co.uk)

## Blast from the Past

An article from the "Parish News" March 1993. Written by Di Blacker.

### JUST A THOUGHT!

The old adage about March tells us it is "in like a lamb, out like a lion" or vice versa, and certainly it does seem to be a month which goes to the extremes weatherwise - we can expect anything from snow to summer sunshine.



March is a lovely month, whatever the weather we can always be sure of a good show of spring flowers; the 20th marks the end of winter; this year we have Mothering Sunday on the 21st; on the 28th we put the clocks forward - my diary is headed "Summer Time Begins", and this really seems to set the seal on what to me, is probably the best thing of all - the joy of longer hours of day light.

Light is such an important element in our lives - right at the beginning, God said "Let there be light" - light is essential for life - Jesus said [John 8] "I am the light of the world - he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life". God showed Himself to Moses in the form of light "The angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire," and again He led the Israelites by night "in a pillar of fire to give them light". In Psalm 119 we read "Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

The opposite of light - 'darkness' is seen in the Bible as synonymous with sin. John tells us "This is the judgment that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil."

We are encouraged to be a light to others "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father . . ."

Do enjoy the light hours as they increase - make the most of them - don't let them be soiled by sin - then maybe next winter you will have a little store of light to guide you through the dark days.

*Di*

## **On TV this week**

### **Saturday**

16:55: Bruce Almighty: Sony Movies (Freeview 32 / Sky 321)

### **Sunday**

06:00: Hour of Power: Sky1 (Sky 106 / Virgin 110)

09:00: Father Dowling Mysteries: CBS Drama (Freeview 39)

10:30: The Big Questions: BBC1

13:15: Songs of Praise: BBC1

13:40: The Vicar of Dibley: Gold (Sky 110 / Virgin112)

16:20: Father Brown: Alibi (Sky 132 / Virgin 126 / BT 312)

### **Monday**

07:10: Secrets of the Bible: Yesterday (Freeview 25)

20:00: St David's: ITV

### **Tuesday**

07:10: Secrets of the Bible: Yesterday (Freeview 25)

### **Wednesday**

07:10: Secrets of the Bible: Yesterday (Freeview 25)

23:50: The Prince of Egypt: Sky Cinema Family (Sky 306)

### **Thursday**

07:10: Secrets of the Bible: Yesterday (Freeview 25)

07:15: Joseph King of Dreams: Sky Cinema Family (Sky 306)

08:20: Ben Hur: Sky Cinema Greats (Sky 304 / Virgin 404)

### **Friday**

07:10: Secrets of the Bible: Yesterday (Freeview 25)

09:20 / 11:50 / 18:00 / 00:20: The Dead Sea Scroll

Detectives: PBS (Freeview 91 / Sky 174 / Virgin 273)

20:00: Sister Act: Sky Cinema Family (Sky 306 / Virgin 406)

20:00: Sister Act 2: Sky Cinema Family (Sky 306)

21:00: Pilgrimage the Road to Istanbul: BBC2

## **Radio programs**

Prayer for the Day daily at 5.43am on Radio 4

Sunday Worship Sundays at 8.10am on Radio 4

Daily Service Monday to Friday at 9.45am on Radio 4

Longwave and DAB

Lent Talks Wednesdays at 8.45pm on Radio 4

Choral evensong- Wednesdays at 3.30pm and the same service is repeated Sundays at 3pm on BBC Radio 3



## **Quiz answers**

### **Cryptic towns and cities**

1. Bath 2. Margam 3. Dover 4. Winchester. 5. Tenby 6. Edinburgh 7. Doncaster 8. York 9. Saundersfoot 10. Exeter

### **Dingbats**

1. All over the world 2. Children in need 3. Flat iron 4. High seas 5. Peace be with you 6. Round Robin 7. Alter boy 8. Double cream 9. Forever and a day 10. Man overboard 11. Read all about it. 12. Cake mix 13. Double decker bus 14. Dust to dust 15. The game is up 16. Maximum 17. Room at the top 18 a multiple of sins.

