

St. Giles, Killamarsh and St. Matthew's, Renishaw

Newsletter May 2020

Coronavirus Update

The Church continues to be alive and active even though our buildings are closed. Our worship of God and our care for each other continues.

Please be assured of our prayers during this time of the Coronavirus Pandemic.

There are various ways that you can access and join in with what we, as a united benefice, are offering.

We continue to publish a daily bible reading and a prayer written by Revd. Helen or Revd. Michael on our Facebook Page (St. Giles Killamarsh) and on our website (www.St.Giles-Killamarsh.org)

You can also access our Notice Board on our website where we are continuing to publish a thought for the day with contributions from various people and to which you are invited to contribute. You can contact us by emailing Revd Helen at revshmguest@gmail.com or by phone 0114 2482769. Why not pay our Notice Board page a visit to see what has already been written and then offer your own thoughts which we will be pleased to publish?

Our website manager is continuing to develop our Spirituality Garden to direct people to various spiritual resources and links.

A Sunday morning service of Holy Communion which can be joined by Skype or as a guest, is offered each Sunday until the present restrictions are lifted. This is in keeping with Bishop Libby's email to all clergy dated 28/03/2020. You do not need to have Skype as you can join as a guest. Please contact Revd. Helen for more details by email or phone.

Revd Helen and Revd Michael will also be available to receive calls on 0114 2482769 between 9am and 11am weekdays and Saturday mornings, but please feel free to phone us at any time if we can be of any help whatsoever.

The BBC continue to televise an act of worship each Sunday morning with hymns recorded for Songs of Praise.

The clergy from the Crooked Spire also stream a service every day on Facebook.

Bible Study: Bible study continues to be held on a Tuesday evening at 7.30 pm using Skype. We have just started an eight-week course studying the Lord's Prayer. Any one is welcome to join us. There is no need to have Skype on your tablet, phone or computer as you can join as a guest via your email address which we would require. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 28th April. The sessions are approximately one and half hours long. There is no pressure to contribute if you don't want to. We have currently got an average of four people who take part and you are most welcome to join us. If for some reason you are unable to join us but would like to do the Prayer Course you can access it on the internet at <https://prayercourse.org/>

Holy Week and Easter at the Rectory

Holy Week and Easter were very different for everyone this year with all the usual services unable to be offered due to the closure of our churches. Various services and activities were, however, offered throughout Holy Week using Skype. On Holy Monday we held a service of Stations of the Cross, Holy Tuesday: Bible Study, Holy Wednesday: Evening Prayer, Maundy Thursday: we held a service of Holy Communion, and on Good Friday: An Hour at the Cross. On Easter Morning: Easter Holy Communion was celebrated. An average of seven people joining in our worship throughout the week.

When Revd Helen and Revd. Michael celebrate Holy Communion at the Rectory it is offered to and received on behalf of the whole worshipping community who receive it spiritually. If you would like to join us for Sunday morning worship, please send us an email or phone on 01142482769.

Noise: The quietness that is resulting from the lockdown is in some ways a blessing in disguise, when I am in the Rectory garden I can hear the church clock chiming the passing of time, the birds singing their Spring chorus and at night the hedgehogs snuffling in the bushes. All of which are usually rendered inaudible by the cacophony of life. But now they remind me that though we are experiencing challenging times, they will pass, as surely as the clock chimes and time moves inexorably on. That when all this is over, we will have a new spring like beginning, with new opportunities and new growth. That even in the darkest of times life carries on like the hedgehogs in the night busily going about their night work. These then are the sounds of hope!

Revd. Michael

Email from Father Georges

Dear Reverend Canon Helen and Fr Michael.

Thank you very much for your kindness in remembering us in your prayers.

Also, here we keep praying for you all.

We are working so much because we need to harvest our crops and feed our cows.

But all our building churches are still closed all over the country.

The problems of our people is the lack of money and lack of food because we must stay at home for the lockdown...

Much Regards.

Fr Georges and Eveline.

Care: Please continue to care for each other by keeping in touch. We would very much like to contact all our church members to make sure they are ok, but unfortunately, we need your permission to do so. If you would appreciate an occasional email, text or call please let us have your contact details.

Emailing us at revshmguest@gmail.com or phone 01142 2482769.



The Candle of Hope

"I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit." ([Romans 15:13](#))

