



Please pray...

**For our church family:**

- For all who lead in any way.
- For all who are self isolating or feeling anxious or unwell
- For inspiration and discernment as we pray about how we can be church and share the good news of Jesus at this time

**For the wider church:**

- Our Archbishops Justin and John, our Bishops Rachel and Robert, our Archdeacons Hilary and Phil and all Senior Leaders.
- For churches throughout the world as they try to respond to the Covid-19 outbreak

**For our schools**

- Calton Road Primary School, Sarah Bunce (Headteacher), Finlay Road Primary School, Rachel Lane and Hannah Williams (Headteachers), Tuffley Primary School, Will Greenwood (Headteacher), Ribson Hall High School, Sarah Columbini (Headteacher). Please pray for safety for all staff, children and families.

**For our community:**

- All of our Care homes now in lock down
- For our community leaders especially Jennie Layhe and Dawn Barnes
- All in our parish as they find a new daily routine.
- For our local and national government
- The sick: Janet, Suzie, Richard, Colin, Tim, Mick, Joan, Noel, Julia, Rachel, Christopher, Ray, Ruby, Clare, David, Kay, Sarah, Alice, Lionel
- Those who have died: Joy Hanman, Eric Keyse, June James, Susan Hiam, Mary Jordan and those who grieve.

Parish office: CLOSED to the public 01452 524173  
office@stbarnabasgloucester.org.uk

Revd Sarah Todd (Curate) 07534720160 stbarnabascurate@gmail.com

Myra Bowen - Davies (Churchwarden) 302508 myrabowendavies@me.com

Katherine Kear (Churchwarden) 528508 katherine@katherinekear.co.uk

# St Barnabas

w/b March 22nd  
2020

# Church Matters

**Hello to you all.**

Welcome to this week's Church Matters Newsletter This newsletter aims to keep church family in contact, share prayer requests, strengthen our discipleship and bring us closer together while we are unable to gather. If you are receiving this newsletter but aren't on the mailing list then please contact Sarah on 07534 720160 or revsarahatodd@gmail.com

**Sunday Livestream Worship Schedule—March 22nd 2020  
Mothering Sunday and Archbishops National Day of Prayer  
Live Stream on our Facebook Page**

10.00am  
7.00 pm  
7.00 pm.

**Live Stream All Age Worship with the Revd Sarah  
Live Stream Evening Prayer with Dave  
Live Stream Youth Alpha with Ian**

.....

**Next Sunday: 29th March 2020  
Live Stream on our Facebook Page  
Live Stream Morning Prayer for Passiontide  
Live Stream Evening Worship**

**Sign up at:  
www.facebook.com/stbarnabasglos**



## Readings for Lent 4 Mothering Sunday

### 2 Corinthians I. 3-7

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

### John 19:23-27

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what scripture said..

### Readings for next week:

Romans 8.6-11  
John 11.1-45

They divided my clothes among themselves and for my clothing they cast lots." And that is what the soldiers did. what the scripture says, "Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

### Reflection

Our readings today talk about compassion and consolation that is shown amidst suffering. This seems especially appropriate this week as we are all faced with challenge and the many choices that challenge brings. There is a beautiful image in Psalm 91 where God is described as a mother hen, covering us all with strong wings, keeping us safe. This is the sort of love the Christian God shows and it is the sort of love that we as God's followers are called to show. The decisions we make should be made in love. If anxiety threatens, then remember that we are shielded by God's wings. Love conquers fear, and equips us for all that may lie ahead. *Revd Sarah*

### The Collect

**God of love, passionate and strong,  
tender and careful;  
Watch over us and hold us all the  
days of our life; through Jesus Christ  
our Lord. Amen**

## News

**Coronavirus** - In light of the Government guidance around non-essential contact, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued advice that public worship is suspended until further notice. All worship, meetings and groups are cancelled. The church will remain open for private prayer and resources will be available for worship at home. Please don't come into church if you are self-isolating or feel unwell. We ask that you wash your hands when you arrive and leave.

**The Revd Sarah Todd**—Sarah is self-isolating at the moment because her youngest daughter is unwell. She is still working from home and is happy to hear from you on [revsarah todd@gmail.com](mailto:revsarah todd@gmail.com), 07534 720160 or through Messenger.

**Barnabas Buddies**- Given the current government guidelines we are aware that many of our immediate congregation and those who benefit from our organisations will miss the regular contact and experience of being amongst a community. We are hoping a regular 'Barnabas Buddy' system can be set up in conjunction with already existing visiting arrangements, but all now on a totally phone based operation. If you or anyone you know in the parish feels you could be a phone buddy or you know of someone isolated, lonely and in need of a chat then please call Katherine the churchwarden on 528508 or email [katherine@katherinekear.co.uk](mailto:katherine@katherinekear.co.uk).

**The Lord's Prayer**— Each of us are invited to pray the Lord's Prayer together at 0915 in the morning and 2115 in the evening, beginning and ending the day in prayer together. Sarah will always pray at these times. Prayer changes things—and your prayers matter.

**Live Streaming**- Worship will be live streamed on Facebook each Sunday at 1000 and at 1600 or 1800 in the evening. There will also be prayer reflections on a Wednesday morning. Lent group will be streamed each Wednesday evening at 1930. If you need help in getting onto social media to get connected, please ring Sarah on 07534 720160.

**Prayer at home**—Resources for prayer at home will be available in the next week or two. If you have access to the internet, then please check out the many resources that are on the Church of England website.

**Mary Jordan**—As many of you know, Mary sadly died last Saturday. The family would like you to know that because of the current Covid-19 outbreak there will be a private cremation for immediate family with a service of thanksgiving at St Barnabas Church, Gloucester, the date to be confirmed later on. Please remember Lionel and the family in your prayers.

### Important dates:

29th March	Clocks "Spring Forward" 1 hour
5th April	Palm Sunday
6-12th April	Holy Week
17th June	The Rev. Sarah Todd's Installation