

St George's Weekly News, Trinity 7, 26 July 2020

Sunday's 10am Mass will be led by The Archdeacon of Chichester the Venerable Father Luke Irvine-Capel. The readings are: 1 Kings 3: 5–12 and Romans 8: 26–39 and the Gospel is from Matthew 13: 31–33, 44–52

Our first Mass – Sunday 19th July. We were delighted to see so many parishioners returning to church on Sunday, to the first Sunday Mass since lockdown. There were very few empty seats left, which we will have to monitor as individuals gain in confidence and want to attend. Please be aware that we are restricted as to the number of seats we can put out due to the current ruling of 2 metres between each person.

For those of you who were sitting further back in church we apologise if you had a problem in hearing the proceedings clearly, in our determination to get everything right, we omitted to switch on the microphones, we will make sure it doesn't happen again.

The church is open for private prayer on Wednesdays from 10.30am until 4.30pm

Church Family Coffee Morning 18th July. A big thank you to everyone who gave of their time and energy in cleaning and preparing the Centre, putting out tables and for providing refreshments and donations towards the stalls. The Rectory Garden was a perfect place to relax with sufficient shade for sitting and catching up with friends. A very pleasant surprise was the total taken in monetary donations which has since risen to £390. Thank you!

Another Coffee Morning. As a result of this success requests have been received that more are held, accordingly the next coffee morning will be on **Saturday 15th August, 10.30am – 12.30pm**. We hope that the weather will allow the Rectory garden to be available again, or we can sit in the Centre or on the patio. Social distancing will be kept, as usual.

If you have any unwanted gifts, or nearer the time, any garden or home produce you would like to donate please let Sue Bainbridge know Tel.784424 or bring along on the morning.

We just ask for donations for coffee and cake (there will be tea and squash available) unwanted gifts will be priced in advance.

Well done Jean. Barchester Healthcare have over 300 care homes, they have recently announced that, from over 2400 nominations from all across the UK, Jean Collyer has been awarded the South Division Volunteer of the Year for 2020 – quite an achievement. Our congratulations to Jean for winning this well-deserved award.

The Centenary Centre. So that we are ready and prepared for when the Government announces that community/church centres may start to take bookings and open again we are looking for a few individuals who would be prepared to give an hour or so on a regular basis, perhaps being part of a rota with others, in ensuring the Centre is kept clean and tidy. If you feel you would like to volunteer, we would love to hear from you, it doesn't have to be every week. Please do have a word with Geraldine or Ken.

Statement from Chichester Cathedral, With the increase of local competition and decreasing footfall in Chichester resulting in a steady decline of patrons, the Cathedral Café had already been an area of concern before the current lockdown. The summer months had to subsidise the winter months and, overall, the Café was close to losing money. As a result, we have made the difficult decision not to re-open the Café. Also the shop, in its current format and location will close. It will return in a new form when the Cathedral is once again welcoming a substantial volume of visitors. When it re-opens it will be relocated into the Cathedral and we plan for it to be volunteer led with support from a reduced team in the office.

Items for future Newsletters welcomed, Contact Details: Ken Green - kaagreen@talktalk.net - 01243 789869. Geraldine Burrows - gmburrows@hotmail.co.uk - 01243 539620.