



Letter to church family #4 - Tuesday 24/03/2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

*“The eternal God is your refuge,
and underneath are the everlasting arms.” Deut 33:27*

How quickly things change as we enter this lockdown period. How important it is to keep a focus on the Lord!

Even since the weekend there are so many things to inform you about:

1. Following the government announcement 23/03/2020 the church building is now closed.
2. It will be no surprise that the APCM is now postponed. New regulations from the Bishop are now in force which means that we have until end of October 2020 to hold this meeting.
3. Please find some resources for [pastoral support](#) from the Bishop of Maidstone.
4. Please also find a [helpful article](#) about coping with lockdown written last week by Mark Oden in Naples, where they have already experienced lockdown as a family for the last two weeks.
5. To develop communication within the church family [a closed FaceBook group](#) has been started. Once accessed, select follow or join the congregations' group.
6. As I write we are not exactly sure how we will organise things on Sunday. Please be assured however that there will definitely be something scheduled for 10am Sunday 29 March. In our next mailing to the church family on Friday we will provide all the necessary details. Please note that we now have a dedicated [St Nicholas Sevenoaks YouTube channel](#). As you access it, if sufficient people click 'subscribe' (completely free) it will enhance the accessibility of the platform.

Last night I received a text from NHS requesting me to stay at home for the next 12 weeks, as I imagine did some of you. So even when the current restrictions are eased, we will still find ourselves in lockdown!

I want to end this letter with a word from the Scriptures, a song and a prayer.

- A word from 2 Chronicles 7:13,14 ([video message from Angus](#))
- A song [“Yet not I but through Christ in me”](#) by CityAlight
- A prayer: Collect for the 4th Sunday before Lent

O God, you know us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen



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With ongoing prayers for our nation, our community and for the whole St Nicholas Church family,

Angus MacLeay

Church Family updates:

These letters will be sent via ChurchSuite and uploaded onto the website.

Please check your ChurchSuite Communication preferences to ensure you are registered to receive email updates.

The MyChurchSuite App is available for both [Android](#) and [iPhone/iPad](#) and is easy to download and use. We recommend that you use it to stay up to date with church communications especially at this time of uncertainty.

Contact the office if you need help with any of this.



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