



Letter #6 Church Family 31/03/2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I trust that you are continuing to know the Lord's goodness even in difficult circumstances. It's a very odd time – some people with too much time on their hands whilst others are under enormous pressures; some people enjoying the quietness and tranquillity whilst others struggling to survive in a house full of noise and stress. Seeking to understand how others are coping and recognising that we all face slightly different pressures is an important part of how we love and support each other. Thank you for the way in which so many have been in contact with each other, texting, phoning and 'Zooming'! Please especially remember those with no internet or wifi connection who will probably feel particularly isolated.

Praying together

- Each evening please continue to join Sue and me at 7:30pm to pray for our nation, community, church family, friends and family.
- This evening the main St Nicholas congregations are holding our monthly prayer gathering at 8pm. To join this prayer gathering you just need to [click on this link](#) and the meeting will start for you (we suggest you do this a few minutes in advance so that you are ready to start at 8pm). Alternatively visit the church website where there is a direct link to the prayer meeting. You won't have to pray out loud unless you wish to but getting involved would be a great encouragement. The GC and 4OC congregations will be holding a monthly prayer gathering next Tuesday 7 April.

Learning together

- [Click here](#) to access the latest video message. In the context of being overwhelmed by the events happening in our world and the fear and anxiety that they cause, I have taken a look at the calming of the storm in Mark 4:35-41 - 'Does Jesus care?'
- Please also note that all the other recent sermons and video messages can be found on the [St Nicholas YouTube Channel](#).
- Last Sunday we were supposed to be visited by the Good Book Company. In lieu of this visit some of the staff have put together some short [Book Reviews](#) which may be of interest.
- Next week is often referred to as 'Holy Week' as we move towards the cross and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Each day next week we will be producing a short video package featuring some readings, prayers and a ten-minute talk to deepen our devotion to Christ. We will be looking at the Servant Songs in Isaiah which so clearly point to the Lord Jesus.



As usual I'm signing off with a song and a prayer.

The song is '[Be still my soul](#)' from King's College, Cambridge [[the words can be accessed here](#)]

The prayer is the collect for the 4th Sunday after Trinity:

O GOD, the protector of all that trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us thy mercy; that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal: Grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake our Lord. Amen.

...and finally, today is the anniversary of the death of John Donne who was Rector St Nicholas Sevenoaks in the early Seventeenth century. This is one of his remarkable Holy Sonnets about the victory of Christ over death '[Death be not proud](#)'

Warmly in Christ,

Angus MacLeay

To access the links referred to in the letter, use the links below:

- [Click here](#) To download Zoom if you want the app rather than using a web browser
- [Click here](#) For the Prayer Meeting (31st March starting at 8pm only)
- [Click here](#) For Angus' latest video message
- [Click here](#) For the St Nicholas YouTube channel
- [Click here](#) For the Book Reviews
- [Click here](#) 'Be still my soul' from King's College, Cambridge
- [Click here](#) For the words for 'Be still my soul'
- [Click here](#) John Donne's 'Death be not proud'

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.