



Letter #44 Church Family email 29/10/2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

*“Your word, Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.  
Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth, and it endures.”  
[Psalm 119:89,90]*

When there is so much change and uncertainty all around us it is so good to be reminded of the unchanging word of the Lord which reveals His continuing faithfulness. At the end of this letter I have included the great hymn ‘How firm a foundation’ and also the Collect for this week which both link into the theme of God’s word and its dependability and reliability. Each morning the latest news proclaims further uncertainty, but each morning God’s word proclaims that Jesus Christ is Lord!

**Joining us on Sunday online:**

- St Nicholas Sunday morning livestream – at **9am**
- Grace Church/4OC morning service – available on YouTube after **2pm**
- St Nicholas Sunday evening Zoom service – at **6:30pm**

To access all our Sunday services, [go to the website here](#). Many apologies for the difficulties we experienced last week. Again, we want to express our warmest thanks to all those who assist with the technical set up – it is hugely appreciated!

**Joining us at St Nicholas Church building at 9am and 11am:**

The updated Covid-19 guidance [is available here](#). Thank you to all who have volunteered in recent weeks. If you can assist, please contact the office – any offers of help are very gratefully received!

**Joining us at Lady Boswell School at 10am:**

Space is limited, so we have been running a booking system, though we are actively exploring the possibility of running two services at the school. For more details about [registering click here](#). This service will also be available on YouTube after 2pm.

**Praying for this Sunday**

- This Sunday morning Gavin continues the sermon series in John 5 at 9am and 11am whilst at Lady Boswells and 6:30pm I will be preaching on the last part of Mark 6. My longing is that as God’s word is preached it would be received as described in 1 Thessalonians 2:13 – *“not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe.”*



- We've had various issues with the livestream at both 9am and 10am over recent weeks which we trust have been or are in the process of being resolved. We are so grateful for those working behind the scenes each week. Let's pray for great patience all round and that the Lord would protect this aspect of our ministry which is so vital to so many.
- Please remember those who have no internet access at all. Some phone in to our services. Please pray especially for those who are in these categories that the Lord would especially be upholding them and enabling them to know His peace, presence and protection.

### **Knowing Life**

There are now 2 videos posted in our YouTube Channel in the Knowing Life series. Each short video examines an aspect of the theme of 'Life' from John's Gospel. Could you send one on to a friend? Could you watch one with a member of your family? [Click here.](#)

### **November Prayer Gatherings**

We are slowly implementing the Truscott Report and as we proceed we will soon move to a position where we will be holding individual congregational prayer gatherings interspersed with whole church prayer meetings. However, it will take us time to get there and so in November there will be one prayer gathering for St Nicholas @ Lady Boswells and one for the congregations meeting at St Nicholas [9am, 11am and 6:30pm]. Both will take place next Tuesday 3 November at 8pm. The December prayer gathering will then be for all four congregations.

- St Nicholas @ Lady Boswells prayer gathering – [Further details from John Khnana](#)
- St Nicholas @ 9/11/6:30 prayer gathering – [Available using this link](#)

### **Tearfund Quiz**

On Saturday evening 14 November at 6.30pm the church will be supporting the Tearfund Big Quiz Night on Zoom. I warmly encourage everyone to get the word out to friends and family and to make a fun evening of it – the quiz will be finished by 8pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to have fun as one big church family and to support Tearfund's extraordinary work. Please [watch this video](#) for details or [email Martin here](#). Recommended donation is £5 per person.

### **Samaritan's Purse: Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal**

It took me only a few minutes to follow [the link here to donate](#) a pre-packed shoebox together with a gospel booklet which will be sent out to a child in need this Christmas. For many years we have supported the Shoebox Appeal which enables us to share the compassion of Christ in this way. This year we have a special message from an 'Angel' ... the name of the person who was going to visit the church but whose [video message can be found here](#). We are recommending that rather than bringing in shoeboxes to the church building this year we should simply do it online. It is a simple and safe way of supporting this ministry and enabling children in need to know the love of Christ.



**Christmas Choir**

With Christmas in mind if you would like to take part in the virtual choir for one or two well known Christmas carols then please note that Graham Cassford is kindly organising a Zoom call Wed 12 November at 3pm to sing ‘O come all ye faithful’ and a week later on Wed 19 November at 3pm to sing ‘Hark the Herald’. If you want to get involved [please contact Graham](#)

**Finally, a song and a prayer....**

The song is [‘How firm a foundation’](#) which focuses on the sufficiency of Christ revealed in God’s word

The prayer is the Collect for the last Sunday after Trinity:

*Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

Warmly in Christ,

Angus MacLeay

To access the links in today’s letter, please use the details below:

<a href="#">Click here</a>	For online services details
<a href="#">Click here</a>	COVID guidelines for in-person services
<a href="#">Click here</a>	To register for the in-person service at Lady Boswell’s School
<a href="#">Click here</a>	For the ‘Knowing Life’ course videos
<a href="#">Click here</a>	St Nicholas @ Lady Boswells Prayer Gathering
<a href="#">Click here</a>	St Nicholas @ 9/11/6:30 Prayer Gathering
<a href="#">Click here</a>	Tearfund Quiz info video
<a href="#">Click here</a>	To contact Martin Laing about the Tearfund Quiz
<a href="#">Click here</a>	To donate a pre-packed shoebox for Samaritan’s Purse
<a href="#">Click here</a>	To watch a special message from Angel
<a href="#">Click here</a>	To contact Graham Cassford about the Christmas Choir
<a href="#">Click here</a>	To listen to ‘How firm a foundation’