



**Letter #21 Church Family 22/05/2020**

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

*“Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.” Hebrews 7:25*

**Encouragement from God’s word:**

Yesterday was Ascension Day and Jamie Read spoke at our service most helpfully – his sermon can be accessed [here](#). He referred to Hebrews 7:25 and the great ministry of the ascended Christ. Today He is interceding for you ... and we can be confident that the Father will certainly listen to the prayers of His Son! Jamie also flagged up Chapter 8 ‘To the uttermost’ in ‘*Gentle and lowly*’ by Dane Ortlund which also deals with this theme. Please order this wonderful book from Peter Cheesman [here](#).

**Thy Kingdom Come:**

The period from Ascension [21/5] to Pentecost [31/5] sees many churches across the world using the petition in the Lord’s Prayer ‘*Thy kingdom come*’ as a simple encouragement to pray for non-Christian friends to enter God’s kingdom. You can easily join in. Either download the resource from our website [here](#) or go to our St Nicholas Facebook page [here](#) or our Instagram account (@stnicholassevenoaks)

**Sunday ministry:**

Details of all the Sunday services and opportunities for virtual coffee are clearly signposted on the [St Nicholas website](#).

As usual after the morning service, please do join other members of our church family for a virtual coffee:-

- for the 09:15 congregation [\[click here\]](#) (meeting ID 861 6962 2133, password 0915Coffee )
- for the 11:00 congregation [\[click here\]](#) (meeting ID 989 8217 9349, no password)

Members of other St Nicholas based congregations are very welcome to join either of the above virtual coffees.

- for Grace Church and 4 O’clock congregations [\[click here\]](#) (meeting ID 926 213 107, password church)

**Praying for Sunday ministry:**

Here are some suggestions about how to pray for this Sunday’s ministry:

1. Pray for Gavin preaching on Philippians 1 and John Khnana preaching on 1 Corinthians 2 in the morning and for Matt on Ephesians 5 in the evening. Pray that the ascended Lord would speak powerfully through these servants so that His will is done in our lives.
2. Many people are very fatigued as the lockdown continues. Pray for every aspect of our services, including the prayers and the music to be a great encouragement to us all. Pray that the promise of the ascended Jesus to the weary in Matthew 11:28-30 would be answered.
3. Please especially remember our many families and the great work that is being done by Cara and Hannah with the children and Simon with Centrepont and Contact. Amid all the pressures that families are facing with home schooling and working from home, pray that Sundays would



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be different and would provide more focussed opportunities for encountering the ascended Lord Jesus together.

Finally, I leave you with a song and a prayer.

The song is ['Faithful One'](#), by Brian Doerksen

The prayer is the Collect for the Sunday after Ascension, which includes a petition that God would send the Spirit to strengthen us:

*O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, 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 articles / items referred to in the letter, use the links below:

<a href="#">Click here</a>	To listen to Jamie's Ascension day talk
<a href="#">Click here</a>	To order Gentle & Lowly from Peter Cheesman (email)
<a href="#">Click here</a>	To download the Thy Kingdom Come resources
<a href="#">Click here</a>	To join 9:15 virtual coffee
<a href="#">Click here</a>	To join 11am virtual coffee
<a href="#">Click here</a>	To join Grace / 4OCC virtual coffee
<a href="#">Click here</a>	To listen to "Faithful One"

## Church Family updates:

*At present, these letters are being sent to everyone on our church database, but we do ask you all to check your privacy and communication settings to ensure you are registered to receive such communications in the future.*

The MyChurchSuite App is available for both [Android](#) and [iPhone/iPad](#) and is easy to download and use.

Contact the office if you need help with any of this [[office@stnicholas-sevenoaks.org](mailto:office@stnicholas-sevenoaks.org)]