

Letter #23 Church Family 04/06/2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

"I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better." [Ephesians 1:17]

This Sunday is Trinity Sunday. We particularly remember the wonderful fact that God is Trinity. He has always operated in love - the mutual love between Father, Son and Spirit, which is now poured out upon us as we are united to Him. The verse above is our St Nicholas verse for the year and it highlights the way in which Father, Son and Spirit combine. Paul asks the Father to send us the Spirit so that we can know the Lord Jesus better – the whole Trinity at work to enable us to know Christ!

1. Exploring God's word

- Earlier this week at one of the prayer gatherings Gavin took us to a helpful quotation from C H Spurgeon: [click here](#).
- Jeremy Marshall has written a set of daily devotions for GAFCON. These consider the theme of suffering within the Bible – they are excellent. To access them, [click here](#).
- Once again, simply because it is so good, I want to commend 'Gentle and lowly'. [Click here](#) for my book review and [click here](#) to order the book from our bookshop.

2. Explaining God's word

- The webinar on John's Gospel will be running again tonight at 8:15pm-9pm. Even if you or your friends did not attend previous sessions you are most welcome to join this Thursday. Simply go to the church [home page](#) for more information or [click here](#), if requested the password is 181766.
- Matt Taylor has launched the new initiative 'Uncover the word'. It's designed to prompt our friends to consider engaging with us about some of the questions that they might have. [Click here](#) for the form for friends to sign up, please also share the post on the Facebook page ([Click Here](#)).

3. Joining us on Sunday

To join us on Sunday please head to the [St Nicholas website](#) where the different services are clearly labelled. To access the various 'Zoom coffee' gatherings please note the following:

- for the 09:15 congregation [[click here](#)] (meeting ID 872 7471 1210, no password)
- 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 886 6180 2881, password church)

Please note that the 10am Livestream Service for the 9:15am and 11am congregations is an all age service. Cara writes: "There are a couple of things you might like to gather to help you and any children with you to engage with the teaching.

Your Bible (!).

A cup (any sort that you wouldn't mind writing on! Could be disposable or something to keep more permanently!), a sharpie/marker pen. You can always remove the markings later with nail polish remover.

A copy of this sheet ([click here](#)) and something to draw/write with.

We promise, that unlike the soft toys of the last all-age, these will be used!"

4. Praying for this Sunday

- Please pray for God's word to be taught faithfully this Sunday. Matt is speaking on Philippians 2:1-11 at the all age service. Tom is preaching on 1 Corinthians 3 at GC/4 and I am looking at Ephesians 6:1-9 in the evening. Pray that as Ephesians 1:17 says, the Father would pour out the Spirit so that we would know Christ better!
- Pray for us all to grow in patience and resilience during these days. Perhaps some, or even many of us, are 'running on empty', so pray that the Lord would be at work to restore and strengthen [see 1 Peter 5:10,11].
- Pray for great wisdom for the Government and Bishops as issues relating to the reopening of churches are discussed in these coming days. Pray that we would have great wisdom to know how to proceed in the days and months ahead.

5. Contact and Centrepoint Houseparties

Both Houseparties will take place 'virtually', but hopefully with elements of meeting up locally too. Please sign-up via the links below: [Centrepoint Houseparty Form](#) (10th-12th July, for Years 7-9); [Contact Houseparty Form](#) (16th-23rd August, for Years 10-13). If you have any questions feel free to contact Simon directly simon.heather@stnicholas-sevenoaks.org.

6. Sevenoaks Welcomes Refugees

Details can be found [here](#) concerning a concert 27 June to raise money for Syrian refugees in the Sevenoaks area.

Finally, a song and a prayer....

[Click here](#) for the song 'There is a higher throne' by Keith and Kristyn Getty.

The prayer is the Collect for Trinity:

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; 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.

Warmly in Christ,

Angus MacLeay

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

Click Here	For Gavin at the Prayer Meeting
Click Here	Jeremy Marshall daily devotions
Click Here	Angus' Book Review of 'Gentle and Lowly'
Click Here	If you wish to order the book
Click Here	Thursday Webinar – To Church Website
Click Here	Thursday Webinar – Direct link to seminar
Click Here	Uncovering the Gospel – Signup sheet
Click Here	Uncovering the Gospel Facebook post
Click Here	Directions to all our Services on a Sunday
Click Here	for the 09:15 congregation coffee (meeting ID 872 7471 1210, no password)
Click Here	for the 11:00 congregation coffee (meeting ID 989 8217 9349, no password)
Click Here	for Grace Church and 4 O'clock congregations coffee (meeting ID 886 6180 2881, password church)
Click Here	J sheet for the All Age Service
Click Here	Centrepoint Houseparty Form
Click Here	Contact Houseparty Form
Click Here	To contact Simon Heather
Click Here	Details of concert to support Syrian Refugees
Click Here	There is a Higher Throne

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]