



Letter #39 Church Family email 24/09/2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Please note changes to service times and livestreams for this Sunday 27 September 2020

*“Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;
for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.” [Psalm 95:6,7]*

At the Annual Meeting we will be reflecting on these words which remind us that the Lord who is our Maker is also our Shepherd. He is the One who has made us, but He is also the One who leads and cares for us. During Covid it is easy for us to doubt God’s goodness as we face all sorts of struggles and difficulties, but this Psalm reminds us that we will always be His people as we are the flock which belongs to Him, always under His care.

Joining us on Sunday:

Online:

Please note some changes to timings:

- [St Nicholas Sunday morning livestream](#) – at 9am
- [Grace Church/4OC morning livestream](#) – at 10am
- [St Nicholas Sunday evening Zoom service](#) – at 6:30pm

To access all our Sunday services, [go to the church website](#).

In person at:

St Nicholas Church building at 9am and 11am:

Last Sunday the building was full and so we need to move to two services at St Nicholas. To provide sufficient time for thorough cleaning between the services we need to hold them at **9am** and **11am**. Currently they will be identical services with the 9am service livestreamed on YouTube. Like previous Sundays we are welcoming families with children and young people back into the building. We will of course continue to do all we can to comply with the updated Covid-19 guidance [[see here](#)]. In due course we will also consider at what point it would be safe to relaunch both the evening service and the early morning communion service, but especially given the new Covid restrictions I am sure you will understand that we need to proceed with due caution.

Lady Boswell School at 10am:

This Sunday, Grace Church will be back meeting at Lady Boswells at **10am**. Space is slightly limited, so we are running a booking system. [Please go to the website for more details](#). This service will also be livestreamed on YouTube at 10am.



Praying for this Sunday

- Amid all that is happening within the country and within the church we need to keep our focus on the Lord Jesus Christ. Please pray that the new timings for Sunday services and livestream would work well and that they would be used to lift up the name of the Lord Jesus and strengthen faith in Him.
- Please pray for me as I preach on Luke 4:1-13 on Sunday morning; for Tony Waghorn preaching on Mark 5:1-20 at Lady Boswells; and for Gavin preaching on 1 Peter 5:5-7 in the evening zoom service. Let us pray, like Paul, for ‘the eyes of our hearts’ to be opened by the Spirit (Ephesians 1:17,18).
- Please pray for a spiritual awakening in Sevenoaks and that the Lord would use us to be a clear light amid the darkness, offering hope as we point to the Lord Jesus.

News from the PCC

Last night the PCC approved a way forwards to implement John Truscott’s report. There were thoughtful and probing questions which highlighted that the members of the PCC were discharging their responsibilities very carefully indeed. I will provide more information at the forthcoming APCM on Tuesday evening but please download a detailed summary of [what has been decided here](#). If you wish to view either the original Truscott Report or the PCC Working party Report which was considered last night, please get in touch with the [Church Office here](#).

Praying together: 8:00-8:15pm Monday

The final prayer slot before the Annual Meeting will be on Monday at 8pm. Many have gathered on these occasions over the last month. Please join us if you can as we pray for the APCM.

The Zoom Link is: <https://bit.ly/TIGprayer>. Via Zoom account or by telephone (on 0203 481 5237) – Meeting ID 876 9748 8958 / password 410376.

Annual Meeting: 8pm Tuesday 29 September 2020

The APCM will be held via a Zoom webinar at 8pm Tuesday 29 September. To access the APCM [please click here](#), details are Meeting ID 898 8720 2071 / passcode 309214 Telephone number 0203 901 7895. Nominations for church wardens must be done before the meeting but those for Deanery Synod and PCC can be handled within the meeting. It is not straightforward conducting the APCM in this way but given the Covid restrictions it appears to be the best option. If you are aware of those who cannot access Zoom either by computer or telephone, please get in touch with the [Church Office here](#). After the main business part of the meeting there will be an opportunity to hear about how the PCC is planning to implement the Truscott Report. I trust that we will be united in our desire to honour Christ through working together across and within our congregations so that many others might delight in following Christ!



Life – Autumn 2020

We are looking forward to the virtual visit of Roger Carswell in the coming week.

- **8pm Thursday 1 October** he will be interviewing retired High Court Judge, Sir Jeremy Cooke. Please pray for Sir Jeremy who is recovering from an operation but who is keen to be interviewed!
- Roger will be preaching at all our services **Sunday 4th October** at 9am, 10am, 11am and 6:30pm. The morning service talks will be pre-recorded, but the evening sermon will be live.
- **8pm Monday 12th October** we aim to start a short course *‘Knowing Life’* based on John’s Gospel which can be accessed either on the evening or at a convenient point later in the week with our friends.

[Further details are available here to forward to a friend.](#) Please prayerfully consider joining us and inviting a friend.

Finally, a song and a prayer....

The song is “[Facing a task unfinished \(we go to all the world\)](#)” and reminds us of our new Vision ‘to know Jesus and make Him known’

The prayer is the prayer for a church business meeting from Common Worship:

Almighty God, you have given your Holy Spirit to the Church to lead us into all truth: bless with the Spirit’s grace and presence the members of our Annual Meeting; keep us steadfast in faith and united in love, that we may manifest your glory and prepare the way of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

Warmly in Christ,

Angus MacLeay

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

<u>Click Here</u>	For the 9am Live Stream
<u>Click Here</u>	For the Grace Church/4OCC Live Stream
<u>Click Here</u>	For the 6:30pm Zoom service
<u>Click Here</u>	For details of all our services
<u>Click Here</u>	For Covid-19 guidance in the church
<u>Click Here</u>	For information about the Grace Church service at Lady Boswells
<u>Click Here</u>	For a detailed summary of the PCC decisions
<u>Click Here</u>	To contact the Church office about the original Truscott report
<u>Click Here</u>	For Zoom link to weekly TIG Prayer Meetings
<u>Click Here</u>	To access the Zoom APCM
<u>Click Here</u>	To contact the Church office about connecting to the Zoom APCM
<u>Click Here</u>	For ‘Knowing Life’ information video
<u>Click Here</u>	To listen to ‘Facing the task unfinished (we go to all the world)’