



Letter #40 Church Family email 01/10/2020

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

*"I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.*

*<sup>5</sup> Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.*

*<sup>6</sup> This poor man called, and the Lord heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles.*

*<sup>7</sup> The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them. <sup>8</sup> Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him." [Psalm 34:4-8]*

I have always loved the hymn 'Through all the changing scenes of life' which I have included at the end of this letter. It is based on Psalm 34 which comes at a point in David's life when he was in extreme need. It acknowledges that there are times when even as believers we are full of fears and facing all sorts of troubles. Yet, the Psalm also points us forward to the Lord who in His goodness is able to hear and answer our prayer and protect us through encamping around us. Amid our fears and anxieties in this season I trust that each of us would taste afresh of the Lord's goodness.

'Through all the changing scenes' is also the title of a new book by David Ellis, former UK Director OMF and member of St Nicholas. His book includes autobiography and careful reflection from his experience of the ups and downs of the Christian life. You can order it from the bookshop [here](#).

### Life – Autumn 2020

We are looking forward to the virtual visit of Roger Carswell in the coming days. Please come along but also consider who you could invite. Further details are on the website.

- **Tonight at 8pm he will be interviewing retired High Court Judge, Sir Jeremy Cooke.** This will be on a Zoom webinar and will also be live on our YouTube channel. [Click here](#) for the Zoom link or use these details: Meeting ID 825 4779 5464 / passcode 427494
- **Roger will be preaching at all our services Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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. The YouTube link will be available from next Thursday.

### Joining us on Sunday online:

- 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 website [here](#).

Reach

Nurture

Equip

Send

To know Jesus and make Him known locally and globally



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

Last Sunday we had even more people in attendance, so it was just as well that we had two services in the building at **9am** and **11am**. Currently they will be identical services with the 9am service livestreamed on YouTube. As in recent weeks, families with children and young people are particularly welcome. We will of course continue to do all we can to comply with the updated Covid-19 guidance [\[see here\]](#). As mentioned last week we will also consider at what point it would be safe to relaunch both the evening service and the early morning communion service, but given the concerns about Covid I am sure you will understand that we need to proceed with due caution.

We are in the middle of some works to replace our boilers so there is currently no heating in the building – please bring your coat!

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

St Nicholas @ Lady Boswell's is now meeting in the Lady Boswell's School building at **10am**. Numbers last week were excellent and so because space is slightly limited, we need to run a booking system. Go to the website [for more details about registering](#). This service will also be livestreamed on YouTube at 10am.

**Praying for this Sunday**

- Please pray for Roger Carswell as he preaches virtually at all our Sunday services. Pray that we would have the courage to invite friends and that they would hear the life-giving good news of the gospel.
- Please pray for all those who are assisting at both St Nicholas and Lady Boswells with livestreaming and with supporting the in-person services. There must be considerable pressure on the people who assist in this way. Pray that the Lord would continue to grant them skill and wisdom in all that they do.
- Please pray for the new members of the PCC (see below) and for us as a whole church family to delight in our Vision, to know Jesus and make Him known.

**News from the APCM**

On Tuesday evening over 150 of us gathered via Zoom webinar. Justin Greig and Christine Brindley were elected as church wardens. Peter Scott, Tony Jennings, Emma Osei-Mensah, Chris Barton and Andrew Coates were elected to Deanery Synod and Sarah MacKenzie, Mark Walkington, Carol Carpenter, Peter Harlow, Isabel Hodgson and Robert von Kaufmann were elected to PCC. [This video](#) was shown to give an update about proposals to implement the Truscott Report, and the PCC Report can be accessed [here](#). Implementing the new Congregational structure with its new leadership teams will take some time but I will update you once I am in a position to do so.

**Praying together: 8:00pm Tuesday 6 October 2020**

Our monthly prayer gathering will take place this Tuesday evening. It is for all our St Nicholas congregations. It is a wonderful opportunity both to express our unity in Christ but also to pray for our Vision 'to know Jesus and make Him known' to be realised. Please join me!

This will be via Zoom. [Click here](#) for the link or use these details: Meeting ID 862 7779 3728 / passcode 595317



**London City Mission: harvest project**

Each year we support the homeless shelter at Webber Street run by London City Mission. Normally we encourage people to bring gifts of food to the front of church but for obvious reasons that is simply not practicable this year. We have been in touch with LCM and they would find it easiest to receive financial donations so that they can keep this work among the homeless running. They have sent us a [video](#) about this wonderful ministry. More will be mentioned at our Harvest Services Sunday 11 October but to donate now [click here](#) to go to our dedicated donations page

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

The song is '[Through all the changing scenes of life](#)' mentioned above. Perhaps there are some who will echo the thoughts about being 'in distress' who need the encouragement to call afresh on the Lord.

The prayer is the Collect for the 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity from Common Worship:

*Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your heavenly city where we shall see you face to face; 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 links in today's letter, please use the details below:*

<a href="#">Click here</a>	To contact the bookshop
<a href="#">Click here</a>	Thursday's Webinar with Roger Carswell & Sir Jeremy Cooke
<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>	To view the video shown at the APCM
<a href="#">Click here</a>	To access the PCC report on the Truscott Implementation proposals
<a href="#">Click here</a>	On Tuesday to join the prayer meeting
<a href="#">Click here</a>	To donate to the LCM harvest appeal for Webber Street
<a href="#">Click here</a>	To listen to "Through all the changing scenes of life"