



Letter #46 Church Family email 12/11/2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

“And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ²fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.” [Hebrews 12:1,2]

Advent starts on Sunday 29 November 2020 and I would like to encourage you to get hold of Tim Chester’s short book of Advent Meditations ‘*Fixated*’ [cost £2.50 from the Bookshop – [order your copy here](#)]. He encourages us to ‘fix our eyes on Jesus’ each day of Advent through helpful comments on the early chapters of Hebrews. Certainly, my heart was warmed as I read his comments. The first words in our Vision statement are ‘to know Jesus’ and this devotional helps us to rekindle that vision.

Joining us on Sunday online:

With the new lockdown measures now in force our buildings are closed on Sundays and have the following online services:

- St Nicholas Sunday morning livestream – at **10am**
- 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](#).

After the morning online gatherings there will be the opportunity to catch up with friends through Zoom Coffee. See the [website here](#) for all details.

Praying for this Sunday

- This Sunday Gavin will be preaching on John 5:31-47 for the St Nicholas morning livestream and I will be preaching on Mark 7:24-30 for the livestream from Lady Boswells and the evening service on Zoom. We are so grateful for those working on the technical side enabling services to be streamed but let us also pray for the Sovereign work of God’s Spirit which enables God’s word to be received in such a way that we *fix our eyes on Jesus*.
- Let us pray for our witness to those in our parish and neighbourhoods. Perhaps as we walk in our locality over this coming weekend, we could specifically pray that the Lord would open a door to speak of the Lord Jesus.
- Please continue to pray for the practical ways in which we can express the compassion of Christ. Please pray for the Trinity School foodbank, giving thanks for the ministry of Anna Graham and Helen Read in particular [[and see this recent video about how to assist](#)].



Knowing Life

The final session will premiere on Monday evening. Here are the links to all five sessions, they will stay up on our YouTube channel so please keep sharing and watching them with your friends and family.

[Session 1](#)

[Session 2](#)

[Session 3](#)

[Session 4](#)

[Session 5](#)

If you have used them with your friends and family Matt would love to hear how it went. Could you take 5 mins [to fill in this form](#)?

Lockdown Prayer Gatherings

Let's keep encouraging each other to pray during lockdown. Our short 15 minute gatherings are designed to be catalysts to encourage us all to be praying each day. The Archbishops are also warmly encouraging us to fast each Thursday [[see this presentation about fasting here](#)]. To access our prayer times, [go to the website here](#):

- Monday evenings at 8pm
- Thursday mornings at 8am

Tearfund Quiz – Saturday 14 November 6:30-8pm

I warmly encourage everyone – families, friends, home groups or just by yourself – to join the quiz! To help the organisers it is important to sign up as a team or individually before Saturday - [please email Martin](#) If you cannot join but would still like to donate, you can do so: [via our JustGiving page](#). For other helpful information on the quiz, please [read the FAQ](#). The meeting details are: [Meeting ID: 890 6073 4460, Passcode: quiz](#)

Finally, a song and a prayer

The song continues the link with Remembrance, “[O Lord we look upon the past \(Remembrance Hymn\)](#)” by Phil Moore and Tim Chester (who wrote our Advent devotional)

The prayer is the Collect for Peace [Book of Common Prayer]:

O GOD, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Warmly in Christ,

Angus MacLeay



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

Click here	To order 'Fixated' from the bookshop
Click here	For online services details
Click here	For details of the Zoom Coffees
Click here	To watch the Trinity School Food Bank video
Click here	For Knowing Life Session 1
Click here	For Knowing Life Session 2
Click here	For Knowing Life Session 3
Click here	For Knowing Life Session 4
Click here	For Knowing Life Session 5
Click here	For the Knowing Life form
Click here	For a presentation about Fasting
Click here	Details of the Lockdown Prayer Gatherings
Click here	To contact Martin Laing about the Tearfund Quiz
Click here	To donate to TearFund using the JustGiving page
Click here	For the TearFund Quiz FAQ
Click here	For the TearFund Quiz Zoom link
Click here	To listen to 'O Lord we look upon the past (Remembrance Hymn)'