



Letter #7 Church Family 03/04/2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

*“But let all who take refuge in you be glad;  
let them ever sing for joy.  
Spread your protection over them,  
that those who love your name may rejoice in you.  
<sup>12</sup> Surely, Lord, you bless the righteous;  
you surround them with your favour as with a shield.” Psalm 5:11,12*

As someone who is in the ‘shielded’ category it’s good to remember that ultimate shielding and eternal protection comes through the Lord. Perhaps you can use these verses to pray for yourself and others during these uncertain days.

There are a whole range of items that I would like to share today to keep you informed about what is happening.

1. Palm Sunday services 5 April at 10am will be available on livestream for [main congregations](#) and [GC/4OC](#).
2. Prayer is absolutely vital!
  - Keep praying at 7:30pm each evening
  - [Click here](#) to find the April Prayer Diary – please note that this year we have included the reports to the APCM in the prayer diary as fuel for prayer – it’s just a shame that there is now no APCM! Hopefully using the prayer diary will give you a really helpful tour of all the ministries across the St Nicholas congregations.
  - Prayer briefing for this Sunday
    - i. Please pray for Matt and Tom preaching on Mark 15 this Sunday morning. Pray for us to have clear views of the Lord Jesus during these days when so much is uncertain and unclear.
    - ii. Please pray for the opportunities which each of us have, to commend the Lord Jesus, perhaps simply by inviting friends or family to watch one of our services or through sending a Bible verse to someone on Whatsapp.
    - iii. Please pray for our pastoral support of one another in these days, especially remembering those not on the internet, those on their own and many struggling with sickness.
3. Holy Week: over the next few days we will be producing resources for Holy Week. Each day we will provide a Gospel reading, devotional prayer and then a short talk on one of the Servant Songs in Isaiah which point so clearly to the Lord Jesus Christ
  - [Click here](#) each day after 7:30am for that day’s talk
  - Further talks will be made available through our next church family newsletter
4. Resources from the staff team:
  - Gavin has produced our next video message. It is based on Luke 5:12-14 where Jesus says, ‘I am willing, be clean!’ and it can be accessed by [clicking here](#). Please also see the St Nicholas Youtube Channel for Gavin’s previous excellent video message on fear and Psalm 77.



## St Nicholas Church

SEVENOAKS

- Andrea has written an article 'Massive help for messy hearts!' thinking through how loving one another is not only about giving but also about receiving from others. I think it will be really helpful in strengthening us as a church family and you can access it by [clicking here](#).
- Matt has produced an Easter invitation [here](#) which can be used to invite our family, friends, neighbours and work colleagues to invite them to join us next Sunday on Easter Day. Who could you invite?

In addition to the staff team resources, the Campaigners have produced a short (7 min) [video](#) showing a chocolate-based activity in preparation for Easter. In it they have tried to use only items commonly available at home.

As usual I'd like to close with a song and a prayer.

The song is takes us through the streets of Jerusalem to the cross – '[Jerusalem](#)' by CityAlight

The prayer is the Collect for Palm Sunday:

*Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; 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.*

Warmly in Christ,  
Angus MacLeay

To access the links referred to in the letter click on the coloured text or use the "Click here" option below:

- [Click here](#) To download April's Prayer diary
- [Click here](#) For the St Nicholas YouTube channel
- [Click here](#) From Monday to access resources for Holy Week
- [Click here](#) For Gavin's latest video message
- [Click here](#) For Andrea's article
- [Click here](#) For the Easter Invitation to share with friends and family
- [Click here](#) To watch the Campaigners' video
- [Click here](#) To listen to Jerusalem by CityAlight

### Church Family updates:

These letters will be sent via ChurchSuite and uploaded onto the website.

Please check your ChurchSuite Communication preferences to ensure you are registered to receive email updates.

The MyChurchSuite App is available for both [Android](#) and [iPhone/iPad](#) and is easy to download and use. We recommend that you use it to stay up to date with church communications especially at this time of uncertainty.

Contact the office if you need help with any of this