

# Glastonbury Together in prayer

A news sheet for members of Glastonbury churches during the crisis caused by Covid 19



## Praying together from our homes

With public worship suspended as part of the control measures against the spread of the virus that is affecting our world it is important that Christians join together in prayer. A number of resources for praying and worshipping at home have been made available, now that many of us can remain connected whilst physically separated this can help us to pray with one another as we would have been doing in our Church buildings in different times. This newsletter aims to be a signpost to resources and a way to help us stay connected. Links and details are given on page 2. Please share the newsletter so that it is available to those of your Church family that you are in contact with. If you have any information to share please send it to the Secretary of Churches Together in Glastonbury so that it can be passed on. The Newsletter will be sent out by e-mail and the originating e-mail address will be that of the Secretary.

## National Prayer

On Sunday the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, will lead the Sunday Service on BBC radio 4 at 8:00 (8am). This will be a national virtual service in response to the Corona virus.

At 7 p.m. (19:00) we are all invited to light a candle in our window "as a visible symbol of the light of life, Jesus Christ". This call has come from the leaders of all denominations in the country as Presidents of Churches together in England.



## Celebrating Motherhood

Sunday 22nd March is celebrated as Mothers day or more properly as Mothering Sunday. As with many celebrations starting from a Christian base it has become commercialised in recent years but it has strong Christian roots. On this day in earlier times people would return to their mother church, the church where they were baptised. Young people in service were also given the day off to visit their mother church which often meant an opportunity to meet with their own mothers. Held on the fourth Sunday in lent it is a break from the austerity of lent and is also known as Laetare Sunday which means rejoice. In many traditions it also is a day when rose coloured vestments are used.

We all have a debt to pay to our own mothers who brought us into the world and nurtured us. We should also remember Mary the mother of Jesus Christ who had an important part in bringing our Saviour to us. Please pray for all mothers this Sunday.

# Resources for worship at home

A number of resources to help the faithful to worship at home have been released. A number are listed here. If you become aware of other resources please contact the Secretary so that they can be promulgated in later issues of this newsletter.

## Anglican resources

Nationally the Anglican church have an online daily service which can be accessed at

[https://  
www.churchofengland.org/](https://www.churchofengland.org/)

In Glastonbury it is intended that prayers and sermons are made available on the St Johns website.

[http://www.stjohns-  
glastonbury.uk/](http://www.stjohns-glastonbury.uk/)



## Catholic resources

The obligation for Catholics to attend Mass on a Sunday has been suspended due to the virus. An A4 guide to when Mass cannot be celebrated publicly has been issued and can be found on the diocesan website. I have provided a short link address as the page address is long. If you do not trust such links please navigate the diocesan web site.

<https://tinyurl.com/v7revlr>

## Methodist Resources

The Methodist Church have provided worship from home service sheets on their web site. There will also be live streamed services from Wesley's chapel in London.

I have provided a short link address as the page address is long. If you do not trust such links please navigate the Methodist.org.uk web site.

<https://tinyurl.com/wblr5wu>

## URC resources

The United Reformed Church is providing daily devotions. From Sunday 22 March at 10am, an additional post will go out, a radio-style / podcast service with hymns, readings, prayers and a sermon. These resources can be found at:

<https://devotions.urc.org.uk/>

## The Lectionary

Most of the weekly readings for our churches are shared although there are some minor differences. The lectionary is available online at <https://www.lectionary.com/> which lists the reading for the Catholic Church, the Revised Common Lectionary and the Episcopal Lectionary. Links to readings on the bible gateway are given. Scroll down to find the current Sunday.

## Hymns online

Many of us love the tradition of singing the Christian Message. If you want to find a Hymn you can find a comprehensive list at

<https://hymnary.org/>

Many of the hymns have music available as well as the words.

## Helping others

Times of crisis are times when we help others when we can. Various groups are being set up across the country to help supply essential items to those who are isolated at home at this time. When details of these groups in Glastonbury are known they will be detailed in future issues. The foodbank intends to continue to operate through this period and will still need donations of food and money. With no services at the churches please use the boxes elsewhere to donate food. Morrisons, Nationwide and Earthfare have boxes

