

Notices

There will be no public acts of worship in church next week. Please take time to keep updated on the parish website at

<https://www.stclementfinsbury.org/daily-updates.html>

Lent Appeal

Among the traditional good works of Lent is giving to charity. There are many great causes, but this year St Clement's will be supporting **The Dunloe Centre at St Saviour's Priory** and the **Diocesan Lent Appeal 2020: Wheels for Climate Change**. More information on the former can be found at:

<https://www.stclementfinsbury.org/the-dunloe-centre.html>

And on the latter at:

<https://www.london.anglican.org/mission/lentappeal/>



St Clement's Church, King Square

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mothing

Sunday

22nd March 2020



This is a message for everyone in the St Clement's Church Family

Following the advice of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York that all public worship should cease for the time being, to protect people from being infected with the Covid-19 Virus, there will be no further congregational services or other church meetings at St Clement's. This decision has been taken with great reluctance but conscious of the ultimate public good, for the protection of the most vulnerable in our families and communities. We plan to maintain the parish's ministry in the following ways:

- 1. Providing daily updates including prayers, readings, reflections and positive news stories both from the neighbourhood and more widely on the parish website at**
<https://www.stclementfinsbury.org/daily-updates.html>
- 2. Continuing the round of prayer in church, and to find ways of celebrating Mass – at least on Sundays – with clergy and servers ONLY (and observing all health and social distancing protocols) in order to show that we are still holding up in prayer at the altar the needs of the world and of our church family. We are also exploring the possibility of live-streaming worship for Holy Week and Easter.**
- 3. Keeping in touch with any member of the congregation wishing to be contacted by phone or email in order to provide regular contact, and any direct support which may be safely given. Father David can be contacted**
at frdavid@stclementfinsbury.org or
at davideallen@blueyonder.co.uk or
by phone on 07790 341 794.
Please let me know if I can be of any help at this uniquely difficult and distressing time.

Further advice from the Church of England can be found at the following link:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches#na>

Please keep me in your prayers. You will all be in mine.
Father David

Collect

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence to bind together
and to heal;
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.**

First Reading (1 Samuel 1.20-28)

A reading from the First Book of Samuel.
Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the LORD.' The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the LORD, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.' Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only - may the LORD establish his word.' So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. For this child I prayed; and the LORD has granted me the petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he is given to the LORD.' She left him there for the LORD.

Psalm (Psalm 34)



Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Response: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **R**

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. **R**

The angel of the Lord is encamped
around those who revere him, to rescue them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
He is happy who seeks refuge in him. **R**

Second Reading (Colossians 3.12-17)

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.
As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Gospel Reading (John 19.25b-27)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.
Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Post Communion Prayer

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

For your prayers

Doris Griggs, Jason Buckham, Vic Linkson, Aaron Fletcher, Kerry Dack, Eleni Matheen, Jessica, Trudy, Rema Dawkins, Bob, Sidney Lawson, Mary Cabey, Thomas Cabey, the Coles Family, the Sealey family, Jenny Gorle, Florence Turner, Jacqueline Ives, Roy Ives, Tom Lacken, Mark Lucas, Bernie Brookes, Thomas Brookes

Anniversaries of Death: Albert Henry Johnson, Anna Maria Vaccaro, Frederick Bloom, Naomi Dupen, Selina Jardine, William Brookes, Mary Reynolds, Henry Oliver, John Coles, Sarah Dalton, Henry Clark

In our Parish: We pray for the Police and Emergency Services, all those we rely on at this worrying time.

In the wider world: Pray for those infected by the coronavirus around the world, for those who care for them, for health specialists and authorities who are combatting the spread of infection, and of course for all who at this time are feeling anxious, especially for those who are especially vulnerable to illness.