

Looking Forward

These are strange times as we listen daily to the latest news, advice and measures being taken here and elsewhere. Our thoughts and prayers are for all those who are ill with the virus and those who are caring for them.

On Monday it was announced that we won't be gathering together for public worship at St. Helena's at least until 10 April as we join in efforts to reduce the threat of this virus and keep our neighbours and friends safe.

Being unable to worship together in our church is difficult at any time. But this has come at a key time in the church's year; a time when we mark Lent, Mothering Sunday and Holy Week. Times when we don't want to stay away from one other and 'self-isolate'.

In these weeks ahead it's important that we care for each other and worship together through new and different ways: connecting with one another by phone, by email, by social media and by the church website.

So, some ways of looking and moving forward together as a Christian Community.

St. Helena's Church website

If you are online, please visit it at sainthelenaschurch.com

Look out for the Prayer for the Week, the occasional 'Today's Thought', the odd quiz

Evening community of prayer

Christopher and Anne usually say morning prayer together each day at around 7.30am at home. From today we shall also spend 10 minutes each day at 6.00pm praying together silently or in our own words for our community of St Helena's and all living in and around the district of Larnaca. Why not join us from your home from 6.00-6.10pm and be part of an evening community of prayer? There are some prayer resources which you might find helpful to use at the end of the Archbishop's Pastoral Letter on the church website and Facebook public page.

Facebook

For those who 'do' Facebook (and if you don't this may be the time to start –Christopher is!), we now have a new Facebook page for St. Helena's <https://www.facebook.com/sainthelenaslarnaka/>. There is also a private group for the congregation of St Helena's Church, to share thoughts, concerns and prayer requests; to ask for help when needed; and to encourage each other. Please contact Deb Graham or Sue Fairhead for details about the private group which is only visible to members and those invited.

Sunday Service at 9.30am

A short Service of the Word will be transmitted live from St. Helena's at 9.30am and a video uploaded onto the church website. Do watch, listen and join in!

'Lent Group online'

From this week, the leader's notes are online and there will be the opportunity for you to leave any thoughts they prompt during the week through the Facebook group.

Stay well and safe and don't hesitate to pick up the phone to speak to one of us or to a friend in the congregation.

Despite the Coronavirus, we continue to look forward in hope!

Anne, Christopher and Geoff