



Holy Trinity Huddersfield

Loving God, Loving Huddersfield

Weekly Update: 20 March 2020

What a week! We are in unprecedented times, and changes and restrictions that have happened since we met last Sunday have occurred at an equally unprecedented rate. The world is a very different place to that of seven days ago. Despite what is such an uncertain, and for many a scary time, I want to encourage each one of us to lift our eyes, to look to Christ who is our rock and our refuge in the shifting sands of these particular days.

Psalm 46 says: *God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear . . .*

In these challenging, and for some fearful times, may we at Holy Trinity continue to turn our eyes towards Jesus. Outlined below is important information about how we are responding to the current situation.

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

As we announced all of our midweek activities (including Life Groups), and our Sunday services are suspended until further notice. However, we are keen to try and offer a variety of ways to enable us to continue to connect, worship and pray together, albeit in very different forms.

Holy Trinity YouTube Channel: For those who have access to the internet we have created a [Holy Trinity YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPo2r-Y0teg6_HHSvycr--w/featured): (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPo2r-Y0teg6_HHSvycr--w/featured) or just search on YouTube for Holy Trinity Huddersfield. You may want to save the link to favourites! We will also add the link to the website.

From this Sunday morning (22 March) you will be able to access a simple, pre-recorded, video resource service produced by the team at HT. This will include a playlist with some prayers, songs and hymns and a short reflection. Further instructions on how to set up for this can be found at the bottom of this update.

Resources for our Kids Church and Youth members will be sent to parents by Natasha and Wayne via a separate email, so parents look out for those in your inbox.

Other livestreaming services: A number of Anglican churches are livestreaming their Sunday services, which you may want to consider watching. These include:

- [St George's Leeds](#) (10.30am)
- [All Souls Langham Place](#) (9.30am, 11.30am, 5.30pm)

A regularly updated list of other livestreamed services in the Diocese of Leeds can be found on the [Diocesan website](#).

Other Resources: There are numerous other online resources that you can access to help you in your discipleship and worship. Without the opportunity to meet together, maybe you would like to find some input via Christian radio. If so, check out:

- [Premier Christian Radio](#)
- [United Christian Broadcasters](#)
- The BBC Daily Service on Sundays on Radio 4

- As I write there is talk of a possible weekly morning service to be broadcast on BBC1 – so do look out for that.

Amidst the talk of online resources, we are of course aware of those in our church family who do not use email or the internet. We are looking at how best we can support them in their discipleship, and also plan to post regular information to them via Royal Mail.

A CALL TO PRAYER

Paul writes: *“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this God’s will is for you in Christ Jesus” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

The current disruption is actually a great opportunity for us to pray, not least when some of us (I know not all of us) may now have more time on our hands than usual. This is a time to grow in our spiritual habits, reading, and prayer. Here are some particular ways you could pray:

Pray at Holy Trinity: We are still currently permitted to use our building to meet to pray, whilst ensuring that there is adequate physical distance between those who come. Whilst I appreciate that some won’t feel able to take part by coming to church, it is good to know that other people are praying for you. There is something special, especially at times like this, about coming into the familiarity of our church building to pray. So the church building will be open to anyone for prayer (including taking part in Morning Prayer), at the following times this week (just come and go when you like, within these times).

- *Tuesday 24 March between 10.00am-12.00pm (Morning Prayer at 10.30am)*
- *Thursday 26 March between 10.00am-12.00pm (Morning Prayer at 10.30am)*

Day of Prayer – Light a Candle: Churches of all denominations are invited to take part in a day of prayer this Sunday 22 March. We are all invited to light a candle and place it prominently in a window at 7.00pm as a visible symbol of the light of Christ – and pray for healing for our nation; for those in leadership (including our government); for those serving in health and social-care; and especially those who are most isolated and vulnerable.

Personal Prayer: There are loads of prayer resources around online to help us keep focused on spending time with God each day. These are just three helpful apps which can be found at the Apple Store (iOs) or on Google Play (Android):

- *Lectio 365* – from 24/7 Prayer
- *Daily Prayer* – from the Church of England
- *Trypraying* – especially good for people with no church connection or who are open to finding out about God.

CARE AND SUPPORT

We are doing all we can to ensure that we support one another in prayer, encouragement and practical help at this time. My hope is that Life Groups will especially look out for one another in this regard. Some people in our church have kindly offered assistance to support those in the congregation who are without help and may need practical support – perhaps with shopping, or maybe something else.

If you are unwell, self-isolating, or aware of anyone else who needs help within our congregation, please let us know so that we can specifically pray and help as far as we are able.

If you are able please do consider volunteering with one of the many Facebook and other groups set up in your local area offering support to those who may be self-isolating.

We have also heard that the Foodbank at the Welcome Centre in town are short of volunteers, as many who usually serve there are in the at-risk category and have had to cease volunteering. They are also in need of

additional donations of food. If you are able to assist with either of these, please contact the [Welcome Centre](#) or 01484 515086.

We are looking at various other ways that we can play our part, perhaps with other groups, in the community effort to help at this time, and we will update you as things develop. Some sources of financial information that you may find useful include:

- www.moneysavingexpert.com
- www.citizensadvice.org.uk
- <https://benefits-calculator.turn2us.org.uk/AboutYou>

OTHER HOLY TRINITY NEWS

Administration. As you know Tania Webb has stepped down as our Church Administrator – we were due to publicly thank Tania this Sunday which we will have to delay. I am grateful that Bec Mosley has kindly offered to step into the gap and will cover administration in a voluntary capacity until a new appointment is made. Bec's generous offer to us was made before the changes and school closures of this week, so please bear in mind that response times may be a little bit delayed over the next few weeks. We would appreciate your patience as we seek to organise things and work in new ways in such challenging times.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). This was due to be held next Sunday 29 March at 10.45am. This is obviously no longer possible, and the current Churchwardens and PCC will continue in office until a new APCM date can be arranged. We will still be delighted to receive nominations for the new PCC and Deanery Synod, ready for when the time for APCM comes.

Church Weekend Family Weekend – 22 -24 May 2020

We are in touch with The Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick to work out what is to happen about our weekend away. We will let you know when we have more details.

Well done for making it to the end of this lengthy update! Do keep in touch, and let's keep looking to the Lord.

With my love and prayers



Mike Wilkins, Vicar

ACCESSING AND PLAYING OUR HT YOUTUBE CHANNEL

- Go to the following [Holy Trinity YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPo2r-Y0teq6_HHSvycr--w/featured) (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPo2r-Y0teq6_HHSvycr--w/featured) or just search on YouTube for Holy Trinity Huddersfield. You may want to save the link to favourites! We will also add the link to the website.
- Click on the March 22 Playlist which will be available on Sunday morning
- Click on the 'Full Screen' option on the Right Hand side of the video for best viewing.
- Some of the songs/hymns have visible lyrics on the screen. For those that don't, and whilst in non-Full Screen viewing, click on the 'Show More' link underneath the creator's information. Then scroll down and lyrics should be visible.

Please ensure that:

- 'Restricted Mode' is switched OFF if you usually have it on.
- The AutoPlay switch on the upper right-hand corner of the screen is ON.
- That 'Shuffle' and 'Loop' options are not enabled.
- If an advert pops up – sorry! Wait 5 seconds and click the 'Skip Ads' button on the RH side of the screen.

Sit back with a coffee and enjoy.