



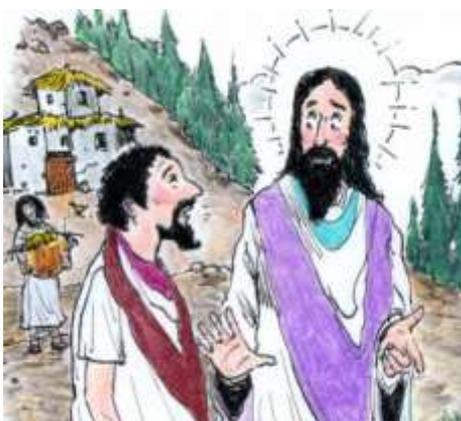
St John's Weekly News 24th January 2021

A message from Fr Christopher

I hope you're all managing to keep your spirits up, as hard as that can be at the moment. Our gospel for Sunday is the wedding at Cana, Jesus's first miracle, when He turned the water into wine. It seems a bit of a cruel joke to be thinking of a big party at a time when we can't see each other, let alone have a big knees up. And all our weddings are currently postponed. It does however remind us of two things: that as Christians we are always celebrating the wedding feast of the Lamb - the great feast that is the Mass, even if we can't actually receive the Body and Blood of Christ at the moment; and that times will return when we can party together once again. As hard as it is at the moment, we are together in prayer and love. And just think how joyful the first bring and share lunch will be when we're all back together. So, let's keep on persevering, giving thanks for our blessings, and looking forward to the time when the Church can really start to come to life again, praying that it isn't too many months away!

God bless you, and do call me if you ever feel like a natter or I can help with anything,

Fr Christopher
(020 8461 5632)



*I heard you turned water into wine.
What strain of yeast do you use?*



Lord God, we entrust to you the families and communities affected by Coronavirus, wherever they may be. We pray especially for health care workers, that you may guide and protect them. We pray that your Spirit might inspire those researching new medicines and treatments, and in the midst of this, keep us strong in faith, hope and love. Grant us the courage and perseverance to be good neighbours. May the words of your Son Jesus Christ in the Our Father, be our prayer as we entrust ourselves and all of us who are affected to your infinite power and love.

Amen.



St John's Food Bank



You may have heard that St Johns is running a food bank? Well... that's almost correct. We are a distribution centre, working in partnership with The Lewisham Food Project.

So how does it work? you ask. Well...

Every Wednesday morning after Mass, we set up ready to distribute bags of food which are delivered to us already sorted and packed.

We open the doors at 12 noon and there is usually a short queue of people with voucher codes waiting to collect some food. Bags are allocated and some extras are offered to each person. Most of our clients have been referred by an outside agency but we do have people who just turn up. If this is the case, we can issue a voucher code immediately but explain to the person that they need a referral for the following week.

We try to close at 2pm, by which time we are all physically and emotionally drained. Its hard work but the huge sense of 'serving' you get outweighs the tiredness.

Please pray this week for:

David F, Linda, Kay, Jean, Wayne and all those celebrating their birthday this week.

Please also pray for: Josephine Akrofi's family as they prepare for Josephine's funeral this week.

All those living on Brockman Rise.

TO HELP YOU PRAY:

Daily Hope Prayer Line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up by the Church of England, particularly with those in mind who are unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions and to provide comfort and spiritual nourishment those who feel isolated at the moment.



MORALS have changed
CHURCHES have changed
SOCIETY have changed
PEOPLE have changed
BUT GOD'S WORD
REMAINS THE SAME