

Sadly, the church leadership has had to take the decision to suspend both public worship and private prayer in church for the time being.

Please be in no doubt: whilst such a thing is anathema to me and all the team, it needs to be done in the interests of public safety. As I write this I am looking at the figures released yesterday (Friday)... 68,053 new cases and 1,325 deaths... and depending on which reports you read it is said that somewhere between 1 in 30 & 1 in 15 in London have the infection.

We have been asked to stay at home, and that is what we must do. It is not easy... I find it very difficult, and I am certain that for many it is dreadful. But we have hope... the hope of vaccines to give physical protection, and the hope of Christ—the Light of the World. Please... pray for those on our front lines: the medics, the teachers, in fact... all our key workers... that Christ—the Light of the world—may shine brightly into their and our dark moments.

Every blessing, Derek.

Collect

Heavenly Father,
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:
may we recognize him as our Lord
and know ourselves to be your beloved children;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1. 1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

New Testament Reading

Acts 19. 1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?' They replied, 'No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.' Then he said, 'Into what then were you baptized?' They answered, 'Into John's baptism.' Paul said, 'John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.'

On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied – altogether there were about twelve of them.

Gospel Reading

Mark 1. 4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.' In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

News

The Christian Centre is offering take away meals only. To book your meal please call the centre managers on 01306 886830. The Community Fridge are open in the Centre on Monday to Friday 10-11.30am on a "one in-one out" basis, with face coverings, sanitisation of hands and providing your contact details.

Dorking Foodbank: Donation points in supermarkets remain in place, and the centre one is positioned in the foyer. This week we particularly need: Small Packets of Biscuits, Laundry Capsules/Washing Machine Tablets, Small Bottles of Water, Tinned Vegetables (Carrots, Peas, Sweetcorn).

The January issue of the Parish Magazine is available on our website. If you know anyone who is unable to access the previous issues and would like a copy, please let us know and we can print them at the church office. If you have any thoughts, stories, photographs or articles that can be included in future mags please let us know.

News and Notices for the next issue of the Weekly News Sheet need to be submitted by the close of business on Wednesday. Please email smartinsdorkingchurchoffice@gmail.com or call 884229. Messages are picked up regularly.

Traidcraft. I am happy to take orders and deliver in Dorking. Elizabeth - 881479, emddh7@hotmail.com

Churches Together in Dorking Prayers. Members of CTD all pray for one church, community, congregation or initiative each week. This week we are praying for St Mary's Pixham, particularly our fund raising/grant application for necessary stonework repairs and upgrading of facilities to enhance our community outreach.

The Diocesan Calendar of Prayer is now available at <https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/about/christian-calendar/calendar-of-prayer>. In January we are praying for parishes in the deaneries of Aldershot and Cranleigh.

Please remember in your prayers: John Ivings, Rowan Nunnerley, Brian Smith, Allan Tighe, Angela Cole, Barry and Rosie Pegram, Judy Palmer, Paul Berning, Renate MacLennan, Steve Taggart.

Please pray for those who have recently died: Rosie Newland, Pamela Kerslake.

Those in our congregation who have long term concerns are prayed for regularly.



Being corporate at a distance. Whether you have a radio or the latest smartphone, find something for you:

Our Sunday Service will be available to view via this link on our "Spire of Dorking" YouTube Channel from 10am. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuzOsRDdiRJE8Y3Zjr3fj0g>

St Barnabas Services. If you would like to be included in the zoom services at St Barnabas, please contact Rev'd Mike Stewart direct on carolandmikestewart@outlook.com

Bishop Andrew's Sermon - "Who do you think you are?" Based on the lectionary readings for Epiphany 1, including the story of Jesus' baptism in Mark 1. 4-11 and what it means to be God's Beloved - [Website Link](#)

Your 9am Daily Prayer Click on this link: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer> Scroll down and click on the green Morning Prayer box.

BBC Radio 3 Choral Evensong. Wednesday 3.30pm or Sunday at 3pm.

Sunday Worship on BBC Radio 4 at 8.10am.

TV: Sunday Worship on BBC One at 11.45am and **Songs of Praise** on BBC One at 1.15pm.

Church of England Daily Hope. **Free** phone line with hymns, reflections and prayers: **0800 804 8044.**

Samaritans National Helpline: 116 123

God welcomes everybody and in His name SO DO WE!



st martin's DORKING

WITH ST. MARY'S PIXHAM

2021
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Sunday 10th January
The Baptism of Christ

Live Services at St Martin's

In the interest of public safety, we regret that we are unable to offer live church services until further notice

Online Services (pre-recorded)

You can find pre-recorded Sunday services online via our website Stmartinsdorking.org or on our YouTube channel "Spire of Dorking"

Sunday 10th January @ 10am
Sunday 17th January @ 10am
Sunday 24th January @ 10am
Sunday 31st January @ 10am

Private Prayer at St Martin's

Due to the current circumstances and in the interest of public safety, church will not be open for Private Prayer.

St Barnabas - Zoom Services

Sunday 10th January @ 11am
Holy Communion

Sunday 24th January @ 11am
Matins

St Mary's Pixham

No live church services until further notice

We may not be able to physically gather in church together at the moment, but we are all still here - please join us online for one of our services at www.stmartinsdorking.org, view our pre-recorded church services at **Spire of Dorking on YouTube, follow us on twitter @spireofdorking, or for help or information, please e-mail us: stmartinsdorkingchurchoffice@gmail.com**

Message from Derek

Dear Friends,
Although it is now over a week into 2021 I should like, nevertheless, to take the opportunity to wish everybody a Happy New Year... like vintage wine, may it improve with age!"