from Paul's letter to the Romans. As I said last week... they, just like us, were discovering just what 'new normal' was and what it meant for their lives... we must do likewise.

Every blessing, Derek.

Collect, Special Prayer for today

Faithful Creator, whose mercy never fails: deepen our faithfulness to you and to your living Word, Jesus Christ our Lord.

New Testament Reading Romans 6:1b-11

NT Pg: 166

What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading Matthew 10:24-39

NT Pg: 11

A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground unperceived by your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

News

Church Open for Private Prayer – Monday/
Thursday mornings. Thank you to the volunteer stewards who made opening possible this week; numbers coming in were modest but reopening was much appreciated. We really need a couple more volunteers to fill the rota (especially on Mondays). We have deliberately divided each morning into two slots with two people on for each of 9.30am to 10.30am and 10.30am to 11.30am. Please email the Church Office or leave a phone message on 884229 if you can help. Briefing guidance will be given and you of course will be at least 2m distanced from visitors at all time, and much more than that for most of it.

A message from Patricia Parker CEO of "Kids for Kids". She has put out an Urgent Appeal for Soap to prevent the spread of COVID -19 in rural villages in Darfur and Sudan. And would appreciate some help from the congregations of St Martin's and beyond. Families here have no access to healthcare to prevent the virus and if they catch it they are highly likely to succumb to it. These people can be helped if they were to have access to bars of soap so that they can wash properly and prevent the virus from taking hold. £20 is enough to provide soap for 10 families. Please go the appeal website HERE for more information.

Coronavirus and St Martin's Finances. This is a difficult subject to raise when there are far tougher challenges around, but you will appreciate St Martin's has overnight lost all its income from concert hirings, Sunday plate collections and wall safe donations. We are very fortunate that a high proportion of our regular congregation give by standing order etc and we are extremely grateful for their continuing support in these difficult times. Most of our costs are fixed though we of course will be saving on eg our energy bills (which drop in summer anyway) and like other parishes we have also received a very small element of Diocese help. It is too early to give an indication of the net financial "hit" to our budget and we recognise that of course many of you will also be seeing a personal drop in income; however if anyone does feel able to take out a standing order (ideally with Gift Aid) Nick (887870) would be delighted to send you the paperwork.

Christian Centre. Although the Centre Café is closed, the foyer is open for Community Fridge access 9am-2.30pm on weekdays. We also have capacity to offer extra pre-booked lunches each day. The menu changes daily and pre-booking is required to reduce food waste.

We already deliver to Canterbury Court, Hanover Court and Sondes Farm. Please contact the Centre Managers on 886830 if you would like this service.

Coronavirus - Pastoral Care. If anyone is housebound, for any reason, and especially at this time, the pastoral team can always be contacted and will be pleased to offer assistance in getting any essentials such as food or medicines. Please either call the Church Office on 01306 884229 or for direct support from the Pastoral Team email

stmartinsdorkingpastoral@gmail.com.

Traidcraft. Please contact Elizabeth Dobson direct on 881479 if you would like items delivered locally.

Church of England Daily Hope. <u>Free</u> phone line with hymns, reflections and prayers: 0800 804 8044.

Dorking Foodbank is operating at the usual times (<u>CLICK HERE</u> for these) from the Christian Centre. Donation points in supermarkets remain in place even though the one in the Centre is not available in the current lockdown. The most critical donations we need this week are: washing up liquid, shampoo, long-life sponge pudding twin packs, single adult toothbrushes.

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 stmartinsdorkingchurchoffice@gmail.com or call 884229. The Church Office is closed. However, Vicki and Michelle can still be contacted by email or phone.

Please remember in your prayers:

Pamela Kerslake, Paul Berning, Rosie Pegram, James Stanton.

And those who have recently died: Michael Kent, Cicely Mary MacGeorge.

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

Being corporate at a distance. In these unprecedented times we are fortunate that there is a wealth of resources in different media available to enable us to be corporate even when not co-located! Whether you have a basic radio or the latest smartphone, there is something for you:

Our Sunday Service on our "Spire of Dorking" YouTube Channel will be available from 10am. Click on this link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuzOsRDiIRJE8Y3Zjr3fj0g

St Barnabas Sunday Service There will be no service this Sunday. However, there will be a Service of Matins via Zoom on Sunday, 28th June at 11am. The Preacher will be the Revd Mike Stewart, who will also officiate. If you would like a Zoom invitation, please email carolandmikestewart@outlook.com.

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.

Radio Choral Evensong on BBC Radio 3 on Wednesday at 3.30pm, with a repeat on Sunday at 3pm. Sunday Worship on BBC Radio 4 at 8.10am.

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



Sunday 21st June Trinity 2

Message From Derek

Hello once more from the vicarage Study... and, once more, as I write it is a damp and grey morning. And... yes... this is another of those mornings when the overly cheerful Post-It® note sits accusingly on my monitor screen, reminding me that I still have 550 words to conjure up. Although, that being said, there has been something that has been floating around the old noggin for a few days now; and it picks up, in a way, on what I was saying last week. It also picks up on changes that have come into force in during the past week regarding our continued lockdown.

The particular change that I am referring to is that of 'support bubbles' (as a lover of language... its use and how it develops over time, I admit to being fascinated—and sometimes irritated—by the linguistic developments taking place during lockdown... and, yes, I am still exercised by the overuse of that word... lockdown!)

The 'Support Bubble' is something that I personally feel needed to come sooner than it did; I have seen first hand (if you accept conversations over FaceTime as being first hand) the pain that isolation has caused people. So I am deeply overjoyed that family members can now—within the limiting constraints given—visit and stay over with isolated family members. I don't want to say too much here about support bubbles per se as Bishop Andrew will be speaking on that very topic in his sermon... which you will be able to hear during our 10am online Eucharist this Sunday!

But its another kind of support bubble that I have found myself drawn into in recent weeks that has been floating around in my mind... and, in one respect, you could say that its just one more example of the caring attitude being so stunningly demonstrated by ordinary people at this time. The example that I am thinking of is... cyclists!

Last week I alluded to the fact that I am cycling a bit now. In fact, I am doing quite a lot of cycling these days. I'm still not very good at it, if truth be told; too many years flying a desk! So when I am doing, say, a ten mile bike ride I will at some point stop, dismount and pause to draw breath. I have been humbled by the number of other members of the cycling fraternity that, when they see me stood by my bike and panting, will slow down... stop... and just check that everything is OK with either me or my bike. Now, I am relatively new to the cycling fraternity; so it would be unfair of me to suggest that this is a new development—this may always have been the case amongst cyclists! But, to me, it is an example—a joyful example—of the winds of change that I spoke about last week in my column... the sort of change that we saw Paul describing in his writing... and the sort of change that we find spoken of in this week's readings from Matthew's Gospel and