

So, this Sunday's service will be a Eucharist, and those attending in person will be able to make the choice as to whether they wish to physically receive the sacrament (in one kind only) or to simply make a spiritual communion. For me the **greatest** driver in every thought leading to the decision to open this weekend was and is that of **safety**. Clearly, the most certain way of assuring one's safety at the Eucharist is, rather obviously, to make one's communion spiritually. However, that having been said, *we will do all that we can to ensure that those of you wish to receive physically are put at no risk.*

And so, whether you are present at worship either in the building or online, be assured that if the intent of your heart is to receive the grace offered by God in the sacrament of Holy Communion, he will grant it. It is the intentionality—*what is in your heart*—that counts. Either way, online or present in the building, I look forward to the pleasure of your company as we worship together on Sunday.

With every blessing, Derek.

Collect

Gracious Father,
by the obedience of Jesus
you brought salvation to our wayward world:
draw us into harmony with your will,
that we may find all things restored in him,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

New Testament Reading

Acts 16. 6-18

NT Pg: 145

They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them; so, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, 'These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.'

She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, 'I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.' And it came out that very hour.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 11.16-19, 25-30 NT Pg: 12

At that time Jesus said, 'To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another,

"We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn."

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, "He has a demon"; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, "Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!" Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.

I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your soul. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

News

The July issue of the St Martin's Parish Magazine is now available online. If you, or someone you know cannot access this please contact Peter Bunn on 889008 <https://stmartinsdorking.org/magazine>

For the attention of everyone except Debs and Peter Bunn (they must not read this!) Peter and Debs move to Devon in September and it is time we organised a collection to show our appreciation for the considerable contributions they have made to the life of St Martin's. Peter has suggested that any monies collected be donated to St Martin's Church, or other local charity in their name. Should you wish to make a contribution either deliver to the church office in an envelope marked Bunn collection, contact a church member (not Peter) and they can collect from you, or send directly into the St Martin's Dorking PCC No 2 account sort code 30-92-70 account number 00416228 and use Peter Bunn as a reference.

Churches Together in Dorking - 'Dependence Day', TODAY (5th July). The Church Leaders who gather regularly for prayer as the Dorking Ministers Fellowship invite all Christians in Dorking to join us for a time of united prayer for the needs of our town at 6.45pm this evening via Zoom. We have called it 'Dependence Day' because it comes after Independence Day, and we need to remind ourselves of our dependence on God for all we are and have. Contact Tony Milner if you want to be sent a link (tony.milner@abdiocese.org.uk) Links will be sent out this afternoon (Sunday 5th). We plan to make this time of united prayer a monthly event.

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

Sunday 5th July
Trinity 4

Message from Derek

Hello from the Vicarage on this beautiful, bright Wednesday morning. I'm sat here contemplating our 30th wedding anniversary (which Maggie and I celebrated yesterday) and, for once, I have some sort of an idea what I need to write about today.

By now you will probably be aware that, barring some last-minute bombshell in the guidance that should come from the Diocese tomorrow (Thursday) afternoon that prevents us doing so, the St Martin's church building will reopen for worship this coming Sunday.

Inevitably things will not be as they were previously; the necessary guidelines under which we are permitted to open for worship make that so. Numbers are limited... social spacing is to be observed... there can be no physical contact... there can be no singing... there's more, of course, but I won't go into that here.

However, the one specific that I would like to talk about is the nature of the service: it will be Eucharistic. However, communicants will have the option to continue to make their communion spiritually for the time being, with me receiving on their/your behalf... or to receive physically themselves/yourselves.

I know that there still exists a degree of feeling amongst some that making a spiritual communion is unsatisfactory in some way; so today I wish to dispel that myth. Holy Communion, received spiritually, is every bit as efficacious and appropriate as receiving the elements physically. The following is taken from the Church of England's own guidance on Spiritual Communion.

The term 'Spiritual Communion' has been used historically to describe the means of grace by which a person, prevented for some serious reason from sharing in a celebration of the Eucharist, nonetheless shares in the communion of Jesus Christ...

The Book of Common Prayer instructs us that if we offer ourselves in penitence and faith, giving thanks for the redemption won by Christ crucified, we may truly 'eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ', although we cannot receive the sacrament physically in ourselves.

The Church of which we are members is not defined by the walls of a building but by the Body of Christ of which we are members. In making our communion spiritually, we are joining with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us, 'I am the Bread of Life'.

By the very act of taking part in our worship either online or in the church building you fulfil all that is necessary to make your spiritual communion... and it is no less valid than receiving communion physically. Think of the woman who knew in her heart that it would be sufficient to merely touch the hem of Jesus' robe.

Church Open for Private Prayer – Monday/Thursday mornings. We have deliberately divided each morning into two slots with two people helping 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 are able to help. Briefing guidance will be given and you of course will be at least 2m distanced from visitors at all time, and more than that for most of it.

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 smartinsdorkingpastoral@gmail.com.

Dorking Foodbank is operating at the usual times ([CLICK HERE](#) 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: Tinned Veg, Pasta Sauce, Shower Gel, Packs of Muesli Bars.

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. The Church Office is closed. However, Vicki and Michelle can still be contacted by email or by leaving a telephone message which are picked up regularly.

Please remember in your prayers: Paul Berning, Pamela Kerslake, Rosie Pegram, Renate MacLennan.

And those who have recently died:

Ron Diserens (bellringer).

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 "Live" Sunday Service will be a Service of Matins via Zoom at 10.45am for 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. If you can't join live, a recording of the Service will be available to watch on YouTube.

Bishop Andrew's Sunday Sermon is available on the Diocese of Guildford's [website](#).

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.