What about our relationships with those we do not yet know? What about our relationships with those who we may be called upon to talk with and to tell about God... about Jesus... about the nature of the Holy Spirit and its impact upon our lives? Those people may not be walking through the doors of our (yes, currently closed) church buildings, but they are still by God's grace and God's invitation a part of our community! I wonder if, by any chance, just some of those folks are venturing tentatively... safely... at a distance... through our 'virtual church doors' on our YouTube channel, via the acts of worship that we are placing there week on week? And what will our relationship with them be should they decide to walk through our doors physically once our church buildings are reopened for regular acts of worship? Should we be feeling blue about the state of our relationship with those who do not yet know God? Food for thought on this Trinity Sunday. Every blessing, Derek.

Collect, Special Prayer for today

Holy God,

faithful and unchanging:

enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 40.12-17, 27-31 OT Pg: 694

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? Who has directed the spirit of the Lord, or as his counsellor has instructed him? Whom did he consult for his enlightenment, and who taught him the path of justice? Who taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding? Even the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as dust on the scales; see, he takes up the isles like fine dust. Lebanon would not provide fuel enough, nor are its animals enough for a burnt-offering. All the nations are as nothing before him; they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God'? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

New Testament Reading 2 Corinthians 13. 11-13 NT Pg: 199

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Gospel Reading Matthew 28. 16-20

NT Pg: 36

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

News

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:

stmartinspastoral@gmail.com

As you know the magazine is available on the St Martin's Church web site. If you know anyone who is unable to access the magazine and would like a copy, please let us know and we can print them a copy in the church office. You can however print a copy yourself by downloading the pdf file to your computer and selecting booklet from your printer menu. It prints half size and looks very good and only uses six A4 sheets of paper. Under normal circumstances next month would be a double issue combining July and August, however, the magazine team are happy to do a dedicated August issue, it may be fewer pages, but is another way of keeping in touch. So any thoughts, stories, photographs or articles you would like included, please let us know. It can be any format, computer file or handwritten. Christine Francis.

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: Bars of soap, Sponge pudding twin packs, 500g bags of rice, Noodles, Cereal multipacks.

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 Pe

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

And those who have recently died:

Michael Kent, Brian Carr, 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 Available from 10am on Sunday, please note the earlier time - to avoid a clash with St Barnabas. Click on this link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuzOsRDiIRJE8Y3Zjr3fj0g

"Live" Matins for Trinity Sunday via Zoom from St Barnabas at 10.50am for 11am. Please email carolandmikestewart@outlook.com if you would like to be invited. We also hope to record the Service on Zoom and post it to our public youtube channel after the Service has finished. Link to YouTube
The Preacher will be the Revd Caroline Lazenby. The following week there will be a Zoom Service of BCP Holy Communion for St Barnabas Day on Sunday 14th June.

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.

<u>Radio</u> 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.

<u>Live Stream Event</u> St Paul's Dorking are streaming Sunday services live via their website.

st martin's DORKING



Sunday 7th June Trinity Sunday

Derek's message

As I write this morning... the weather is grey, and has a sombre and bleak feel to it... and I wish that it didn't, as it will probably just feed the overwhelming sense of melancholy that I am experiencing this morning. It's a sense of melancholy being driven by a situation within a friendship that is of deep importance to me... and it's a situation that I am powerless to do anything about. And, at this precise moment, I confess to staring blankly at the little square of paper that is Blu-Tak-ed to my screen... with the message, "Derek – 550 words – 1st task Thursday!" written upon it.

Now... I have taken something of a chance by mentioning this as, on at least one notable occasion before now, when I have drawn upon a personal example such as this in a sermon I have been told quite soundly afterwards, "We don't want to hear about your problems." I have exposed myself to the risk of someone chiding me for using these 550 words to tell you that I'm feeling blue. Why?

Well, this Sunday is Trinity Sunday... when The Church recognises and celebrates the trinitarian nature of God... that God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Pope Gregory IX instituted Trinity Sunday in 828AD and the day is notable in one other respect: it is the only major Christian festival that celebrates a doctrine of the church rather than an event in its sacred history. It is dedicated to the Christian belief in the Trinity and falls on the Sunday following Pentecost each year.

So, again, why would I choose to open with my sad admission? Because Trinity Sunday demonstrates that God is about Community. God IS community. God IS a triune community: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God is about relationship. God IS relationship. God IS a triune relationship: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God is the embodiment of community, the embodiment of relationship. And the Church? Well, we are told that The Church is the 'body of Christ' – that means **we** are called to be community; it means that **we** are called to be about relationships.

The Church is sometimes quite good at relationships internally... and sometimes (sadly, often) not. But what about its relationships externally?