Welcome to St Dunstan's and Southville Churches

Feltham Ecumenical Parish: Anglican and Methodist Churches in partnership Sunday 8 November 2020

Remembrance Sunday

"The inquisitive mind of a child"

Why are they selling poppies, Mummy? Selling poppies in town today. The poppies, child, are flowers of love. For the men who marched away.

But why have they chosen a poppy, Mummy?
Why not a beautiful rose?
Because my child, men fought and died
In the fields where the poppies grow.

But why are the poppies so red, Mummy?
Why are the poppies so red?
Red is the colour of blood, my child.
The blood that our soldiers shed.

The heart of the poppy is black, Mummy.
Why does it have to be black?
Black, my child, is the symbol of grief.
For the men who never came back.

But why, Mummy are you crying so?
Your tears are giving you pain.
My tears are my fears for you my child.
For the world is forgetting again.

Author Unknown

Remembrance Sunday will be different this year. The Government advice is that we should be discouraged from attending local events as spectators, to prevent the spread of Covid 19. This year, as each year, we can still remember those service men and women who died in the violence of war serving their county, and those civilian men, women and children who also suffered and died as the result of war. Some of us may remember sitting alone in silence at 11am on Sunday or on the 11th November. Others may take up the Royal British Legion's invitation to remember by standing at the open doors of our homes for the 2 minutes silence. In my mind this could be a public honouring of those who made the ultimate sacrifice and a sign of being open to peace making. Possibly alongside some of our next door neighbours. Then there will be national radio and TV broadcasts for Remembrance. In Feltham those wishing to lay a wreath or other tribute at Feltham War Memorial are invited to come socially distanced at any time after midday day, as there will be no parade and service at 3pm. During St Dunstan's service on zoom we will be observing the 2 minutes silence in our 10.30am service and inviting members of the congregation to stand at their doors if they wish. Some other churches will also be observing remembrance online.

However we remember this year, the act of remembering is more important than how we are able to do it.

Ever living God,
We remember those whom you have gathered from the storm of war
Into the peace of your presence:
may that same peace clamour fears,
bring justice to all peoples
and establish harmony among the nations
though Jesus Christ our lord.
Amen.

Anne Dollery

Church Notices: Southville Methodist

In line with the government's decision, there will be no services in church until Sunday 13th December. Meanwhile the Staines **Zoom Service** continues each Sunday at 10.30am. Contact Matt Sendorek (matt.sendorek@btinternet.com) for an email invitation, or Roz Sendorek on 01784 459984 or 07712 816163.

Circuit Bible Study by zoom on Thursdays starting at 9.30am studying Matthew. Please contact Jonathan Griffiths for details to join – you can join by phone. Email contact: jonathan.griffiths@sfmc.org.uk

Church Notices: St. Dunstan

There will be no services in church until Sunday 6th December.

The **Sunday Zoom service** takes place every Sunday at 10.30am. Enjoy praying together, chatting before and afterwards, and (a treat nowadays) singing hymns together with choir and organ accompaniment - and not a mask in sight! All are welcome; phone or email the parish office for details of how to connect from computer, smartphone or tablet.

Bible Study by zoom: 8pm Monday 9th November studying Philippians. Please contact Anne Dollery for details of how to take part (remotely).

St Dunstan's Church open for private prayer Thursday 12th November 10.30am- 12.30am.

Suggesting **Zoom afternoon tea/coffee and chat in November** – if you would be interested in joining by zoom – which can include by phone- for a social chat for 30- 45 mins please let Anne Dollery know on 0208 890 8347. Wednesday afternoons?

Bible Study by shared notes: Au revoir to Abraham – we will now jump over to the New Testament and study Colossians. Anyone wanting to join us and receive an email or paper copy by post please contact Anne Mills-Roberts on: 01784 613357

The **Ashford Christmas Trail** is planned for Sunday 6th December and Nicola Whate will be selling craft items made by Susan Collins to raise funds for St. Dunstan's. If anyone would like to contribute other home-made goods – cakes? jam or chutney? – please let Nicola know and she will collect them.

Planning permission has been granted for the **work to provide improved disabled access** from the church yard into the church and we have received two tenders for costs. We are now able to go ahead with more fund raising, including applying for grants.

Calling **online Christmas shoppers**: don't forget to use the Easy Fundraising website when you're buying your Christmas gifts online this year. It is really easy to use and St Dunstan's stands to gain financially at absolutely no extra cost to you. Simply go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk and navigate from there to John Lewis, Argos, Amazon, EBay, Next, M&S, booking.com and the list goes on, with over 2,700 companies included.

Invitation to a month of prayer

As a second lockdown in England comes into force, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York are inviting Christians across the nation to participate in a month of prayer.

Prayers at 6pm

Christians are encouraged to pray daily for a specific area of national concern, wherever they are, culminating in a collective moment of prayer at 6pm each evening

We are calling Christians in the diocese of London to pray on your doorstep for your neighbourhood, and also for the National prayer points:

- Sunday Family, friends and loved ones
- o Monday Schools and colleges, children and young people
- Tuesday Elderly, isolated and vulnerable
- Wednesday Businesses, the workplace and economic wellbeing
- Thursday The NHS and other key workers
- Friday National and local governments
- Saturday All who are grieving and all suffering with physical and mental ill-health

Cathedrals and churches across the country invited to ring a bell at this time
Prayers and other resources will be shared on social media with the hashtag #PrayerForTheNation
Resources can also be found here: churchofengland.org/PrayerForTheNation

Thursday lunchtime prayers

The Diocese of London wish us to come together every Thursday with a time of prayer at 1pm, led by our senior leaders.

When: 1pm – 1.20pm on Thursdays throughout November

Where: Join with others in our Diocese on <u>Facebook</u> live, or on zoom (the link will be posted on the site 30 mins before).

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10

Dates for your diary

Today is Remembrance Sunday but there can be no parade or service at the War Memorial here in Feltham. All are invited to remember at home those who died serving in the armed forces and in other ways due to war. Individual tributes may be laid, socially distanced, at any time during the afternoon. We are asked please not to gather at the War Memorial.

Thursday 12th November 7.00pm (on Zoom): **Hounslow Friends of Faith** will hold a celebration of its 20th Anniversary, during Interfaith Week. This will be marked by the launch of a history of HFOF and a calendar for 2021. The Interfaith Knitting Group has prepared a special knitted banner which will show the symbols of all major faiths. The directory of Places of Worship on HFOF's website is being updated

during this anniversary year. All are welcome; email info@hounslowfriendsoffaith.org if you wish to attend.

Also on 12th November for Interfaith Week: this year's **Younghusband Lecture**, organised by the World Congress of Faiths, will take place (online) from 4 to 5.30pm (i.e. not clashing with the previous item). The theme is the dialogue between science and religion, and there are three distinguished speakers:

- Prof. NIdhal Guessoum (Muslim), Algerian astrophysicist and professor at the American University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates
- Swami Medhananda (Hindu), Assistant Professor and Head of Department of Philosophy, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, West Bengal, India
- Dr David Gosling (Christian), Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge

Book a place on www.tinyurl.com/wcf-yhl. There is no charge but a donation to expenses would be welcome.

Monday 23rd November 7.45 for 8pm **St Dunstan's PCC** meet on zoom.

Tuesday 24th November, repeated on Monday 7th December, 7pm to 8.30pm: **Bishop of Kensington's teaching evening**. Subject this year is 'What is true freedom?', examining the differences between secular and Christian ideas of freedom. The Bishop is known as a lively and accessible speaker who encourages interaction. Book at https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/what-is-true-freedom-why-freedom-may-not-be-what-you-think-it-is-tickets-126125931055 and the Zoom link will be emailed to you.

Online series of short retreats, run by St Augustine's Theological College, West Malling, Canterbury. The first will started 18th October, the last next June. Brief details are available in printed form from Rachel Stuchbury if you want them. The retreats are free but you are required to register. They seem to provide a recorded address (or possibly several) with materials for you to use for reflection.

People

We continue to remember **Brenda Cook and her family** in our prayers – with apologies for omitting her daughter Julie from last week's notice. The funeral of John Cook was live-streamed (on Friday 6th) and is now available to view; please text Jackie on 07789673746 speedily for a private link.

News from Karen Ager: We arrived here, Cartagena, our final destination until the spring, only a couple of weeks ago. We have been settling in and getting Hoopla winter ready. It does seem strange saying winter! Its chilly in the evenings but still rather pleasant during the day. We are wearing shorts and t-shirts but the locals are in jean's and coats!! Its 23°! Hahha!

When we first arrived, the wifi was very poor (even though we were told it would be good). Over the next few days, Rob dug out a wifi amplifier thingie (I'm so technical!) and it has been brilliant since then! We need it for Jack's schooling and Robs work, not to mention Jack's Switch (game console). And we can watch Strictly! Yay! We will love to join the zoom service next Sunday.

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