

Church News

September 2020



CHURCH
- OPEN -
ALL
WELCOME

Christ Church

Rothley Road
Mountsorrel
LE12 7JU

St Peter's Church

Market Place
Mountsorrel
LE12 7BA

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

These last few months have proved very difficult for almost everyone of us. The coronavirus pandemic has, in one way or another, affected each and everyone of us. Some have been furloughed from work; others have been asked to work from home; parents have become teachers; teachers have struggled to teach students from afar. Some people have been ill with the virus; others have lost loved ones through the virus. Even in our own community, the deaths of loved ones (not necessarily from Covid) have not had the usual acknowledgement of a traditional funeral. Our beloved Churches have been closed for months and many weddings have been postponed or cancelled. And the list goes on...

Things are now beginning to get back to some semblance of normal (whatever that may be) and in this newsletter you will see news that Church services will be resuming from 6th September – albeit in a different format. The new normal will be different. I would love to hear from you if you have a story to tell of how you have seen God at work in your life or in the life of your community over the last few months. Maybe it's just a small answer to prayer that you've seen; maybe it is much more significant. Whatever it is, please feel free to share it with all of us through this newsletter.

I'd also love to hear from you with your answers to these four questions:

1. What has been lost in this time of lockdown that you'd quite like to see lost forever?
2. What has been lost in this time of lockdown that you're desperate to see recovered?
3. What has been gained in this time of lockdown that we should hold on to for the future?
4. What have we gained in this time of lockdown that can now be let go of?

When the disciples witnessed the crucifixion of Jesus, they thought everything was over. It would take them a little while to realise that out of their pain great things will come. There's a lovely verse in the Bible which says, "we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him" (Ro 8.28). The stories that we share and the answers to the four questions above can help shape our community and the life of our Church as we move to the future. Together we can move forward into the 'new normal' in such a way as will benefit us all.

With every blessing,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bobi Resch." with a horizontal line underneath.

Re-opening Christ Church & St Peter's Church

We are delighted to be resuming public worship at both St Peter's Church and Christ Church and hope that many of you will want to join us. Initially, this will be a limited return to gathered worship but we hope that in time we will be able to expand the offering. Only time will tell.

Sunday Sept 6th	9.30am	Christ Church	Morning Worship
	9.30am	St Peter's	Morning Prayer (BCP)
Sunday Sept 13th	9.30am	Christ Church	Morning Worship
	6.00pm	St Peter's	Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday Sept 20th	9.30am	Christ Church	Morning Worship
	9.30am	St Peter's	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday Sept 27th	9.30am	Christ Church	Holy Communion for Harvest
	6.00pm	St Peter's	Evening Prayer for Harvest (BCP)

The numbers attending Church will be limited because of social distancing measures so it would be helpful if you could email Revd Colin Resch on revcolinresch@icloud.com to let him know which services you would like to attend. In the case of too many people wanting to attend a particular service we may have to introduce a ticketing system to avoid people being turned away at the door.

For your safety and the safety of others, face coverings must be worn by all who are not exempt from doing so. Please be prepared to queue outside the Church until you are shown to a seat (which may not be your usual one). Strict social distancing between households/support bubbles will be in place. And as much as we would want to greet one another with a handshake, warm hug or a kiss, that won't be possible either. Please follow any one way system that is in place in Church and make use of the hand sanitiser at the entrance and exit of the Church. Currently we are not permitted to sing in Church so our services will not include hymns at this time. We are also required to keep the church doors open throughout the services so you might want to dress appropriately. We are not allowed to serve refreshments after the service and that is probably just as well as access to the toilet will not be possible either.

Finally, we would ask you to choose which church you will attend and not switch between different congregations as this will help to reduce the risk of virus transmission. You may think that these measures will spoil your worshipping experience, but we are so looking forward to gathering in a building that has been a place of prayer and spiritual support in the village for so many people over many years. We would thank you for your cooperation. Please see the website www.mountsorrelchurch.org for more details.



Online Worship

While we are delighted to be resuming some of our worship in our Church building, we are aware that there are a good many people who, for one reason or another, do not yet feel comfortable about returning to gathered worship. For this reason we will be continuing with our online worship via Zoom. Please feel free to join us for any or all of the following events:

Service/Event	Time	Meeting ID	Passcode
Church at Home Sunday Worship	Sunday 11am	732-3618-5391	002546
Church at Home Morning Prayer	Mon-Sat 9am	786-8201-8817	032244
Church at Home Bible Study Group	Weds 10.30am & 7.30pm	851-9857-8803	297673

Zoom Instructions

If you would like to access any of the services/events set up on Zoom, you can do this using any computer, laptop or phone with a webcam by visiting:

www.zoom.us If you have not used Zoom before, you will be asked to download some software or an app (it doesn't take long to set up). Please allow your computer/phone to do this. You will then be able to access the Church services by entering the Meeting ID Number along with the Meeting Passcode.



Christ Church and St. Peter's
Mountsorrel

A message from our Children and Families' workers

Right from the beginning of Lockdown Alison and Linda were determined to keep in touch with our families in any way possible. From the delivering of plants for the mums on Mothering Sunday, through to a Zoom Fun@4 session to be held early in September. All the time doing our best to be seen, heard and available to all our families for help and support. Phone calls, weekly Facebook videos and Facebook

Live sessions along with weekly activity sheets and monthly Fun@4 and All Together@4 online sessions have all been done. All the time learning new skills, we just never imagined we would need! Extra videos were made over Easter and fun was had joining in the Kids United sessions at New-Wine Breaks out. Alison has kept in touch with a lot of the Sunbeam mums and Linda the Fun@4 families. Either just generally chatting on the phone or through letters sent out in the post. We have supported when families have felt low, laughed at the silly things we have found ourselves doing, taken prayer requests and helped out practically where this has been needed and possible.

Prayers have been said throughout lockdown for all of our families, the clergy and congregation. As we face the reopening of schools and the concerns and worries of both parents and children, we pray that God's peace will be on you all and that His strength will help you through the coming weeks. No-one knows (just yet) how long we will need to continue online, but despite being shut away in our homes for such a long time, God has not left us once, and with prayer, guidance and a little bit of creative thinking we will all bounce back.

Linda and Alison

lindacfw.christchurchstpeters@gmail.com

alisoncfw.christchurchstpeters@gmail.com



Our new all inclusive, all age Service held at St. Peter's Church on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 4pm.

Everyone Welcome

Sunday 20th September 2020 at 4pm on Facebook



What have you been doing during.....?

We asked if you had got anything you could share with our readers as to what you have been doing during the last six months, on the next few pages, you will see some of the things our Church family have been doing, enjoy.

If you have anything that you would like to share with others, please send details for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Mountsorrel Village Quilt

Individuals and community groups have been asked to contribute offerings towards a village quilt under the heading Mountsorrel Community Craft Project. The aim of the project is to create a community patchwork that reflects this time and place in history. The different squares represent the buildings and groups around Mountsorrel as well as individual reflections to represent and celebrate the resilience of the people of our village. Below are two photographs of 'squares' for the quilt. The photograph on the left is the one created by Linda and on the right, the one created by Liz.



Culag Guest House & Ben Lomond by: Veronica

Culag Guest House, with it's garden going down to the edge of Loch Lomond, is a place in Scotland that Graham and I found sixteen years ago. Knowing that he would no longer be able to fly out to Canada anymore, he said "We should make Scotland our little Canada". Sadly he never made it back, but in 2014, I pledged to return every two years. On my last visit, it was noted that folk have done sketches of where they stay, but no-one has ever done it in cross stitch.

So this is my attempt, charted from one of my own photographs. It has taken 4 ½ months to complete and I am looking forward to them receiving it when I visit (hopefully in September).



Cross-stich being my favourite pastime, it seemed the ideal project to work on during lockdown bringing me a great deal of pleasure!

One of my favourite short walks alongside the Loch, is down to the quaint village of Luss, situated approximately 2 miles away, with it's delightful historic Church. Luss Parish Church is dedicated to Saint Kessog, an Irish Missionary who arrived there 1,500 years ago, bringing Christianity to the area.

Mel Rowley writes under the pen name of Rebekah Tobias. Since giving up paid employment in January, she has concentrated on developing her poetry writing. She is having a poem published in the new Space Cat publisher's book 'Uncharted Constellations' which is being launched on September 13th 2020. Mel has also won first place in a Wordsworth poetry competition and that will be published in The Writer's Magazine. Mel has only been able to concentrate on her writing thanks to the love, support and coffee provided by her husband Paul. Below is her contribution to this section.

Our Present Situation

(Parody of Brown Bear by Eric Carle)

Coronavirus, Coronavirus, what do you see?
I see the whole world looking at me.

Whole world, whole world what do you see?
I see people running scared of me.

People, people what do you see?
We see scientists researching me.

Scientist, scientist what do you see?
I see a bug killing humanity.

Little Bug, little bug what do you see?
I see medics looking for me.

Medics, medics what do you see?
We are busy looking for PPE.

PPE, PPE what do YOU see?
Nothing as we're trapped in a factory.

Factory, factory what do you see?
I see deliveries stuck on the quay.

Quayside, quayside, what do you see?
I see blue waves rippling free.

Blue waves, blue waves what do you see
We see grey clouds floating over the lea.

Grey clouds, grey clouds what do you see?
We see an isolated church family

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

A P C M



Celebrating the life of our Church

Both Christ Church and St Peter's Church will soon be holding their postponed annual meetings.

- The Christ Church annual meeting will take place on
Wednesday 14 October at 7pm in Christ Church.
- The St Peter's Church annual meeting will take place on
Thursday 15 October at 7pm in St Peter's Church.

These meetings were originally scheduled for earlier in the year but had to be postponed because of the lockdown. We hope that you will be able to come along and join us.

At each of these meetings, parishioners will appoint two Churchwardens, elect two members of the Church to sit on the Deanery Synod and two members to serve on the respective Parochial Church Council (PCC).

We will also receive the annual reports and answer any questions you may have about the life of our Church here in Mountsorrel.

In preparation for these meetings, we will be revising the Church Electoral Roll (list of church members/parishioners) and, if you are not already on the roll, forms for membership will be available in the respective Church.

Nomination forms for Churchwarden and PCC membership will also be available in the Church and completed forms can be left in the Church or given to Revd Colin Resch before the start of the meeting.





Christ Church and St. Peter's
Mountsorrel

Children's Page

David and Goliath

Wow! What a long time it has been since I last did a Children's page. A lot has happened, but we are still here, worshiping God and praying for a swift answer to the problem that surrounds, not just us but the whole world. Sometimes it is easy to forget that God is with us when we face a problem, or we are scared. But if we stand strong like David and face our problems; God will help us.

Do you remember the story of David and Goliath? Goliath was tall, bad tempered and a soldier. David was small, calm and a shepherd. But despite the difference in size, there was one thing that David had, and that Goliath didn't. David had God with him. And whilst Goliath was waving his sword about and shouting, David picked up a small stone, put it in his sling and took aim. The stone hit Goliath on the forehead and knocked him to the ground. David then killed Goliath quite easily.

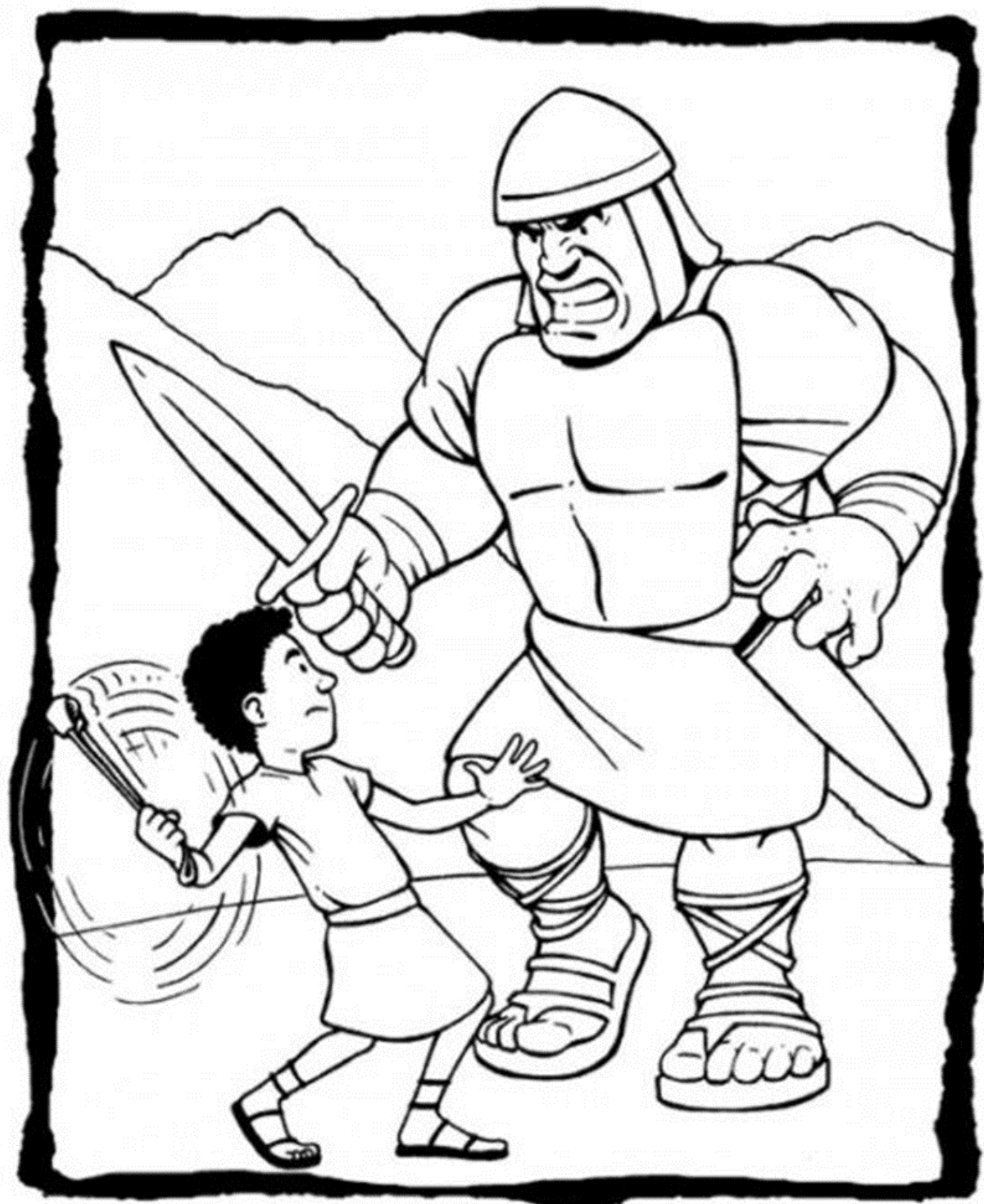
It is ok to feel scared, it is ok to be sad and worried, but if you saw All Together@4 last month you will know that if we share our worries with God, let Him take the weight of everything that is bothering us, things will be easier.

There's a song called He Didn't Lift Us Up To Let Us Down. See if you can find it on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9JOzqNPuJqc> here is the chorus:

*He didn't bring us this far to leave us.
He didn't teach us to swim to let us drown.
He didn't build His home in us to move away.
He didn't lift us up to let us down.*

He didn't bring us this far to leave us! Enjoy your time at school, stay safe and if you are feeling worried or scared, talk to a grown up.

*“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help
in trouble”. Psalm 46:1*



David & Goliath

[Secret] Church Part 1

How can you be church when you have no building?

How do you worship when you have to be silent?

How can you learn from God's Word when you have no Bible?

How do you pray together when meetings are forbidden?

Lockdown has meant we are experiencing not being able to meet together in a church building. For millions of Christians that is what they experience all the time. They have no church building in which to gather. They cannot worship together or even sing to God above a whisper.

They are the secret church. They meet late at night or early dawn in caves, forests, cellars, under bridges – any where they can be out of sight of the secret police who try to stop their activities and imprison them to make them renounce their faith. Yet they even meet in the prison camp's smelly toilets!

Wherever they meet – they find Jesus there. Even when separated they are not alone. Like them, apart from each other, we can still be Church.

Being a secret Christian means you need to be good at hiding all evidence of your faith. Look around your home. How many signs of your faith can you see? Maybe books, pictures, Bibles, jewellery, fridge magnets or even crosses of all kinds and sizes decorate your home? If anything like these, are found in any secret Christian's home by the secret police, who can force their entry at any time, or by any suspicious unbeliever, they can lead to severe punishment.

Mousa, a teenager from Cameroon, was questioning the extremist Islamic faith he had been brought up in. He was secretly given a Bible. He read it in secret and hid it when he went to bed. But his mother found the Bible. Mousa was woken up by his mother violently beating him and threatening him with dreadful punishment if she ever caught him with a Bible again.

Mousa fled from home, fearing what his family would do to him. He met with the pastor who had originally given him the Bible. They discussed the Bible's teaching. Mousa became a Christian, knowing his choice would separate him from his family and friends.

Question? Would you still choose to follow Jesus Knowing it could mean losing your family, your home, friends, possibly your livelihood?

Islèm, a secret Christian, says, "Jesus is like oxygen. Without oxygen – you cannot breathe. If Jesus were not in my life, I would not be alive."

Question? What does it mean for Jesus to be our oxygen?

Are there times we try to 'breathe' without Jesus?

Do we depend on Him as if He were vital to our existence?

Bible Study

In the absence of any midweek Bible Study groups, we will be beginning an online Bible Study Course using material from Tom Wright. The course will run over six sessions beginning on Wednesday 2 September. It is entitled 'Surprised by Hope' and will run on Wednesday mornings at 10.30am and repeated on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm.

There is a trailer video which you can view on our website at mountsorrelchurch.org/biblestudy if you want to find out more.



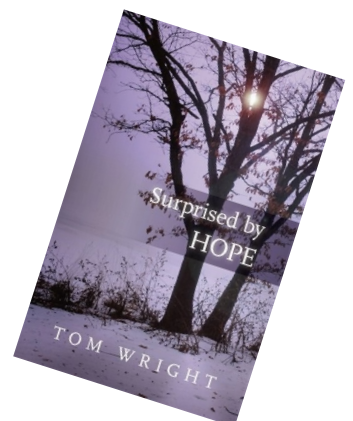
CHURCH
at home

Missing Home Groups?

A new Bible Study starting 2nd September
'Surprised By Hope' – presented by Tom Wright

Every Wednesday on zoom.us
10.30am repeated at **7.30pm**
Meeting ID: 851-9857-8803
Passcode: 297673

The course uses material from Tom's book of the same title which you can purchase if you want to, but it is not essential to read this as the course is complete in itself. If you did want to purchase the book, it is available from most Christian book retailers and the usual online retailers.
ISBN: 9780281064779



[Secret] Church Part 2

Whisper Worship

When secret Christians meet in a home it is often late at night. They draw the curtains, Dim the lights, and lock all the doors. They stay away from windows, often sitting on the floor. They do not want to be seen or interrupted. Christians are spied upon by the authorities or even by their unbelieving neighbours. They may feel lonely and isolated – but Jesus is there with them.

Matthew: 18 v20 “Where two or three come together in my name, I am with them”

Philippians: 4 v6 “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.”

Pray that isolated Christians may know the presence of Jesus with them, no matter what difficulties and persecution they face. May they give their fears, anxieties and concerns to Jesus and be able to focus on His loving care.

North Korea is one of the most dangerous countries in which to be a Christian. The prisons are notorious. People can be imprisoned indefinitely without trial, beaten violently and brutally tortured by prison guards who show no mercy to their victims.

Hae Woo spent a few years in a North Korean prison because of her belief. Despite the brutality of the guards, being kept in darkness, mental and physical torture, pain and severe hunger, she chose to worship God. The only place the guards would not go to harass the prisoners was into the dirty and smelly toilet block! Hae Woo, and sometimes a few other Christian women, would worship in the smelly toilet block. They worshipped in whispers or silently mouthing hymns together to avoid the guards hearing them.

Hae woo says, “Worship and praise are the antidote to discouragement.” (Remember Paul and Silas sang hymns in prison)

Hae Woo was at New Wine in the summer of 2018. Her account of her experiences in prison in North Korea was challenging and difficult to listen to but also inspiring. Worship helped them to see beyond the fear, pain and injustice and to focus on Jesus. Worship refreshed them and brought them closer to God.

Question? *Do our times of worship mean as much to us? Are we spiritually refreshed? Do we enjoy familiar words and tunes without fully taking their meaning to heart or drawing closer to God? How deep is our worship?*

To be continued...

Prepared by Helen Hodson, using material supplied by Open Doors

Shaped by God Together



This autumn, the Diocese of Leicester is embarking on a process called *Shaped by God Together*. Over the coming few weeks, invitations will go out to participate in this process which is primarily about sharing learning of the ways in which God has been re-shaping the church.

We've all been learning more about our Everyday Prayer, Everyday Witness and Everyday Action both before and during the pandemic and lockdown, and we have experienced significant changes in how we worship, serve and live together as church communities. The entire diocese will explore this in more depth over the coming months and everyone is invited to share stories, pictures, biblical reflections and social media posts, such that they can be used to generate insights to help future planning.

The stories and insights gathered will feed into a process of discernment about what God is doing in our parishes and across the whole diocese so that we can consider our strategic priorities as a diocese and in particular how we will use the resources God has given us to grow the numbers of disciples, the depth of discipleship and our loving service of the world. Alongside this, we will consider together how we care for our buildings, share financial resources and reshape our models of ministry.

This is a process that may or may not lead to significant change in the way we view the church at parish, diocesan and national level. We will have many stories to tell of God at work in Mountsorrel and it is good that we have been asked to be a part of the ongoing discussion.

We anticipate that much of this wider work of discernment will happen in the Spring of 2021, leading to final decisions at Diocesan Synod in May. As this is a significant and strategic undertaking, Bishop Martyn will also be issuing a diocesan wide call to prayer this Autumn as we consider and discern together the future shape of the diocese.

There is more information about this on the diocesan website and the page will be updated regularly so do check out: leicester.anglican.org/sbgt

Just 4 Ladies

come and enjoy a

Virtual Games Evening

Date: Tuesday 8th September

Time: 7:30pm

Venue: Zoom

Meeting ID: 838 0955 5440

Passcode: 224511



Fun@4



Food, Glorious Food!

Sunday 6th September @ 4pm on Zoom

(Please contact Linda, Alison or message our facebook page for logon details)

lindacfw.christchurchstpeters@gmail.com

alisoncfw.christchurchstpeters@gmail.com



Christ Church with St Peters **Sunbeams**

Something for our Sunbeams families every Monday

Join us on Facebook, every Monday at 10am for
Stories * Activities * Songs * Prayers

All welcome



Supported by:  **Charnwood**



CRAFT
Group

Monday 21st September
1:30pm via Zoom

Meeting ID: 865 7558 1890 & Passcode: 333853

Our services and activities
on-line brought to you using:



Church at Home on zoom.us

Sunday Worship

**Every Sunday
throughout September**



Meeting ID: 732-3618-5391
Password: 002546



Church at Home on zoom.us

Morning Prayer

Monday – Saturday, 9am

Meeting ID: 786 8201 8817
Passcode: 032244

Coffee Morning

*Every Friday on zoom.us
Meeting ID: 589-059-831*

Pop in and make some new friends



*Bring Tea & Coffee
& Conversation 10am – 12noon*

Need Prayer or a Home Visit?

If you, or someone you know, is in need of prayer, then please contact our confidential Prayer Chain via Liz Resch on 0116 429 9946 or via email at lizresch64@gmail.com

If you would like a home/hospital visit for prayer and/or communion, please leave a message for Revd Colin Resch on 0116 429 9946 or send an email to revcolinresch@icloud.com

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

For enquiries about Christenings (baptisms), weddings or funerals at either Christ Church or St Peter's Church, please contact Revd Colin Resch on 0116 429 9946 or via email at revcolinresch@icloud.com

Get the latest information via our web pages -



<http://www.mountsorrelchurch.org/>

Christ Church/St. Peter's Church, Mountsorrel

Christ Church and St Peter's – Contact Information

Ministry Team:

Priest in Charge, Revd Colin Resch

4 Rothley Road, Mountsorrel, Loughborough, LE12 7JU

0116 429 9946

revcolinresch@icloud.com

Assistant Curate, Revd Darren Walker

6, Peartree Close Anstey, Leicester. LE7 7TD

0116 236 4121

07568 173184

revdarrenwalker@gmail.com

Reader, Mrs Helen Hodson, 0116 2303828

Reader, Mr Edmund Stacey, 01509 214802

Children and Families' Workers:

Alison White, alisoncfw.christchurchstpeters@gmail.com

Linda Vesty, lindacfw.christchurchstpeters@gmail.com

Benefice Safeguarding Officer:

Melanie Rowley, 0116 412 5870, melanierowleypso@gmail.com

Christ Church Contacts:

Warden & PCC Secretary, Mr Peter Hodson, 0116 230 3828

Warden, Mrs Veronica Liquorish, vpl1947@virginmedia.com

St. Peter's Church Contacts:

Warden & PCC Secretary, Mr David Bird, 0116 2303095

Warden, Mr Ian Evans, 01509 890889, ian.evans1549@gmail.com

Administration:

Treasurer & Bower Room Bookings' Contact

Mrs Val Doyle, 0116 237 5623, valjdoyle@hotmail.com

Parish Administrator & Newsletter Editor

Mr Paul Rowley (part time) admin@mountsorrelstpeters.org

*(Copy date for the next newsletter is Wednesday 23rd September, but
if items are ready, please send earlier)*