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Showing and Sharing God's Love

11 April 2021
Easter 2

Welcome to church!

- It's just possible that you won't see anyone today. It's possible that you won't see anyone else from our church family. But we are still a family. Let's remember that as we worship and pray in different places today – we can be together in the Spirit!
- Our website is updated regularly, and there is a page on things we are doing during the current pandemic – see <https://www.cofebishopstoke.com/coronavirus>
- If you normally give to the church during a service, we would be very grateful if could you save this for when we are able to meet in the church buildings again.

Today

9.15 am Holy Communion
(St Paul's)

10.45 am Church Together
(St Mary's & Zoom)

Bible Readings

Psalm 16

Ephesians 1.3-14 (p.1173)

John 20.19-31 (p.1089)

Contact: Revd Richard Wise on 8061 2192, email. rwise@talktalk.net

Prayer for this week

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father. **Amen.**

Items for prayer...

- **the unwell** – Jill, Matthew & his young family, Alison, Margaret, Kath, Vivian, Karen, Phil, Charlotte, Robert, Fiona, Pam, Natalie, Tracy, Maureen, Elaine, Simon, Christopher, William, Shane, Joan, Norma, Dorrie, Vic
- **we commend Mark Holloway to God**, and pray for his family and friends
- **we commend HRH Prince Philip to God**, and pray for Her Majesty the Queen and her family
- **our parish** – Stoke Park Infant School; all the pupils and staff currently on holiday; the start of the new term
- **coronavirus** – everyone affected by this in any way; those who have the virus; those working in the NHS; those working in schools and other key workers; the unemployed; those whose mental health is being challenged; those in the Developing World and vaccination equity; the life and witness of the church at this time.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

This Week

Tues	9.30 am	Morning Prayer (Zoom)
Wed	8 pm	Compline / Night Prayer (Zoom)
Sun	9.15 am	Communion (St Mary's)
	10.45 am	Church Together (St Mary's & Zoom)

Booking is still required for all the services in the buildings; please book up to a week in advance for services by emailing or phoning Richard (details on the front of this sheet).

Please also contact Richard if you'd like the Zoom link for any of our online services.

HRH Prince Philip We are very saddened to hear that Prince Philip died on Friday morning. You are very welcome to submit a message to the online book of condolence [here](#). There are also appropriate prayers further down the page. When the date of Prince Philip's funeral is announced we will give you the online link for viewing the service.

A prayer on the death of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh

***God of our lives,
we give thanks for the life of Prince Philip,
for his love of our country,
and for his devotion to duty.
We entrust him now to your love and mercy,
through our Redeemer Jesus Christ. Amen.***

A family prayer on the death of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh

***Loving God,
we are sad that Prince Philip has died.
Thank you for his long life
and his care for the Queen and our country. Amen.***

Annual Meeting Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) has been postponed until May so that we can hopefully hold it in church as well as online. A new date will be publicised next week. Please have a think about whether you might stand to be a Church warden or PCC member (we can have up to 5 this year) or a sides person, and let Richard know if you'd like an application form.

St Paul's building work Before the building work begins in May, we have to move a lot of things to the Church Room for storage. We are hoping to do most of this on Saturday 17 April, taking care with social distancing. If you can help for some or all of that day, please let Richard or Cherry know. We also need people with vans or large cars to transport things.

Messy Church Our next Messy Church will be back at St Mary's – hoorah! – on Sunday 2 May at 3 pm. We will also provide Messy Church in a bag for anyone who would prefer to do it at home or who can't fit into church due to the restriction on numbers. If you'd like to book, either for church or a bag, please contact Richard (details on front of this sheet) by Sunday 25 April, and let him know how many adults and children there will be in your household group.

Leprosy Mission We have received a letter and poster from Chris Stratta, our speaker on Mothering Sunday, thanking us for our parish's donations to The Leprosy Mission over the past few weeks. The current total is £340 which has been doubled by UK Aid to make £680, and this will help the Leprosy Changemakers in rural Mozambique build Hubs of Hope. Chris' letter will be displayed at St Mary's and ends, 'Thank you for showing such love and kindness.'

Christian Aid – Give thanks for your vaccination appeal As more of our family, friends, and neighbours receive their COVID vaccinations, we rejoice and are glad that our loved ones are protected. We give thanks for all the NHS staff and key workers who continue to save lives across the UK. For the poorest and most vulnerable communities across the world, there is little hope of a vaccine rollout. These people already face a lack of water, food, and healthcare. Some are homeless. Some are living with underlying health issues such as HIV. Christian Aid is already on the ground, helping keep people safe from coronavirus with practical support – but with your gift of thanks we can do more. Have you or your loved ones had your vaccine? Please could you give thanks with a donation to help protect our global neighbours while the vaccine is out of reach? You can donate to the appeal [here](#). Many thanks on behalf of Christian Aid and the people they serve.

Vaccination equity If you would like to donate to a vaccination equity campaign, you may like to go to www.vaccinaid.org which the Church of England helped to bring about with Unicef and Crowdfunder. This is seeking to help provide more than 2.5 billion vaccines worldwide.