



St. Paul's Covingham
St. Timothy's, Liden
www.dorcanchurch.org.uk

*Transforming lives and communities
Knowing Jesus and making Him known*

HE who
promised
IS
faithful

Hebrews 10:23

Web edition due to Covid-19

SERVICES - Sunday 22nd. March 2020 - 4th. Sunday of Lent

St. Paul's

8.45am NO service

10.30am NO service

St. Timothy's

10.30am NO service

**Welcome to the Dorcan Church.
If you are new, we would love to get to know you better.
Please speak to the Minister or to one of the Stewards.**

What's on next week.

Due to Covid-19

Most groups have been cancelled.

Contact your group leader for details

SERVICES		Sunday 29th March 2020	
		5th Sunday of Lent	
St. Paul's			
8.45am		NO service	
10.30am		NO service	
St. Timothy's			
10.30am		NO service	

Messy Church – cancelled.

Such a pity yet we will be back in full swing as soon as possible – new life and all that!

Mid-Week Communion:

Temporarily cancelled.

We hop to be back at St Paul's from 2nd April. Thank you for your understanding.

Morning Prayers

we will just be open for people to come and light a candle with some low music playing.

Monday	9-11 am	Stuart
Wednesday	1-3pm	Rob
Friday	9-11 am	Trudie

St. Paul's Heating Update

The heating work was finally completed on Friday 20th. March. When we are able to use the building again it will be nice and warm.

We are hoping to be back in the chapel eventually.

Therefore, please look at our Facebook pages,;

See the email distribution list

Phone the office on 01793 435987 for an answer machine message update.

Please keep praying as it has been a long journey!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING This has been postponed

This is the proposed plan:

Following feedback, the leadership report will be shared during the united service, with the elections and legal requirements covered in a short meeting after the service. There is also opportunity for fellowship over breakfast ahead of the service. Therefore timings are as follows and please note the 10:30am start for the service (ie we are not starting early!).

9am	Breakfast
10.30am	United Holy Communion, including Leadership Report
12.noon	Parishioners Meeting and Annual Church meeting
12.30pm	Finish

Electoral Role Revision now closed: The Electoral Role list is now displayed in both centres. If you have completed a form, either this year or in the past, please do check that your name appears on it. If your entry is incorrect, please contact the office or Barbara Wilcox so any amendment can be made.

Situations vacant! The smooth running of our worship gatherings in both centres requires a wonderful team of people to make things happen – from stewards, AV operators, readers, welcomers, intercessors, finance counters, tidy-uppers, refreshment makers, communion sacristans, Hoover-uppers etc. **The reality is that the situation is more challenging than ever if we are to continue as we are.** Please do consider how you might be able to contribute, and particularly if you are able to offer to be a steward which are elected at the AGM. At St Paul's we can no longer cover all the services and this is an immediate, pressing need. Please do have a word with Trudie or any of our current stewards if you would like to know more. Please do commit this to prayer.

Churchwarden update: For the past two years Diane Killick has been our only Churchwarden at Dorcan church, with six years on her own at St Paul's. She has been working hard to support us and the mission and ministry of this church. We are grateful to her for her tireless work, and all that she does. Thank you Diane. Diane will be offering for one last year as Churchwarden and then standing down in 2021. It is hoped that in this time we might be able to spread the tasks and responsibilities that Diane holds across a larger team so no one person is burdened, such that when she stands down we have a smooth transition.

Continued on next page.....

In the 2-3 months post the AGM Diane will be taking some well-needed and deserved time out and pausing her Churchwarden responsibilities. Whilst she may steward occasionally in that time, she will not generally be available at other times, so if you don't see her she hasn't disappeared! I know you will join with me in praying for rest and recharge in that time.

In the meantime, please do consider how you might be able to help – please, please look at the situations vacancy above. We are in the position of not being able to continue with the worship services we currently have as things stand. And of course we also have a vacancy for another churchwarden! Please do consider and pray as to how you might be able to contribute.

Standing for ECC: Have you ever wondered how decisions are made which guide the direction of God's church in Dorcan? The Ecumenical Church Council (ECC) is an important part of that decision making, and carries out a mixture of spiritual, legal, financial and missionary functions, and shares the responsibility of making certain decisions with the church leadership. It meets 6-8 times a year across different evenings during the week. It is not a committee to be on to know what's going on, but a gathering that prays and works together for the benefit of the life, ministry and mission of God's church. Nor is it a committee which "rubber stamps" – issues are discussed and decisions made with prayer and in faith. **Would you like to use your gifts to serve on ECC** and can you attend the majority of meetings? Please do prayerfully consider whether this is something you might be a part of, whether as an elected member, or as an officer of the church such as being a Churchwarden or Deanery Synod representative. If you need any further information then please speak to our Church warden, Diane, any member of the ministry team, or current ECC member. Nomination forms are now available in each centre.

Update on our practices re: Coronavirus.

This is attached to this newsletter and/or available in hard copies in both centres. We are keeping close to the situation and the guidance we are given, particularly regarding gathering. We will let you know of any changes as decisions are made. In the meantime, we pray that we, as God's church, may be a loving and caring non-anxious presence in this present season.

TTTTODAY News

Helen has decided to step down from volunteering at TTTTODAY as from the end of this term. We will all miss her as Helen has been with us from the start of this new venture (November 2016) but understand why she has to go. Dorcan school are very blessed to have her working for them.

We do need to replace Helen. You are welcome to taste and see if this is for you. The session starts at 8.45 and we are generally cleared up and finished by 10.45. The session is busy and is a great way of church outreach to the local community.

If you ever wondered what TTTTODAY was all about....now is the time to find out....!

If you want more information ask the team Mari, Hazel or Elizabeth or ask Helen how to replace her!

Climate Emergency Conference: Saturday 21st March 10-3pm

The Emmanuel Meeting House, Bristol, BS1 2NN. The day will include speakers, practical workshops, creative expression, worship and a chance to network and share materials.

Register at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/church-action-in-a-climate-emergency-new-venue-tickets-82945065925>

Bristol Diocese monthly newsletter: Pick up a copy of the latest diocesan newsletter to hear all that is going on, or take a look at the copy on the noticeboard. Better still to save paper, follow the link below!

https://mcusercontent.com/d221cd85ffa568579da6cbafa/files/880a7d32-1c4b-4b13-8567-c696cab24bd7/Diocesan_News_February_2020_print.pdf

Turning Point: Pick up a copy of the latest newsheet in both centres, or follow the link here:

<https://mailchi.mp/7fbe6634eb18/5y8764vp9m-3177353?e=89f08ea85e>

URGENT APPEAL Situations Vacant; St. Paul's Church
Welcomers, Stewards, Refreshments, Cashiers

Could you offer your skills

Please contact Diane K asap in person, by phone or email.

Many thanks, *Diane*

Fun for all the family!



Car treasure hunt starting at St Paul's Church
from 1.30pm on Saturday 11th April.

Adults £5 and kids £2.50.

All funds raised will go towards
the replacement of the church boiler.

There will be a chance
to purchase a drink at the end
before returning to St Paul's
for a buffet tea (included in the fee) and raffle.

To book a team,
please contact Clare Smith
on 07709 836813
or email: clares247@gmail.com

**SOME PRACTICALITIES
IN LIGHT OF CORONAVIRUS (Covid-19)
Updated 11th March 2020**

The situation regarding Coronavirus is changing regularly and we are staying close to the advice which is being shared by both the Church of England and Methodist Church. With this in mind, the following provides an update in our current practice when we meet to worship.

We are keeping abreast of developments as they happen and will communicate as needed on any further changes we may need to make going forward, including arrangements should we be advised to stop meeting together. In the meantime, the Bishop of St Albans suggests 4 Golden Rules for such a time as this which are shared overleaf. Above all my prayer is that we reject fear, instead choosing to live each day to the full.

Washing Hands: The spread of Coronavirus is substantially reduced if we all wash our hands regularly. There is soap and water in both church centres and instead of singing "Happy Birthday" twice as per government guidelines, why not say the Lord's Prayer twice instead?

During communion, presiding Priests and Presbyters, servers and those setting up the table are reminded to wash hands. Priest and Presbyters will continue in the usual practice of using hand sanitizer immediately before the Preparation of the Table and Eucharistic prayer, and servers will also be asked to use hand sanitizers before serving others.

Suspending physical contact: We are all asked to refrain from physical contact and in recognition of this, handshaking or other direct physical contact during the sharing of the peace will be suspended. We can of course still say the peace to each other, or use sign language which we learned at the united service last week. Your ministry team will also be suspending direct physical contact as part of a blessing, or "laying on of hands".

For many of us physical contact is a comfort and it may feel unsettling and disappointing that we are needing to pause for a while. However thank you for understanding why we are doing this at this time.

Communion practice: We have previously taken the decision to not offer the shared common cup, although you will see the presiding priest drinking from the cup as a sign for us all. Please either receive the sacrament in one kind (i.e. bread only) which is still to receive the sacrament in entirety, or receive from an individual small cup. Please take your own cup from the tray rather than being passed it by a server. There is now no need to place a token in the basket as we will be preparing enough small glasses for everyone.

Cough and sneezes: If you feel unwell, please consider staying at home. We would like to offer pastoral care to you, so if you wish to speak with someone then please do phone the office, a member of clergy or ministry team. If you do happen to cough or sneeze around others, then please catch them in a tissue, and bin it hygienically.

Rev. Trudie Wigley

Golden Rules from +Alan, Bishop of St Albans

<https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/coronavirus/>

Golden Rule One. Each one of us can think about how we can protect and support our neighbours. So much of the public rhetoric is sowing fear about the danger of other people. So, taking all the official precautions, offer help and reassurance to others – and don't demonise anyone or any group.

Golden Rule Two: Think about who may be suffering more than me. For those of us who are healthy there is much less to worry about but the elderly, the housebound and those with chronic health conditions may be very anxious. How about each church undertaking an audit of all the vulnerable people they know and sharing out the responsibility to phone them each day. There's nothing like a friendly voice to offer solace when someone is worried. A smile can bring cheer, even on the phone. If you visit, follow all the official precautions or don't go.

Golden Rule Three. Don't give into panic and start hoarding food. There is plenty to go around, so practise the Christian discipline of sharing. Ask your neighbours what they need and do your best to help them get it. If you are self-isolating you will of course need some supplies.

Golden Rule Four. Live today to the full. None of us ever know what the future holds. In the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 6. 25 – 34), Jesus challenged his followers to live each day fully and not be afraid. Every time we are tempted to give in to fear we need to make a conscious choice to respond in trust and openness. And don't forget to pray. Here's a suggestion from Revd Louise Collins:

Dear God our Shield and our Defender, guide and protect my neighbour in this time of health emergency; deliver them from all harm and may your love and care ever grow in this place. Through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

+Alan St Albans

All items for inclusion in the next notices should be sent to
Anna Newman Tel 695698

or email anagram673@hotmail.co.uk Thank you.

Please let me know if you would like to receive notices by email