

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST ANNE, KEW

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7th June 2020

Dear Friends,

With the first signs of the lifting of the Government's lockdown instructions we thought that it was time to write to you again to bring you up to date with the latest news from St Anne's.

We are delighted that so many of you are taking advantage of Morning Prayer, Bible Study and Meditation via zoom. We are also pleased to let you know what great success Emily Norman is enjoying in running zoom and YouTube sessions for our Junior Church families. And our streamed Sunday worship continues to attract good numbers.

In the church building we have seen the completion of the refurbishment of the rooms and staircase behind the Royal Gallery and also the redecoration of the south aisle that had suffered from water ingress. The space provided by our newly refurbished rooms will be a great resource for our mission and ministry. We are also pleased to know that the Friends of St Anne's now have the necessary resources to pay for the completion of the work on our perimeter wall. We extend, on your behalf, our grateful thanks to Lorraine Neale and the Friends Committee and membership for their excellent fundraising efforts.

Your Parochial Church Council will be meeting next week, again using the services of zoom. Our agenda will include reviewing how the church is meeting the challenges that the pandemic poses, not least on how we will be able to hold our overdue Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

There is no concrete news on how and when churches will be able to open their doors for public worship and private prayer but it does look as if churches might be allowed to open in a limited way from the weekend of the 4th/5th July. As and when we know more details we will communicate them to you. Meanwhile, we are giving careful thought to ways in which St Anne's will be able to respond swiftly and safely as the regulations regarding use of church buildings change.

A brief note on St Anne's finances.

We are delighted that at the time of writing our giving by Standing Orders has remained about constant. In part this is down to the Generosity 2020 giving campaign which was in full flow when the lockdown began and has translated into some new givers and some who have increased their giving. We had in fact 22 response forms with new or increased

standing orders amounting to an annual value of about £10,000. We are very grateful to those who have continued to support the church in this way. Donations from white envelopes have stopped though because the church is closed and demonstrates even more the importance of giving by standing order. If you missed the presentations at the beginning of Lent or were intending to respond to the appeal and would like to now, please contact Father Nigel, the churchwardens or the office and ask for the appeal and response forms.

Income from Hall and Church rentals has ceased, and this is unlikely to start again in any significant way in the immediate future. Equally we should see some reduction in our utility bills. A clearer picture of the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic on our Church finances will emerge as the year progresses.

Do please feel free to make contact with us even if it is just for a social chat! Are you signed up for the weekly newsletter? It's one of the best ways we can stay in touch, let you know the latest news and give you other important information. To sign up, please click here: <http://eepurl.com/cq7j0b>

With all good wishes and our prayers for your health and safety and our thanks to all key workers during this pandemic and locally for ongoing community support work of the Kew Neighbourhood Association and the street and road community groups.

Nigel Worn

Bill Cottle

Cate Lyon