

Churches of Kirkby Lonsdale and surrounding area

Weekly Notices for Sunday 23rd March 2020

Passion Sunday



I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; in his word is my hope. (Ps 130:4)

We are now in the 2nd week of lock down and all the churches have now had to close completely. However, in this uncertain time we should all be encouraged by the good deeds around us and the strength of the human spirit.

We have seen the launch of the Kirkby Lonsdale Coronavirus Mutual Aid Group, the Family Project's work sheets for children and families and Around Kirkby Lonsdale is still being published (see detail below). In the Notice Sheet this week we have tried to provide information on a number of things. Inevitably this includes links to the internet but we do recognise that these are not available for everyone.

Sunday Morning Services

BBC Radio 4 92 – 95 FM, on line and on your smart speaker are holding a morning service from 8:10 to 8:40 on Sunday morning. Unfortunately, BBC Radio Cumbria are not doing a service this week.

Rev Wendy Thornton will be doing a live reflection on [KLMC Facebook](#) page at 10:30.am, just click on the link.

Bishop Emma has done a reflection on John 11 - one of this Sunday's lectionary readings. Please click [here](#) and it will download to your computer, tablet or smartphone.

Further details of these and any other worship opportunities are on the Rainbow Parish website under Worship.

Weekday Morning Prayer

We are inviting members of the congregations to join the clergy in their morning prayer each weekday morning from 08:15 – 08:45. This will be by video conference using the service provided by <https://zoom.us/>. Click on 'Join the Meeting' and enter the Meeting ID of 567-672-692; Meeting Password 551030.

More information including the order of service and the readings are on the Rainbow Parish website under Worship

Weekly Reading and Reflection

'We're all in it together'

This week has seen a great deal of change to our way of life. I have been self-isolating as I'm in the 'at risk' category due to Asthma! We are all having to adapt to a different way of working, of being church and of being community. Living with limitation is not a new experience for me. A number of years ago after a serious accident I was forced to stay at home for over a year whilst I recovered. It was not easy for me an extrovert and activist, to rely on others to do the things I couldn't do for myself. It was incredibly frustrating to look out of the window and not be able to do as I liked. Everyone else seemed to be getting on with their lives, doing what they wanted, when they wanted.

The significant difference currently is that all of us are now experiencing the reality of life under restriction. One of the phrases being adopted is 'We're all in it together', no-one is exempt from the effects of Coronavirus. There is growing realisation in an individualistic culture that to get through the crisis requires us to work together as human community, mindful that our actions have a direct impact on the well-being of others. People normally so self-sufficient are finding they are having to rely on neighbours or volunteers to bring them essential supplies. As we reach out to each other and accept our need of each other, the barriers between people dissolve and our differences disappear in the light of our mutual interdependence. It takes humility to recognise and accept our need of each other and to allow others to serve and bless us. It is often so much easier to give and to be in control. Accepting help requires that we let go of pride and ego to accept the gift of another with thankfulness and grace. During the Last Supper Jesus washed his disciples' feet symbolising cleansing, servanthood and equality, setting the example for his new community of love. True community and equality is to be found in Christ through mutual giving and receiving.

'Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.' Jn 13.14-17

We are already witnessing the incredible response and kindness of many people who have joined volunteer teams to support those stuck at home. For those 'stuck at home' there are ways to contribute and support such as Telephone ministry, administrative tasks and most importantly Prayer. The Prayer of the faithful is the most powerful and significant activity we can be engaged in, "Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer is the greater work." – Oswald Chambers

Whatever our situation at present may we know that we are valued, treasured and loved by God. As we play our part in whatever way we can let us remember 'We are all in it together' and Christ is with us now and always.

Rev Wendy

Family Project

The Family Project now has a [Facebook page](#). Please have a look, a follow and a share. Lol has been producing resources for the whole family, posting on the Family Project Page every other day to hopefully provide some inspiration for those in lockdown. If you use this material please let Lol know what you think. lol@cilfamilyproject.org

May and July's messy church is cancelled due to the ongoing epidemic. We hope and pray to be back in September and to be celebrating not just the harvest but coming out the other side of this.

Kirkby Lonsdale Coronavirus Mutual Aid Group

The Kirkby Lonsdale Coronavirus Mutual Aid Group has just been launched with support from the churches. If you do not have support from family or friends when self-isolating and need help with shopping, picking up prescriptions, posting mail or for information please contact them on 015242 36404 between 10:00 and 16:00.

At this time they have a number of volunteers but will be looking soon for people who might be able to cover specific areas.

Information about funerals

We appreciate how difficult it is for bereaved families during the restrictions. The guidance has been changing but at present we are not permitted to hold funeral services in our churches. Committals may continue at the graveside and crematoriums with immediate family present only, i.e. spouse or partner, parents and children, keeping their distance in the prescribed way. Memorial Services will be arranged with families at a later date. Please pray for all those who have lost loved ones.

Around Kirkby Lonsdale

AKL has now been published and is available in both on line and printed versions. The on line version is available [here](#). (also from the Rainbow Parish website). With the lockdown it is not appropriate to expect people to deliver them in the usual way. However, we are making AKL available for collection in the following places:

St Mary's Church Porch

Booths

Casterton newspaper boxes

Lupton church porch

St Peter's Church porch

Post Office

St Bartholomew's Church Porch

Middleton 'bus shelter'

Old Town newspaper box

Hutton Roof newspaper box

In some of the other villages they may be delivered. We do have a large stock of paper copies so you should be able to get them. We will take care in keeping them 'clean' but others may have handled them too. At this time, you should wash your hands after handling anything you are bringing into your home including newspapers, post and shopping.

Local News

It is with great sadness we report the deaths of Tom Herd, Richard Challoner and David Frankland.

*Almighty God, you judge us with infinite mercy and justice and love everything you have made.
In your mercy turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life,
and the sorrow of parting into the joy of heaven;
through our Saviour, Jesus Christ.*

Easter Services

Although it is still a couple of weeks away we are looking at what we might do locally for Easter services delivered on line on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Watch this space.

Links

Kirkby Lonsdale Methodist Church Website	http://klmethodist.church/
Kirkby Lonsdale Methodist Church Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/kirkbylonsdalemethodistchurch/
Rainbow Parish website	https://www.therainbowparish.org/
Family Project website	https://cifamilyproject.org
Family Project Facebook page	https://www.facebook.com/familiesinlunesdale/

Future Issues

Please let us know if you like this or don't like this. Also let us know what other things you want us to cover.

Merlin Hibbs	laychair@therainbowparish.org	015242 76410
Marion Dalgoutte		015242 71890

Notice sheet & Subscribing Electronically

We are really sorry but due to the risk of cross infection we will not be asking people to deliver paper notice sheets to those not on email. Please can you telephone those who you would normally deliver to, to share the information and encourage them to sign up to the electronic version where possible.

To subscribe electronically please do one of the following:-

Visit the Rainbow Parish website <https://therainbowparish.org> and follow the link to Administration.

Visit the KLMC Mailchimp sign up form and complete and submit the online form

<http://eepurl.com/dtYSxD> to receive this and other Methodist Church info.

And Finally

We do have some volunteers who are hand delivering copies to people without access to the internet. Please wash your hands after reading this or handling anything that has come into your home from outside including mail, newspapers and shopping.