

KEEPING CONNECTED

ALTHOUGH OUR CHURCH BUILDINGS ARE CLOSED – WE ARE STILL HERE FOR YOU

We are so sorry to let you know that in light of the Government guidance around non-essential contact, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York have issued advice that public worship is suspended until further notice.

Our Church buildings are however open as follows for private prayer and quiet reflection (until further notice) :

St Giles, Balderton:

11.00 am – 1.00 pm daily

All Saints, Barnby:

Open daily

All Saints, Coddington:

every Wednesday (time tbc)

WORSHIP HAS MOVED ONLINE... FOR LATEST INFORMATION AND RESOURCES TAKE A PEEK AT OUR WEBSITE - WWW.BBC-CHURCHES.ORG.UK

Prayer Tree



The Prayer Tree inside Church is for you to use for prayer, for yourself, a family member or friend.

Please write a name or a few words on a prayer tag and hang it on the tree, or you can just tie a ribbon to the tree if you wish.

If there is someone or something you'd like us to pray for please do let us know.

St Giles is CURRENTLY open DAILY between 11.00 am and 1.00 pm for private prayer and quiet reflection. You are most welcome to come in.

Faith in the Village

St Giles' Church, Balderton



St Giles, Balderton
All Saints, Barnby-in-the-Willows
All Saints, Coddington

Help us to stay in touch with you.

Sign up on our website to our new regular e-bulletin.

<http://bbc-churches.org.uk/stay-in-touch/>



St Giles, Balderton
All Saints, Barnby-in-the-Willows
All Saints, Coddington

Welcome to the United Benefice of

St Giles Balderton, All Saints Barnby in the Willows

& All Saints, Coddington

Vicar:	Revd Louise Holliday	704811
Associate Minister	Revd Phil Smith	703305
Reader	Mr Mike Bache	674741
Balderton Church Warden	Mrs Kath Hirst	700267
Balderton Church Warden	Mr Ian Lawrence	605226
Barnby Church Warden	Mrs Yvette Wellard	626780
Coddington Church Warden	Ms Sue Lovell	676707
Coddington Church Warden	Mrs Yvonne Hayman	673204
St Giles Community Hall Bookings	Mrs Deborah Pollard	672923

Email: Parish Office: stgilesbalderton@gmail.com

Website: bbc-churches.org.uk

www.bbc-churches.org.uk

achurchnearyou.com

A NOTE FROM THE VICAR...

We live in unprecedented times; at the moment so much of what we take for granted feels fragile and insecure. Following the advice from the Archbishops of York and Canterbury that public worship is suspended, I find myself reflecting on the importance of being together in community.

Although we cannot come together for worship, we remain committed to serve and care for all who live in the three parishes of our benefice.

In all the decisions we make in response to the COVID-19 virus, we must have those who are vulnerable and in the high risk group at the forefront of our minds, and so we are taking steps to ensure that we can care for each other and remain connected.

So what can we do?

We can set aside time each day to have telephone conversations with people who are self-isolating and may be feeling anxious and lonely. In a world of emails and text messaging, we perhaps don't consider making a call as often as we ought, but a few minutes spent in conversation can be hugely significant and can help to maintain the bonds of community. Maybe, at this time, we need to be more intentional about talking to each other and we need to be more aware than ever of the people who may be feeling lonely, isolated and vulnerable. In all of this remember that our conversations help to shape us and make a real difference and when it comes to having a conversation with Jesus or about Jesus, expect to be surprised.

Across the benefice, our church buildings will be open during the day for private prayer. My hope is that folk will, following the guidelines to maintain high levels of personal hygiene, benefit from taking time to be still in the sacred space that our buildings provide.

We will be providing resources for worship and private prayer, as well as a weekly newsletter to keep us all connected.

As we face this new reality and seek to respond to advice that is fluid, we will get some things right but, equally, we will get some things wrong. We must bear with each other and be gracious with each other. I'm sure I'm not alone in feeling a real sense of sadness that we won't be sharing our journey through Holy Week or celebrating Easter Sunday together this year. But, in the midst of all of the change and upheaval, I am aware that we are all in this together and that together we will, not only get through this season, but will be blessed in new and surprising ways.

Please be assured of my prayers and join me in prayer each day, wherever you are, whatever you are doing, at 9am, 12noon and 3pm, to be still for a moment and pray the Lord's Prayer. As you do picture others praying it too. Expect God to reveal something about God's self that you have never seen before. When this time has passed and we come together to worship again, what new things will we have discovered about being the body of Christ and how will that shape our vision for the future?

With my love and prayer, Revd Louise Holliday

Sunday 22nd March: Mothering Sunday

Collect

Merciful Lord, You know our struggle to serve you;
When sin spoils our lives and overshadows our hearts,
Come to our aid and turn us back to you again;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 2. 1-10

2 Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ²The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. ³When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. ⁵The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. ⁷Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' ⁸Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. ⁹Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, ^[a] 'because', she said, 'I drew him out ^[b] of the water.'

Epistle Reading: 2 Corinthians 1. 3-7

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, ⁴who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. ⁵For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. ⁶If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. ⁷Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

Gospel Reading: John 19. 25b-27

²⁵And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God,
Whose blessed Son our Saviour
Gave his back to the smiters
And did not hide his face from shame:
Give us grace to endure the sufferings
Of this present time
With sure confidence in the glory that shall be revealed;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**