



Dear all,

Last Sunday, Ray Porter reminded us all that though Governments may keep changing regulations, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today for forever, and his call on his people to live as saints remains the same. The question we need to ask ourselves is are we living as God's saints?

When we face difficult seasons in life, what is our response? Is it to give up on God because things aren't the way we want things to be; is it to distance ourselves from the Church and His community because we think it's easier to live in isolation; or is our response one of continuing to seek to live as saints and using such challenging times to go deeper into God and allow Him to sustain and bring us through them?

At this time, we need to remember Isaiah's words (Isaiah 43)

*Do not fear, for I [God] have redeemed you;  
I have summoned you by name; you are mine.  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you.  
When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned;  
the flames will not set you ablaze.  
For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour...*

God calls us to trust Him – what will our response be today?

### Church News:

- **Gift Day Update**

Thank-you to all those who have returned your Gift Day and pledge forms to date – we give thanks to God that we are on course to cover 2020's ministry costs in full – praise the Lord! 2021's budget is still challenging, so if you haven't had an opportunity to give or pledge yet, please do. The leaflet can be found [by clicking here.](#)

- **Impact of latest Lockdown Measures**

Due to the latest lockdown measures, please read the following:

### **Sunday's Service**

This will be live-streamed as usual, but with a few service participants in attendance only. Please do join the service on either Facebook or Youtube.

### **Remembrance Sunday (8 Nov)**

There will be an Act of Remembrance at Eaton Socon War Memorial, on the Green at 10.45am that **you are able to join us for** (socially distanced!)

### **Wednesday's Service becomes Private Prayer with Communion**

During lockdown, because the Wednesday Service cannot take place, **the Church will still be open for Private Prayer from 9am-11am**. There will be Prayers and Verses of Scripture displayed on the screens in church and a self-service Communion Point (using individual bread/grape juice pre-packaged consecrated Communion sets) so please do join us. Just turn up or [book your ticket here](#).

- **To all Families**

As we are sure you have realised, we are unable to run our Family Event on 15th November due to lockdown restrictions. We are really disappointed about this, as we were looking forward to seeing you.

The good news is that we are running a '**Christingle @ Home Event**'. If you sign up to this, Christingle Making Kits costing £1.50 each will be dropped off on your doorstep and there will be a pre-recorded Facebook / YouTube video for you to watch. Once completed you can take a photo of your completed Christingle and send to us so we can include these in our Sunday live-stream Service.

To find out more details and to book your Christingle Making Kits, [please click here](#). We would love you to join us in this.

If there are any particular ways in which we can support you more through this time, please do contact us [by clicking here](#).

- **Operation Christmas Child – Christmas Shoeboxes**

Christmas Shoeboxes can be delivered to the vicarage during November. Alternatively, you can complete a box online (cost £20) [by clicking here](#).

Under Aslan's paw,

Tim

Vicar, St Mary's Eaton Socon