



Grapevine Extra

**Advice, support and encouragement
in this challenging time**

Important phone numbers:

The church office – **01244 322056/07494 493884**

The vicar – **01244 322056**

(who will answer if the office is closed or ask to be put
through to him)

The centre manager – **01244 345649/07999 803451**

Dear friends,

These are troubled times and I'm very aware that many of us feel afraid, whether for ourselves or for our loved ones.

It's a time when we need to hear again Jesus' words in John 14:1, 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God, believe also in me'. The more we remind ourselves and one another who Jesus is and what he's done for us, the stronger our faith will become. He is in control and will use every situation to make us more like himself.

It's also a time when we need to strengthen the bonds of love between us. How we can support one another? How can we help each other to go on growing in our faith? This leaflet has a number of suggestions which I hope you will take up and make use of. Let's stay in touch and keep encouraging one another by whatever means we can.

And it's a time when we can show the world the difference Jesus makes. We can show that our confidence is in the God who made us, loves us and has given us a glorious hope for eternity. We can show that he loves the world by the way we love our neighbour as ourselves.

As a staff we are praying for everyone who belongs to All Saints. We are dividing up the Parish Directory in order to pray for you as we ask you to pray for us.

With love in Christ,
John

We are live streaming our Sunday service

You can find us at:

<https://www.facebook.com/allsaintshoole/>

**Or you can search Facebook for
'All Saints Church, Hoole'**

The service will start at 10.45am

A word of encouragement

Anita Benson shares a word for our time which God gave her at the last church weekend:

At the church weekend away, I attended the Sunday morning “workshop” led by Rob Collier. There were about 10 of us in the room, and we spent the hour singing and worshipping God in song. Towards the end of that hour, the following picture appeared in my mind:

A picture of a straight road that “disappears” – submerged by water. The land on both sides of the road are also submerged. The need for courage to venture through the waters where the road has been removed from sight and all the other landmarks as well. A long way in the distance, the road re-appears.

I was with about 5-6 other people. There was the sense of needing to hold onto each other’s hands and to move forward as a group; so that those who were hesitating or fearful or weak are not left behind. Also, the need to trust God, because the recognisable way has been obliterated by the water.

Just as I was “seeing” this, Rob began to sing ‘Where Feet May Fail’ – Hillson United. The lyrics are on the following page.

I haven’t shared this before as I knew it was a message from God, but I didn’t know if it was just for me; or concerning my family, or whether it was for the church family. I am wondering if it is for the circumstances we face now – with the increasing measures proposed to handle the covid-19 situation. The way ahead is unclear; all our “familiar” patterns have the prospect of being disrupted, and we face the unknown. There are a lot of people who are fearful and uncertain.

We need to keep hold of one another; to make sure that everyone in our church family has a hand to hold on to (a human hand, and God’s hand!) and to keep moving forwards in faith, trusting in the Lord, and looking ahead to where the road re-appears.

Oceans (where feet may fail)

You call me out upon the waters
The great unknown where feet may fail
And there I find You in the mystery
In oceans deep
My faith will stand

And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

Your grace abounds in deepest waters
Your sovereign hand
Will be my guide
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me
You've never failed and You won't start now

So I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders
Let me walk upon the waters
Wherever You would call me
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander

LET'S KEEP GROWING IN FAITH

There are lots of ways in which we can sustain our faith and keep growing during this time of self-isolation. Here are some suggestions.

Use the Church of England's Daily Prayer app – available for both android and apple devices

<https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps/daily-prayer>

Pray the prayer for the day –

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-daily-prayer/todays-prayer>

Listen to the Daily Service – 9.45am on BBC Radio 4

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006wzfs>

Read the Lent Devotions #LiveLent from the Church of England -

<https://www.churchofengland.org/>

Listen to Premier Christian Radio –

<https://www.premierchristianradio.com/>

Share in the family devotions available from The Groves Church –

https://www.thegroveschurch.org/resources?fbclid=IwAR1_j-vf-XU3Kmc-K3Jw4ZsLquK8O9jxQVzm1E3_seEI7NCNnoBzdCVVziTA

Read Christian books – we will share some helpful recommendations in the coming days.

SUPPORT FOR YOU AND FOR OTHERS

Prayer Triplets

We're encouraging everyone to join a prayer triplet during the current pandemic.

Get together – by phone, email or another app – and encourage one another daily.

Share your needs and pray for one another.

Form your own triplet with two other people and let us know.

Let us know that you would like to join a triplet and we will facilitate that for you.

Email vicar@allsaints.church and we'll do the rest.

How can we support you?

1. Let us know what your needs are. It may be a regular phone call; it may be someone to shop for you; it may be a cooked meal. The church staff will do what we can to meet your needs.
2. We have one-pot meals lovingly made by Andy and Paula Warren which are available for anyone who needs one. They are in the church freezer and you can collect one or ask for it to be delivered if you or a neighbour needs one.
3. Are you living alone? Is your family some distance away? Let us know your nearest relatives' phone number so that we can contact them for you if you become ill. We will store it securely and not give it to anyone else.

Love your neighbour

Perhaps you can offer support to an elderly or vulnerable neighbour.

We have some cards which you can put through their door offering help and support with practical things.

Please contact us if you'd like to collect some from the centre.

OTHER WAYS OF COMMUNICATING

'Let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together' [Hebrews 10:24, 25]

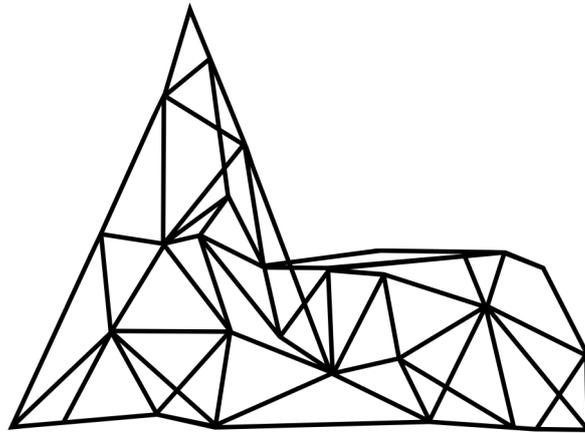
Perhaps we can't meet in the same place for the time being, but we can still meet together.

Why not arrange to meet as a Housegroup using a conferencing app and read the Bible together, discuss the passage, share needs and pray for one another.

We're recommending the use of *Zoom* as the best way of doing that, although other conferencing apps are available. And better still, it's free to use the basic version, which is all you need!

For those who aren't online or would prefer a paper copy, we are producing a Morning Prayer service which you can use on your own or as a family.

Please contact the office if you would like a copy and we will deliver one to your door.



ALLSAINTS **HOOLE**

Hoole Road, Chester, CH2 3HZ.

www.allsaints.church



@allsaintshoole



All Saints Church Hoole

REGISTERED CHARITY: 1131968