

News from the pews – 24 November 2020

Dear friends,

Anxiety weighs down the heart, but a kind word cheers it up.
Proverbs 12:25

The end of the pandemic is in sight, but we are not out of the woods yet. Lisa and I came across the verse above from Proverbs, this morning, and we found it very helpful. Many of us continue to feel anxious and fearful. And yet, sometimes just a simple word of encouragement or act of kindness can bring solace and warm our hearts. Is there somebody this week that God is calling you to make contact with and share a word of kindness? It is worth doing – you could make that person's week. As members of his body, Christ often calls us to be his hands, mouth or feet and to serve each other in love.

Advent Sunday

This Sunday sees the beginning of Advent, a season marked by waiting for the Lord's coming. Please join us for the service online via Facebook or YouTube (details below). Following the service, we will again meet over Zoom for "Coffee and Chat" - a great way to share kind words of encouragement with one another. Details of how to connect are below.

Last Sunday's Service

If you missed last Sunday's service, you can access it here:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F62HuWpU3IM>

Living in Love and Faith – Zoom Meeting Wednesday 25 November 8:00pm

A reminder that this Wednesday, you are encouraged to join a Zoom meeting to discuss the Church of England Evangelical Council film, 'The Beautiful Story,' where a range of evangelical Anglican leaders explain why we should maintain the traditional Biblical standpoint regarding marriage and sexuality. This film has been produced in relation to the Church of England "Living in Faith and Love" materials that were released recently. It would be very helpful if members of St John's could watch the 30 minute film as this is a very important time for the Church of England, with many pushing for a change in the Church's teaching in this area.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VI8bb65vOiE>



St John's will be staying online for Sunday 6 December's all age service. This will be an online Christingle. Christingle kits containing a candle, tin foil, cocktail sticks and ribbon are available in the church porch. Please provide your own oranges and sweets/died fruit for the cocktail sticks.

Seeking a new treasurer

You may have heard that the Hall family will be moving away from Elmswell very soon. We will miss them greatly. We are also very grateful to Chris Hall who has been an excellent treasurer over the last few years. If you feel God is calling you into this role or have any suggestions, please let Peter or Mike know. Can I ask all of us please pray for God to raise up somebody to take on this important role in our church's life?

Coming up:

- Tue 24 Nov 8:00pm Compline Night Prayer online (Facebook only)
- Wed 25 Nov 8:00pm Zoom discussion on the "The Beautiful Story" film.
- Thu 26 Nov 8:00pm Celtic Prayer online (Facebook only)
- Sat 28 Nov 9:00am Church prayer meeting (using Zoom)
- Sat 28 Nov 10:30am Coffee and Chat (using Zoom)
- Sun 29 Nov 9:30am Zoom **Sunday School** for primary school ages. Contact Lisa for details.
- Sun 29 Nov 10:30am Sunday Worship online – Facebook, YouTube and St John's web site.
followed by coffee & chat(using Zoom)

How to connect with us online:

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnselmswell/live>

YouTube

Accessed from home page of St John's web site

St John's

<http://www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk/>

Zoom

Click <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6852951296> or, load Zoom and use Meeting ID: 685 295 1296 and Password: 816262

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.
1 Peter 1: 18-19

With every blessing in Christ,
Peter