

Church Without Walls

Issue 52 April 18th 2021

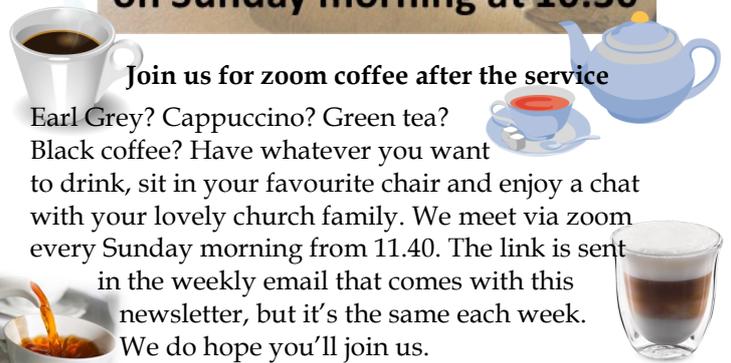
Booking for Services

We are all looking forward to the day when we can simply turn up for church on a Sunday and squeeze in together! But until then we will need to book if we want to be in the building in person. Whilst it's possible to book at any time up to the start of the service, it would help us if you could book by either logging on to the website, or by emailing the office before 12noon on a Friday. This will make it easier for us to allocate seating, and will take some pressure off those organising this over the weekend after the church office is closed.

Thank You



Click here to join us
on Sunday morning at 10.30



Join us for zoom coffee after the service

Earl Grey? Cappuccino? Green tea?
Black coffee? Have whatever you want to drink, sit in your favourite chair and enjoy a chat with your lovely church family. We meet via zoom every Sunday morning from 11.40. The link is sent in the weekly email that comes with this newsletter, but it's the same each week. We do hope you'll join us.



This week please
pray for the
people living in
Broadgate

Remember to give this number to anyone you know who would appreciate being able to hear a message of hope at this time

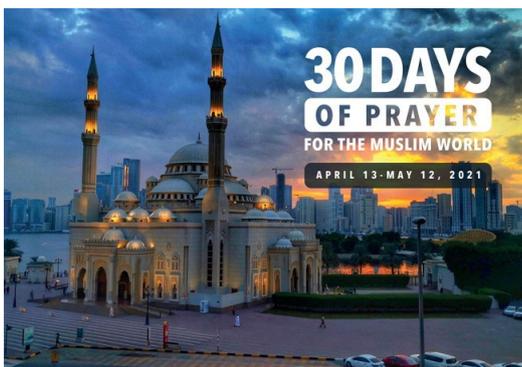


A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

Ramadan began this week. We have some copies of this 30 day prayer guide to assist us in praying for our Muslim neighbours during this time. If you would like one, please contact the office.

Each year new prayer guide material is published in a number of languages and locations around the world. It is designed for Christians to learn about and to pray for our world's Muslim neighbours.

The material contains daily readings that focus on various topics, people groups and geographical areas of the Islamic world. Each day's subject focus is followed by prayer points. It also features informative background articles and resources for involvement.



Annual Parochial Church Meeting



Our APCM for 2020 will take place on Sunday 23rd May this year following our morning service.

This is the meeting at

which we will elect our Churchwardens and PCC members, who are the people responsible for the running of our church.

In order to vote at this meeting you will need to have your name on the electoral roll. If you want to check you are on this, please contact Pat.



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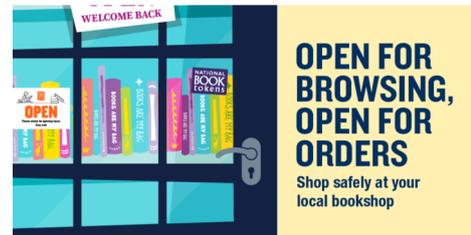
The ladies from our local Mosque gave Val a large plate of sweets and cakes to share at the start of Ramadan. These are some of them...

The note reads:
As Ramadan approaches us, we would like to share some of our iftar treats with you. Covid has stopped us from coming together, but we shall be remembering all of our friends at the Church during this blessed month.



The Christian Book Centre on Fox Street reopened on April 12th for a closing down sale

Many bargains available



The Covid situation has had an impact on our business over the last year. The customer footfall in the shop has been consistently low since we re-opened last year after the first lock down. The lock down in November and at the start of 2021 was the final straw for us and we have had to come to the decision that we will have to close the shop.

There has been a Christian Book Shop on Fox Street for around 60 years so it is with a heavy heart the decision to close has been made. We have resourced the City and many parts of the North West with books, gifts, CD's and greetings cards and we have heard some of the feedback of how people have been blessed or challenged in their Christian walk through the items they have bought or received.

It has been a great adventure, ministry and business that God led us into, we have met some wonderful customers who have supported us over the years and it's been lovely to serve you all.

We are still taking orders for any items that are not currently in the shop but can be obtained from our suppliers; please still contact us for your supplies. Once all the stock is sold, with many bargains to be had, we will close the doors for the last time.

Welcome to the United Kingdom

Welcoming the people of Hong Kong.

Thousands of Hong Kongers have already made the sometimes painful decision to leave behind their hometown and move to Britain since Beijing imposed a strict national security law on the Chinese territory last summer. Their numbers are expected to swell to the hundreds of thousands.

Some are leaving because they fear punishment for supporting the pro-democracy protests that swept the former British colony in 2019. Others say China's encroachment on their way of life and civil liberties has become unbearable, and they want to seek a better future for their children abroad. Most say they don't plan to ever go back.

St Stephen's has joined up with an organisation which connects these people to local churches in the places they settle. People coming from Hong Kong to settle in Preston will be able to find us on a dedicated website and make contact with us. Please pray for these people, as they face leaving everything they know behind and starting a new life in a new and strange (to them) country.



The Preston Churches in Prayer

Tuesday morning prayer meetings
held on zoom at 7.30am

Please email Andy Pratt for an invitation:
andrewpratt1@btinternet.com

 **St Stephen's**
LEARNING TO LOVE AS JESUS DOES