

Dear friends,

Following the decree by the Prime Minister last night, you will be aware that our Church buildings are required to be entirely closed until further notice. This is deeply distressing news for us all, but we must of course, do what is best for the health of our nation.

Now, more than ever, it is clear to us all that the Church is not its buildings – it is its people. In the note I plan to put on the notice boards on each of our Churches, it tells those reading it that “during this time, our town and villages will be kept in the prayers of the people of these Churches”. I know I can rely on you to continue to pray for our communities, to keep the faith, and to find new ways of living in love with one another. Our prayers are especially with all those who find themselves in the "shielding" category and all who are struggling this week. If you would like to be prayed for by name in our worship next Sunday, please do let me or John Moss know. Please do also remember that you can always contact myself or John for a confidential chat.

Those of you who were regulars at our morning prayer services until recent times, will know the words below very well. They acquire a new resonance in these strange and changing times. Be assured, the doors of these buildings will open again when the time is right, and the door of Christ’s heart and the prayers of the faithful are open to us all, right now.

Every blessing, as always,
Karen

***May the peace of Christ go with you, wherever he may send you;
May he guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm;
May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you,
May he bring you home rejoicing once again into these doors.***