

Notices for 29th November 2020

Contact Details

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Pastoral Care: do contact the Pastoral Care group by email holycrosssharing@gmail.com or by contacting Matthew until further notice if you, or someone you know needs some help or would appreciate a phone call. Please use the same contact details to offer help.

Sunday Worship: although we are unable to meet for worship at the moment, Matthew will live- stream a service from the church every Sunday. The link to the church Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/CreditonParishChurch/>. You can also access the service via the home page on the church website by scrolling down and clicking on the green Facebook button. Please note the service will not appear on the page until it goes live at 9.30am.

The Advent Procession will be live streamed from the church at 6.00pm on Sunday. It will feature a mix of live readings and recorded music from the choir.

Sunday Worship resumption: as we re-open again for public worship on 6th December, Anne Jerman is assuming that everyone will resume attendance at the same service as prior to the second lockdown. As before, please let Anne know if you are not able to attend, wish to attend at a different time or will be attending for the first time since the start of the pandemic.

Private Prayer: the church will be open for individual private prayer on Sunday and Wednesday afternoons from 2-4.00pm. Holy Trinity, Yeoford is also open for Prayer from 9-15 till 9-45 every Monday morning.

Help Support the Church when Shopping Online: according to the news this week, people are starting their Christmas shopping early this year. If you shop online, there are ways to fundraise for the PCC at no cost to you. The PCC is registered with The Giving Machine and Amazon Smile and details of how to shop via their websites are on p. 16 of the November magazine.

Church opening on Saturday 5th December! The church will be open to visitors all day from 10am to 5.30pm. Light a candle, remember a loved one and purchase Christmas cards, decorations and gifts from the church shop. Don't forget to drop off your colouring competition and handmade cards too. The Christmas Tree Treasure Trail will also be available, we hope you will enjoy some Christmas 'Comfort and Joy'. Then at 6pm join us for readings and carols sung by Holy Cross Choir with the 'Big Tree' shining out for a light to the world. If you miss it on the Saturday come and join us on the Sunday 6th at 6pm. Prior booking for the Family Carols is preferred – please contact Anne Jerman (01363 772865 or email jerman@12blagdon.eclipse.co.uk) to book your place. For all of this, masks are required to be worn unless exempt and Covid secure arrangements will be in place. The 'Family Carols from Holy Cross' will be livestreamed on Facebook 6pm on Sunday 6th December and will include images from previous Christmas Tree Festivals along with words to carols so you can sing along at home.

St Nick Café Saturday 5th December: Sadly this has had to be cancelled due to Devon moving into Tier 2 and so we will not be able to have social events/coffee mornings in the Boniface Centre.

Drop-in: I am afraid this has to be cancelled till further notice due to the latest restrictions on the use of the Boniface Centre. Sue Lavery.

Online Christmas Tree Festival: don't forget that alongside the carol services there are 2 competitions this year. The colouring competition is open to under 16s and the Christmas card competition is open to all. Full details can

be found on p.7 of the November magazine and on the Tree Festival page on the church website. The deadline for entries is 6th December. <https://www.creditonparishchurch.org.uk/services/christmas-tree-festivals/>

Takeaway Christingle on Saturday 12th December from 10-12: The church will be open on Saturday 12th December for collection of takeaway Christingles. There will also be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of loved ones. The Christingle takeaway is free but all donations will go to The Children's Society. There is a national Christingle service being streamed on Sunday 13th December and this will appear on the Holy Cross Facebook page from 3pm so we can all light our candles together.

Online Crib Service recruitment: if you are aged between 7 and 14 or know someone that is .. we would normally be recruiting for the nativity play but this year due to COVID the service will be streamed at 4.30pm on Christmas Eve. We are looking for children who would like to participate in the singing - NB due to safeguarding you will be heard and not seen. If you would be interested please contact Gill in the office (email admin@creditonparishchurch.org.uk)

Deanery News: within Cadbury Deanery, the two Mission Communities of North Creedy West and East are currently in vacancy. This gives a perfect opportunity to reassess ministry in the Deanery and look at how we might best provide a Christian presence and ministry in each local community that is both creative and sustainable. There is a proposal to form a Rural Ministry Hub, centered on Crediton, which is both challenging and exciting as we explore new ideas and vision for rural ministry. More detail will follow in the coming weeks.

A Vision for the Church of England in the 2020s: The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, has been outlining a new vision for the Church of England, in which he calls for the Church to be "simpler, humbler and bolder". The three new strategic priorities for the Church are around being a church of missionary disciples, a church where the mixed ecology of many forms of church is the norm, and a church which is younger and more diverse. Read more here: <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/leadership-and-governance/emerging-church-england/vision-church-england-2020s> The Archbishop unveiled the new vision at the first ever online meeting of the General Synod this week.

Have Your Say About Faith and Public Life: The Government is conducting a survey to help it decide how it should work with faith groups in future. The findings may also influence government policy. Please complete the 15 min survey by 11 December so your voice gets heard. Click here to do the survey: <https://www.churchofengland.org/news-and-media/news-and-statements/government-calls-individuals-respond-faith-engagement-review>

Ecclesiastical Insurance is giving 120 charities £1,000 from 7 to 12 December. Please think about nominating Holy Cross as the church is facing a considerable financial deficit at the end of the year. The church has been registered on the Ecclesiastical website and to vote please click on the link, scroll down and fill in your details on the nomination form <https://www.movementforgood.com/12days/index.php?cn=1129124&ct=church> Please share this as widely as possible.

Churches in Devon are being asked to raise awareness of Domestic Abuse by taking part in the Mothers' Union #NoMore1in3 action campaign from 25 Nov – 10 Dec. The Diocese of Exeter will promote resources each day on its Facebook page with a video message from Bishop Jackie on launch day. Tragically, 1 in 3 women globally experience physical or sexual abuse from a partner at some point, many throughout their lives. Men can also be victims; and children directly or indirectly, with lasting effects. Chris Keppie, our Church and Society officer has written a helpful article explaining what you can do. Read it here: <https://exeter.anglican.org/24820-2/> No more one in three! The full resources for the 16 Days campaign are available on the Mothers' Union website, <https://www.mothersunion.org>

During this further lockdown, we will be relying once more on all our generous givers continuing. For some, this will again mean saving up their stewardship envelopes or giving at home. The PCC is very grateful for everyone's commitment and generosity which has enabled us to survive financially in this difficult year. It is now possible to make a donation online, just click on the button on the website homepage and this will take you through to the donation page: <https://www.creditonparishchurch.org.uk/> Thank you all so much.