**Update 21/06/20 – THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

**Join us at 11am on Sunday on our Facebook Page for morning worship (****https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchAinsworth/****). Also join us at 6.15pm on Wednesday for Mid-Week Praise.**

***NB: If you are not on Facebook, you can still watch the service – when it says “Log in” “Create New Account” simply click “Not Now” (which is at the bottom)***

**Bible Reading** for 11am Sunday 21st June: Matthew 10.24-39

**If you missed any of our livestreamed services, some of them can be found on our website** **https://www.ainsworthparish.org.uk/online-worship.html** **or our Youtube Channel** **https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1kRCPBIymPoDSyhH9CZYrw**

**The Prayer Book Society lists some churches livestreaming BCP services: (note the new address)** **https://www.pbs.org.uk/churches-and-services/-1**

**Locally, St Andrew’s livestream regularly:** **https://www.facebook.com/StAndrewsChurchRadcliffe/**

**Prayers:** The Church of England has issued a prayer booklet for use during the outbreak. A pdf version is available online https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-parishes/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer

***New or Amended Notices:***

**Private Prayer & Returning to Worship (Message from Revd Dave)**

We are now allowed to open church for private prayer. I am hoping we can do so on Wednesday afternoons, just as we did before the lockdown. Before we can open, we need enough volunteers to form a church sitting rota. We have a few volunteers so far (thankyou) but need more. Unfortunately, until we have sufficient volunteers, we must remain closed.

Sometimes, after each session, it may be necessary for the volunteers to clean those parts of the building that have been used. This is to comply with the lockdown restrictions.

Anyone willing to volunteer should email me at vicar@ainsworthparish.org.uk. (NB anyone who is self-isolating due to age or medical reasons, or who is shielding **should not** volunteer).

I am glad to say that, once we reopen for worship, most of our ‘pew polishers’ are able to begin cleaning the church again. I must say, I am grateful for their dedication. Unsung heroes who do a brilliant job.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 guidelines indicate more frequent cleaning will be required, except where a church can be left for 72 hours to allow the virus to degrade. Further clarity is awaited. However, it seems likely our ability to clean between services will determine our pattern of worship until such time as the pandemic has passed completely, allowing us to return to something like normal.

It would be unfair to expect our ‘pew polishers’ to take on this extra responsibility, so we need more volunteers. Again, please contact me if you wish to volunteer.

**Giving (amended notice):** Although Christ Church is closed for public worship, there are still significant bills to pay. Not least of these is the Parish Share. This is the common fund to which all parishes contribute, and from which most clergy receive their stipends, including our vicar. Because giving to this and other churches has declined significantly since the lockdown began, payments into the common fund have almost dried up. Yet, despite this situation, all clergy continue to minister, and all are committed to doing so. None have been furloughed.

Ministry is not cost-free. Therefore, if you normally make your offering via the envelope scheme or by placing cash on the collection plate, please consider setting up a standing order or making a bank transfer (contact Geoff Whittle on 01204 385452 or geoffreywhittle@btinternet.com). Otherwise, if you can do so safely, please drop your offering through the Vicarage letter box. (NB setting up a standing order or making a bank transfer **does not** involve giving us your bank details.) And, if you can afford to make a special donation, please consider doing so!

*‘The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.’ (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)*

***Previous Notices:***

**Face Masks:**During lockdown Barbara Clarkson has been making face masks.   They are of double thickness cotton, with a third pocket which contains a disposable filter, and a stiffener at the bridge of the nose to make a close fit. Barbara makes them from material left over from dressmaking, so there are several different colours and patterns.  If you would like one, she is happy to pop it through your letterbox. They are free, but donations to Church are welcome. Please contact Barbara on theclarksonhouse@talktalk.net or 07530 413149.

**Church Magazine** – There isn’t a paper copy as Church of England COVID-19 guidelines prohibit hand delivery. However, a pdf version of our June issue is on our website and on our Facebook page. Please tell anyone you think may be interested so they can access it. Unless the guidelines change, we plan to issue the July magazine in the same way.

**Phoneline:** The Church of England has launched a free phoneline for the 'digitally disconnected'. If people call 0800 8048044 they will be able to hear music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services. Please share this number with anyone you know who is 'digitally disconnected'.

**Porch Boxes (updated notice):** Whilst it is not possible to receive donations for Porch Boxes in Church. However, if you shop at any of the following, they have somewhere to receive donations: ASDA (Radcliffe; Pilsworth & Bury); MORRISONS (Whitefield & Ramsbottom); TESCO (Bury & Ramsbottom) **OR we can still support Porch Boxes through a donation: A cheque made payable to “The Porch” sent to Michael Perrin, 14 Kenmore Avenue Bury BL8 2DY or Bank transfer to Account number 81643089  sort code 09-0155  account name The Porch or Online https://porchboxes.wordpress.com/**

**Community Hubs (updated notice):**  hubs have been established by Bury and Bolton Council to support vulnerable residents for the duration of the pandemic. Anyone wishing to volunteer should phone (Bury) 0161 253 5353 or (for Bolton) register online

 https://www.boltoncvs.org.uk/urgent-volunteer-webform-2 .

**Scout Summer Coach Trip to Buxton & Bakewell (Saturday 18th July) has been cancelled**

**Please hold in your prayers:**

**The sick**: all who are ill, especially for: Mike Hayden, Deborah Sandercock-Pickles, Margaret Turner, Jacqueline Livsey, Stella Burkey, Louise Singleton and Ron Garside.

**The bereaved:** All who have lost loved ones, especially the family and friends of Carol Ainsworth. May they find healing, peace, strength and courage to face the future.

***“The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.” (James 5:16)***

**Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.**