

### Got questions about life? #TryAlpha Alpha.org

The claims of the Christian Faith are so life impacting that giving time to considering them is time well spent. Many people have found The Alpha Course provides an ideal space in which to do this and we would love you to join us on a future course.

For the time being Alpha will be run by St John's online (via Zoom), and the next course starts on 23rd September 2020. The format is a brief time of welcome / getting to know each other, followed by guests watching the evening's session which addresses an aspect of the faith. The group then comes back together for about 30 minutes of relaxed discussion coming out of the session just watched. There is no assumed knowledge or expectation of knowledge or sympathy of / for the Christian Faith.

For details of the next course, contact Estelle Woodcock at [alpha@stjohnswelling.org.uk](mailto:alpha@stjohnswelling.org.uk), 07718 476670 or the church office on 020 8303 1107.

### PRACTICAL HELP

If anyone in the congregation at BR should feel the need to isolate themselves while the coronavirus is active but worries about how they could get any shopping, please ring Margaret Robinson on 020 8859 2534 (landline) or 07963 231420 (mobile).

Email [info@brchurch.org.uk](mailto:info@brchurch.org.uk) to join our mailing list.

### This year's APCM takes place on Wednesday 23rd September

This year, as we are working 'paperless-ly', the Book of Reports for the APCM is being distributed as an online document. To request your copy, please email the Church Office at [info@brchurch.org.uk](mailto:info@brchurch.org.uk). We can also provide printed copies on request - please ask Rev Mark.

[www.rochester.anglican.org](http://www.rochester.anglican.org)



### Diocese Webinars (see 'Communication' on website):

23 September 2020 / 5pm - 6:30pm

Re-imagining Ministry with Older People

A joint event with Rochester and Canterbury Dioceses, exploring the spiritual challenges and opportunities that come with growing older.

28 September 2020 / 2:00-3:30pm via Zoom

Seeing what God is doing and joining in

This is designed to support all those involved in mission and ministry on social housing estates also looking at the impact of coronavirus on our poorer communities.

### Job Vacancy - Diocesan Safeguarding Trainer (2 year Fixed Term Contract) Part time

A new post to join our small but busy Safeguarding team based in Rochester. The role will lead in developing, designing and delivering diocesan safeguarding training to diocesan and parish staff and volunteers across the diocese, both face to face and virtually.

### St John's Church Playgroup in Welling has two positions vacant for Playgroup Assistants

Application packs are available from Playgroup Manager, Julie Stedman [stjohns.playgroup@btinternet.com](mailto:stjohns.playgroup@btinternet.com) or the Church Office [office@stjohnswelling.org.uk](mailto:office@stjohnswelling.org.uk)

**Do you have a heart for the rough sleepers of Bexley?** Bexley Winter Shelter is looking for reps in local churches who could act as contact for passing on information and prayer requests to their church as they feel appropriate from a fortnightly email. If you are interested, please contact [melvynfrench7@gmail.com](mailto:melvynfrench7@gmail.com)



## Bishop Ridley Church, Falconwood

Sharing the love of Jesus in our community

### Sunday 20th September 2020

15th Sunday after Trinity

*A warm welcome to Bishop Ridley Church!*

- 9.00am **Holy Communion** from Common Worship.  
Rev Mark will be leading and preaching.
- 10.30am **All Age Communion** - Rev Mark will be leading and preaching.
- 6.30pm **Evening Service** at St John's Welling.

*If you would like prayer after any of the services, please speak to Rev Mark.*

**MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION · Wednesdays at 6.30pm · Everyone welcome.**

### ONLINE SERVICES - WATCH AT HOME

St John's Welling are continuing to provide online recorded services and these are uploaded at 10am and approx 8pm on Sundays at [www.stjohnswelling.org.uk](http://www.stjohnswelling.org.uk)



The Church of England's national online service is streamed from 9am on Sundays (also available on YouTube and Facebook).

**'Recognising teachers & school staff as unsung heroes'** - Featuring contributions from St Thomas CofE Academy, this online service is led by Rev Tim Bateman from Gas Street Church, recognising teachers and school staff as unsung heroes and praying for the start of the new school year. The Dean of Birmingham, Matt Thompson, preaches and Sarah Smith, Director of Education for the CofE in Birmingham, shares a reflection.

*The service is manually subtitled and BSL-interpreted throughout.*

Download the order of service and watch the service at [www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org)

### Bible Readings

Philippians 1 vs 21-30  
Matthew 20 vs 1-16

To see churches near you who are live streaming services, check out [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)

Bishop Ridley Church · The Green · Welling · DA16 2PG · [www.brchurch.org.uk](http://www.brchurch.org.uk)



## FOR PRAYER



The family & friends of Joan Rowlan, Gloria Martin, Christine New and Leonard Barnes. Beverley Smalley & family. Chris Bartlett & family. Shirley Greenow. Brian Beard & family. Sarah Rogers. Bob Pearce. Geoff Garner. Norma West. Maureen Kenna. Skye Kavanagh. Pam White. Ruth Wood. John Hockey.

Kate Freeman and Ben Haughton as they both head off to their respective Universities - Kate to Lincoln and Ben to Cambridge.

Bishop Ridley School - please continue to pray for the children, staff and their families. Staff have put in a huge amount of time & preparation for the children's safe return. The school consider it a blessing to be remembered in the church's prayers, asking us also to pray for God's wisdom for them.

Our Key Workers - those providing essential services whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response - and our Government.

Rev Mark's wife Helene, Cate, Brian, Sian W, Sarah Foot (St John's) and all those working on the frontline during this pandemic.

Those who are alone, unwell, receiving treatment, recovering from operations or who need the Lord's peace at this time.

Our local churches: Graham Cole at the Gospel Hall and Joe Symeou at New Community Church.

### Collect (15th after Trinity)

Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love - in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*We are still reading Morning Prayer every morning at 9.30am. Please join in with us in your own homes. See Daily Prayer app at [www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org)*

If you have any prayers or thoughts that you would like to share on the Facebook group or website, please email them to Karen Freeman at [Karenfreeman64@btinternet.com](mailto:Karenfreeman64@btinternet.com)



### Supporting the work of the Church during the Pandemic

In line with other organisations, it is preferable that we run on a cashless basis for the present. Therefore, instead of our usual 'offering', we encourage donations by standing order, direct transfer, by card online or via the reader, or by cheque. **Thank you!**

\* For those who do not or cannot use Gift Aid, we would encourage the use of the card reader to make donations - as we can claim a top up equivalent to tax under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme on donations up to £30 made this way, even if you don't pay tax.

\* For those who do or can use Gift Aid, we would encourage the use of standing orders or direct transfer to our Cafbank Account - Sort Code 40-52-40, Account 00017060 "Bishop Ridley Church".

The church continues to be alive and active. As well as services, our website and Facebook page contain details of how to join others online for prayer, worship, study, and community life.

**Spiritual and pastoral support** continues to be available to all parishioners and anyone seeking support or prayers can reach the church by phone or email. You can also send your prayer requests to [prayer-requests@brchurch.org.uk](mailto:prayer-requests@brchurch.org.uk)  
**If you would like prayer after the service, please speak to Rev Mark.**

Our Vicar Rev Mark and Church Wardens Derek and Pat can be contacted in an emergency by telephoning 020 8303 9998 or emailing [info@brchurch.org.uk](mailto:info@brchurch.org.uk)

### CURRENT SITUATION

**Government guidance is that face coverings must be worn by all those attending a place of worship where there may be other people present; remembering that they are mainly intended to protect other people, not the wearer, from coronavirus COVID-19 and that they are not a replacement for physical distancing and regular hand washing.**

As long as nothing else changes, we will continue to have our usual Sunday services - at 9am and 10.30am. If anything does change, we will send updates on email, also posting on Facebook and our website.

Obviously with the Covid situation, we are having to do a lot of things very differently, so please be patient with us! Physical distancing remains in place as well as regular cleaning of the church. You can read the Church of England's full statement on their website at [www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org)

### CONTACT DETAILS ✉

**Vicar**  
Rev Mark ..... 8298 0065  
**Mark's Day Off is Friday.**

**Church Office**  
Administrator..... 8303 9998  
Email ..... [info@brchurch.org.uk](mailto:info@brchurch.org.uk)

**For any other enquiries, please contact the Church Office on 020 8303 9998**