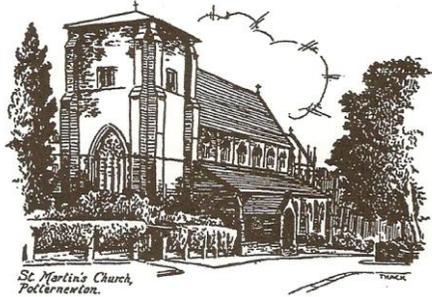


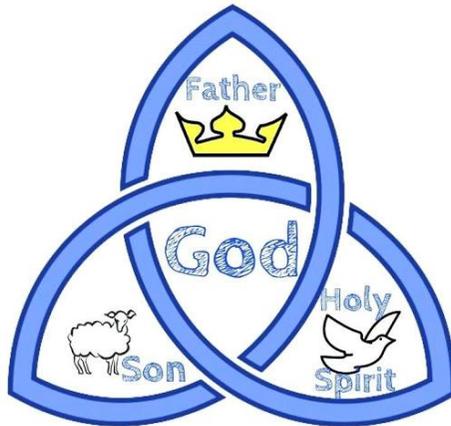
Reach Out

St Martin's Church Magazine

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds



June 2020



£ 1

N.B. All in-church services cancelled until further notice but services held via Zoom on Sundays at 10am; Wednesdays at 10am and Thursdays at 6pm



<https://www.facebook.com/StMartinPotternewton/>

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Confession or for other matters please contact Fr. Nicholas.

Reach Out

St Martin's Church aims to praise God, to share the good news,
to be a welcoming loving church serving all.
Praise, Share, Welcome, Love, Serve.
There is a place for you at St Martin's

Editor's Comment:

We hope this edition finds you safe and well. Put the kettle on and enjoy this issue – there is still a lot going on in our church community even though not in the building itself...

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Pastoral Letter

Dear friends

I want to start this letter at the place where the Christian faith began: the empty tomb near Jerusalem some 2020 years ago. The gospel accounts of the resurrection show a surprising amount of fear, disbelief and confusion at the empty tomb, as well as the joy we would expect. In St John's Gospel, for example, Mary Magdalene spends a long time in tears, and even when she sees Jesus she does not recognize him but accuses him of being a body-snatcher. But it is through faith that Mary, Peter and John accept that Jesus has risen: it does not make sense, but they know that it has happened. And their faith sends them on their way. As the angel tells Mary and her companion in Matthew: 'He is not here for he has been raised.' The angel adds that Jesus has gone ahead of them to Galilee and that they will see him there.

We will remember Easter 2020 forever as the time when there was not just an empty tomb, but empty churches, for all Anglican churches were closed due to the coronavirus. Like those early disciples, many people found themselves in fear, disbelief and confusion. But just as Jesus got out of that empty tomb, so God has got out of our empty churches. God is going before us and he is everywhere.

Here are three signs of this. First, surveys show that many more people are praying than ever before – and truly we are in need of prayer – and many more people are engaging with acts of worship. Churches may be closed, but worship is everywhere: on the TV and radio, on Zoom, on Whats App, on facebook, you name it. People who would never have dreamed of entering a church building are now listening in, or dipping in. Their need for God is great, and he is reaching them.

Secondly, God's love is everywhere, because care and concern are much in evidence, and Christian fellowship is continuing. Far more people are looking out for their neighbours, and more people are supporting charities. I know that members of our church family are looking out for one another, praying for one another and keeping in touch by phone and acts of kindness. Along with my clergy colleagues, Fathers Nicholas and Ericcson, I have been phoning round congregation members, or sending emails, and having some very deep conversations, because everyone's experience is unique.

(If you haven't had a call or a note from the clergy, it means we haven't got your contact details, so please see the Church Directory page and get in touch with us).

Thirdly, we can no longer fence God off as something for church on a Sunday: he is at large in our homes and in our lives. It's lovely seeing people at Zoom services, on their sofas in casual clothes: meeting God just where they are. Home is a sacred space and an appropriate place for worship. We 'Stay at Home' to 'Stay Safe': home is a refuge from danger as well as a place where we eat and pray. It is therefore a perfectly appropriate place for priests to celebrate communion and for God's people to receive spiritual communion: remember how the disciples on the Road to Emmaus invited a stranger to stay for a meal with them and found that the risen Christ was 'made known to them in the breaking of the bread.'

By the time you read these words, we may have a road-map of when churches will start to reopen – or maybe not. But until then, let's take courage that God travels with each one of us: he meets us on the road and he will, in time, lead us to the dawn of new life in our church buildings.

My love and prayers
Jane



PS If you'd like to read more of my thoughts on home as a sacred space, please see my blog post: <https://lcileeds.org/the-home-as-sacred-space-in-lockdown/>.

Online discussion group

The online discussion group facilitated by Revd Jane will be starting a new run on Monday 8th June at 6pm with the theme "Everyday faith". All welcome – especially anyone who has not joined before – contact Revd Jane for more details.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

From the book: *Peace of Heart in All Things*, by Brother Roger Shutz, founder of the ecumenical community of Taizé, GIA Publications

The Holy Spirit has the strength to sustain a yes for our whole life. Has he not placed in us a desire for eternity and the infinite? "Be steadfast of heart and keep going forward!" (Sirach 2:2)

Calendar

June

- Mon 1st** **Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth**
- Weds 3rd** 10.00 am - Morning Prayer on Zoom
- Thurs 4th** 6.00 pm – Evening Prayer on Zoom
- Sun 7th** **Trinity Sunday**
10.00 am – Eucharist on Zoom
- Mon 8th** 6.00 pm New Online discussion group –
‘Everyday Faith’
- Weds 10th** 10.00 am - Morning Prayer on Zoom
- Thurs 11th** **Corpus Christi**
6.00 pm – Evening Prayer on Zoom
- Fri 12th** **St Barnabas the Apostle**
- Sun 14th** **The First Sunday after Trinity**
10.00 am – Eucharist on Zoom
- Mon 15th** 6.00 pm Online discussion group
- Weds 17th** 10:00 am - Morning Prayer on Zoom
- Thurs 18th** 6:00 pm – Evening Prayer on Zoom
- Sun 21st** **The Second Sunday after Trinity**
10:00 am – Eucharist on Zoom
- Mon 22nd** 6.00 pm Online discussion group
- Weds 24th** **Birth of St John the Baptist**
10:00 am - Morning Prayer on Zoom
- Thurs 25th** 6:00 pm – Evening Prayer on Zoom
- Sun 28th** **The Third Sunday after Trinity**
10:00 am – Eucharist on Zoom
- Mon 29th** **Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles**
6.00 pm Online discussion group

News

Coronavirus Pandemic

Dear Friends in the Risen Christ,

This catastrophe that has changed the world has infected millions of people all around the globe, killing hundreds of thousands – tens of thousands in this country alone – pushing the economies of entire continents to the brink of meltdown, destroying the livelihood of countless businesses, families and individuals. And the picture I am painting is a very conservative one: many fear that things are much worse than we are led to believe by official statistics, especially in parts of the world where standards of hygiene, of access to healthcare, of food production and distribution were already inadequate before the pandemic.

In this country like in all countries, mistakes have been made and people have paid for them often with their own lives. One of these mistakes has been the inadequate protection of sectors of the elderly population living in sheltered accommodations or care homes. I find particularly scandalous that for entire weeks we were fed the lie of official death rate figures exclusively based on hospital deaths. The elderly of a society, keepers of its memories, being left particularly unprotected and then even deprived of the dignity of being accounted for.

I also find particularly scandalous the silence of senior church leaders on this matter, as well as on other matters linked to the national emergency and indeed to the global emergency and the plight of the poorest on this planet. Senior Church leadership have been consistently outspoken on navel-gazing matters concerning online services and the like.

I hope that this rant - probably also due to the fact that for me, like for many others, lockdown fatigue is setting in - will not offend your conscience. In this time of a pandemic linked, most probably, to the human plundering of this planet without consideration for its natural habitats; and in this season immediately following that of Easter and Pentecost, I cannot get out of my head today the words of Paul in 2 Corinthians 5 calling us once more to conversion and reconciliation as part of something bigger than we are: the whole creation, "If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to Self through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the

world to Self, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making this appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.” (17-20)

Yours in the Risen Christ,
Fr Nicholas

PS – Sooner or later it was bound to happen... St Martin’s congregation is on Zoom. After a successful trial run on Sunday 10th May, we have decided to hold an online Eucharist every Sunday at 10:00 am, Morning Prayer every Wednesday at 10:00 am, Evening Prayer Every Thursday at 6:00 pm. Please join us. If any lay members of the congregation wish to organize and lead more weekly Morning and/or Evening Prayer sessions, please get in touch with me.

Details for joining St Martin’s Eucharist on Zoom:

Time: every Sunday from 9:50 am for 10:00 am start

To be able to do this, you first need to download Zoom on your computer or on your smartphone. Copy the following link to choose the free download: <https://zoom.us/support/download>

Or on your smartphone go to the app store and type in zoom.

When you join the meeting you will be muted. You will be un-muted only if it is your turn to read and will be muted again after you have finished speaking.

Please hold on to these instructions so that you may use them every Sunday. If you know of people who do not have a computer or smartphone, please give them the following further instructions so that they may listen to the service without video:

With your landline or any mobile phone you can dial any one of the numbers below. You will be charged at the usual rates (they are not premium numbers).

After dialling any of the numbers below, you will then be asked to enter the meeting ID:

When you are asked for Participant ID just press the hashtag: #

These are the numbers to call:

0330 088 5830	0203 481 5240
0131 460 1196	0208 080 6591
0203 481 5237	0208 080 6592

Details for joining Morning / Evening Prayer services on Zoom:

Every Wednesday at 10:00 am and every Thursday at 6:00 pm Fr Ericsson will be leading, from his home, prayer services of 30-40 minutes for Morning and Evening Prayer respectively. Please consider joining him by copying the following link you're your address bar

New Facebook page

Matthew has started a Facebook page for St Martin's:
<https://www.facebook.com/StMartinPotternewton/>

Do take a look at it regularly to keep up to date with any news.

Christian Aid

Christian Aid week still happened this year between 10th-16th May, with the headline: "Love never fails. Coronavirus impacts all of us. But love unites us all."



This is the mailing we received from our Christian Aid Week Coordinators for Chapel Allerton Christian Aid Group Andy and Jennie Firth:

*"Dear friends,
... Like many church activities at the moment, Christian Aid week is being done differently and digitally this year. Though not handing out envelopes or hosting Big Brekkies or the many things we usually busy ourselves with this week, our hands can still reach out virtually to our neighbours around the world: Neighbours in refugee camps and cramped living conditions, neighbours without adequate hand-washing facilities, neighbours who face the devastating impact of coronavirus with even less of the medical resources we have struggled to access here. Neighbours who face loss of loved ones from preventable diseases which we do have the vaccines and medications to treat. In these exceptional times of a global pandemic, let us hold on to the vision of one world, where life-sustaining resources are available to all.
God bless."*

Watch this space for a write-up of Jane & Wayne's Zoom quiz fundraiser! It is still possible to donate to Christian Aid. Visit:
<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/>

News

Stairlift

With thanks especially to Jennie who has persisted against all odds we finally have a stairlift in the Institute (please see attached photo) in perfect working order.

Fr Nicholas



Thank You

We are pleased to report that Leeds City Council has given consent (Listed Building Consent) for the installation of the downstairs stairlift at St Martin's Institute. The Council has also given financial help (a grant) towards the purchase and installation of the stairlift which has been funded by the Inner North East Community Committee.

We would like to extend grateful thanks to all at St Martin's who helped with Fund Raising, with the application for Listed Building Consent and to Leeds City Council Planning Services and the Community Committee.

Jennie Collins



News

Lockdown Diary - A Sunny Spring Afternoon.



We were in the fifth week of lockdown. I decided to sit in the garden outdoors in the sunshine, with a cup of coffee and several books to hand. Second hand books had become plentiful and quite cheap over the last few years and I had made regular visits to my favourite charity shops. I had come away with paperback novels as well as cookery books which showed glorious, technicolour pictures of food. Looking at the huge number of books for sale, I wondered how many people had spent time reading or cooking in those 'normal' days. I must admit that in spite of my purchases, I had been quite busy and had little time to spare for either reading or cooking. These days however, I have time on my hands. Thoughts of food have taken centre stage in my mind now that I can no longer nip out to the supermarket or to the local fast food take away when I feel the urge to do so.

I made myself comfortable with my feet up on a chair. The sun was warm and the weather forecast had predicted a temperature of 15 degrees Celsius. The wind however was fierce. Tree branches and leaves were whipping about in a frenzy. So was my hair! I should have worn a hat. After all, I was bundled up in layers of clothing leaving only my face, hands and part of my lower arms exposed to the sun. The plan was to allow my body to make some Vitamin D. I was distressingly deficient in that vitamin and needed to ramp up my body's production. Ramp up! I was definitely watching too many official briefings.



I had turned a blind eye to gardening jobs such as weeding. As a temporary measure, I had whacked off innumerable dandelion flower heads so that they had no chance to seed. I was waiting for some rain to soften the hard ground so that I could more easily dig out the weeds. I planned to stay outside for a little while, enjoy the sun's warmth and at the same time catch up on my reading. Alas, I didn't stay outdoors very long as the 'wind chill factor' proved too much for me!

Indoors, I caught the day's COVID -19 briefing on TV. I had a bet with myself to see how many questions asked by members of the press would actually receive a direct answer. So far, straight answers are not winning. However, I live in hope during these troubled times.

Jennie Collins

From All Souls

Greetings to all our friends from your friends at All Souls, we hope and pray this finds you and your family and friends safe and well. `Being church` is very different for all of us but I must say being in contact either by telephone and email to my congregation and friends has brought us closer together. We find out more about each other by having a good chat than we probably have done seeing each other every Sunday morning. Of course nothing to compare being together worshipping our Great God and His Son Jesus in our own churches. We at All Souls join each other spiritually in prayer and the Mass each Sunday morning, our risen Lord Jesus binds us together as always He is in every home sharing our joys, our fears, our anxieties over the future and of course The Great Hope of us all that we will be back in our churches when the time is Right.

Although we are apart from our churches, our congregations, friends, family members we have to remember now more than ever that we Christians are bound together In, With and Through the Love of Jesus. Which brings me to the hymn or song whichever you prefer, that has been going around my head recently; whether you like it or not it is perfect for our situation now we are apart.

*Bind us together Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken,
Bind us together Lord, bind us together in Love.*

*There is only One God, there is only One King,
There is only One Body, that is why we sing.*

Chorus

*Fit for the family of God, purchased by His precious blood,
Born with the right to be free, Jesus the victory has won.*

Chorus

*We are the family of God, we are His promise divine,
We are His chosen desire, we are the glorious new wine.*

*Bind us together Lord, Bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together Lord, bind us together in Love.*

Words B.Gillman.

I leave you with these words from St. John's Gospel, John 17:21:
`That they may all be one, as You Father, are in me, And I in You,
that they also may be one in Us`

God bless, love and prayers,
Mother Helen.

Regulars

Mothers' Union

Sheran Harper, Mothers' Union Worldwide President sends encouragement as many of our members cope with Self Isolation and Lockdown.



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I write to you with the love and courage of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, because He is our strength, our hope and our solid rock.

So much has been happening recently as COVID-19 is declared a pandemic and governments are advising that we take the necessary precautions to avoid the spread of the virus. There is so much we have had to come to terms with in such a short time.

In times like this, I encourage you to take heart and do not fear because the Lord, your God is by your side – an ever present help in times of trouble. In Joshua 1:9, we read, *"I hereby command you: be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go"* Amen.

As members, you are bold and brave, full of courage and compassion, and so very loving and just like Esther, you stand daily on the frontline calling for an end to injustices and advocating all that supports stable families and communities.

You have been busy in these acts of love but now many of you are being called to be quiet and to self-isolate in an effort to prevent the spread of the virus. You will discover there is still so much we can do as members because as a movement, we are ideally placed to support and act in this time, but only within the health advice given by your respective governments.

Lord Jesus Christ,
You said to your disciples,
I am with you always, even to the end of time.
Be with me today, Lord, as I offer myself to you.
Hear my prayers for others and for myself,
And keep me in your tender loving care always. **Amen.**

Yours in love and prayer, Sheran Harper, Worldwide President.

Articles

SAINTS ALIVE!

It is interesting how words change their meaning over a period of time. For instance, the word "cool" means one thing to me but something entirely different to my grandchildren! Something similar also happened to the word "saint". Usually we apply it to some especially holy Christian or some really good person. We modestly decry any suggestion that it might also apply to ourselves. Yet, if we use the word in its original sense then every time we go to church we have saints sitting all around us!

You see, the word "saint" is based on the Latin word "sanctus" which means "holy". And that in turn means "dedicated to God". So, when St. Paul addressed his letters in the Bible "to the saints in ..." whatever church he was writing to, he wasn't just writing to the specially good or devout members of those churches but to *everyone* there who was trying to follow Christ. They may not have been succeeding very well but they were still saints as far as Paul was concerned.

It was only as the years went by after those early days of the church that people began to apply the title "Saint" to particular Christians. They began by celebrating the anniversaries of those who had died because of their faith during the many persecutions the early church endured. Then, gradually, the practice was extended to those who hadn't actually been martyred but who had excelled in their faith through their teaching, caring for the needy or even administering the life of the church – often the hardest job of all.

So began what we now know as observing Saint's Days. Christians of all denominations have found the stories of these "heroes of the Faith" so inspiring, especially in times of difficulty, that the practice has continued right down to the present day and in the most up to date Church Calendars you will find various days in the year dedicated to one great Christian or another. They are a remarkable bunch of people – all with fascinating histories and all worth getting to know.

So in the next issues of the magazine we'll be looking at one of these "heroes of the faith" and we'll call that person "THE SAINT OF THE MONTH":

SAINT OF THE MONTH – June - SUNDAR SINGH

All the great Christians whose lives we celebrate in the Church on special "Saints' Days" are a very mixed lot, to say the least! They come from all ages, different nationalities and with very different characters. One day we might be remembering a very practical man like William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, and on another day we can stumble across a strange mystic like the man we commemorate on June 19th – Sundar Singh.

"Sundar Who?" I hear you ask, "Never heard of him!" Few people would recognise his name now. Yet for a few years after the First World War he was a man feted by national leaders all over the world

Sundar was born into a Sikh family who lived in Northern India in 1889. He must have been a great trial to his parents for he was an intensely religious boy who, by the age of fifteen, had studied all the major world religions – and rejected them all in his search for God. In fact he despised Christianity as Western propaganda. He then decided that the only way to get close to God was to lie on the local railway line and commit suicide! However during the night before he planned to do this he experienced a vision of Jesus and, next morning, he committed himself to Christ.

His father declared him mad and turned him out and for the rest of his life, Sundar set himself to wander the roads of India telling all he met about his Lord and Saviour. He seems to have been a Ghandi-like figure, modelling himself on the local wandering Hindu preachers although he did spend some time in an Anglican Theological College and working in a leper colony. Gradually his wanderings took him far beyond his home country. He spent several years being invited to preach in most major countries across the world where people thronged to hear his message of God's love for men of all faiths and none. Apparently he once addressed a gathering of Anglican bishops at Westminster – which must have been a scene that stayed in the memories of witnesses a long time after!

He once said his ambition was to "be worn out in his Master's service". It is probable that this desire was fulfilled when, on his return to India in 1927, he set out on a mission to Tibet in spite of ill health and he was never heard of again. Among his writings his book "At the Master's Feet" still continues to influence and help many people today who, like Sundar himself, are seeking the Peace of God in their lives.

Brian Pearmain

Articles

NOTHING CAN EVER BE THE SAME AGAIN

An article by the writer Jonathan Tullock, first published in *The Tablet: The International Catholic News Weekly*, 4 April 2020, p.8. Reproduced with permission of the Publisher. Website address: <http://www.thetablet.co.uk>

It was the kind of spring day that you yearn for. A vast blue sky, and some warmth in the sun for the first time since October. After the dark, sodden shut-down of winter, the woods seem to be flinging open their doors and welcoming us in. Accepting their free-of-charge invitation, the three of us walked up the steep bank through the trees: myself, my wife and our son – home from university for the foreseeable.

The still leafless oaks and birches rang with birdsong. The beige leaf litter was white with wood anemones, whose blooms seemed to twinkle like stars whenever a breeze strayed through the trees. Reaching the top of the hill, we paused to catch our breath and look down over the valley below. The view of tall-hedged fields and the silvery thread of a fast-running beck was so beautiful that for a moment I almost forgot that we were living in a national emergency, and were enjoying our one piece of daily permissible exercise.

Can you remember where you were, when you first heard about Covid-19? I can't. To begin with, it just seemed like bad news from a faraway land. There was nothing to suggest that it was the first, distant ripple of a tsunami. Can you remember where you were when you realised that the virus is going to change everything for ever? I can. It was as we stood looking over the valley below, trying to spot our own house in the distance. *Everything*, I realised at that moment, *looks the same as it always has, but really, it will never be the same again.*

Taking out a KitKat, I snapped off a finger to share. A wood pigeon took fright and crashed away through the trees. The wood pigeon wasn't the only one feeling frightened. As I write, a third of humanity is in terrified lockdown. The primary human reaction to threat is the flight-or-fight response. Fight- or-flight served humanity well for the vast majority of our hunter and gatherer history. Unfortunately, it's no good during pandemics in our crowded world. We can't fly away from Covid-19 like a wood pigeon. And for

all the talk of being at war, most of us can't physically fight it either. All we can do is hide and wait.

So how *are* we going to manage to live through this time? During times of crisis, many of us turn to nature for solace, refreshment, entertainment and a sense of connection. But doesn't Covid-19 jeopardise this nurturing relationship with nature? Scientists agree that the recently emerging catastrophes of Ebola, Sars, Mers and Covid- 19 are all zoonotic, originating in animals before transferring to humans. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that three-quarters of the new or emerging diseases that infect humans originate in animals. Far from being comforting and safe, isn't nature turning on us? Has our faithful companion become a lethal hoarder of pathogens?

But nature is not the enemy. In fact, scientists believe it's one of our best protectors against pandemics, and always has been – if we let it be. Unfortunately, we've spent recent decades dismantling this protection by destroying and degrading vast areas of the natural world. Disease ecologist Dr Thomas Gillespie of Emory University believes that by radically shrinking natural habitats and annexing "wilderness" areas for our own use, humanity has been removing the protective barriers between ourselves and the animals that carry these pathogens. In effect, we're removing the buffer zone that kept us safe.

HABITAT LOSS also causes species to crowd together in degraded environments – a blueprint for contagion. At the same time, cities are packing more and more humans together in unhealthy slums. Put simply, we're turning the world into the kind of impoverished ghetto where pandemics thrive. And if you add to the mix, the eating of exotic wild animals purchased from so-called "live animal markets", then we're just asking for trouble.

Aaron Bernstein, director of Harvard University's Center for Climate Health and the Global Environment, widens the scope of this debate by linking climate change to the rise in zoonotic illnesses. He argues that the human actions that lead to climate change, are also behind the recent rise in pandemics.

Globally, the largest cause of habitat loss is deforestation, which occurs mostly for agricultural purposes. Air-cleaning forests are replaced by large "steakhouse" livestock farms, which in turn serve as a source for the spillover of infections from animals to people. "When we change the rules of the game by drastically

changing the climate and life on Earth," Professor Bernstein stated recently, "we have to expect that it will affect our health."

Just as the causes of pandemics such as the coronavirus go hand in hand with the causes of climate change, so the effects of climate change exacerbate the catastrophic outcomes. Put simply, polluted air is deadly during a respiratory disease pandemic. A study on Sars (a disease closely related to Covid-19) found that infected patients from regions with higher air pollution were 84 per cent more likely to die than those in less polluted areas. The same outcomes are expected with Covid-19. Nature's clean air kept our lungs healthier, but we're turning it (and ourselves) into a chain smoker of diesel fumes and CO₂. We seem hell-bent on lowering our collective immune system.

IF ANY GOOD is to come of this terrible situation, then it must be the realisation that the long-term fight against Covid-19, and the ensuing pandemics that scientific consensus expects, is the same as our fight against climate change. Already, scientists are pointing out that the lack of emissions in lockdown China saved many more lives than the 3,297 that official numbers say died of the virus. The real challenge is not to slip back into bad old ways when we come out of lockdown.

Covid-19 is requiring us to take radical and unprecedented actions to protect ourselves; climate change requires the same level of action. The same scientists who warned us about threats from Covid-19 are also warning us about the perils from climate change. Thankfully, our government has heeded their warning against Covid-19; why does it persist in ignoring them concerning climate change? Already, the aviation industry is lobbying for bailouts, and clean air deadlines in UK cities are being postponed.

Will the terror of Covid-19 be the celebrated point when we realise that we simply can't go back to our habitat-destroying, air-polluting, pandemic-encouraging ways? The point when we accept that our species is committing suicide. The point when we all become radicalised and decide to take action. These words are hard to write at a time of international emergency, but we must act on them: we are either living through the preliminary stages of what is going to be a catastrophic, possibly final epoch for humanity, or we stand at the beginning of the road that will lead us up the hill, to the fine view of a healthy and just world. Whichever choice we make, things will not go back to how they were.

IT WAS AFTER we'd shared the KitKat and were walking home that the chiffchaff started to sing. Its two-note call brought me a deeply moving surge of hope. This tiny bird, the first of our songsters to return from migration, had flown all the way from West Africa just to be in our local woods. Weighing less than a KitKat, it had managed to negotiate the stricken Sahara to cross the Mediterranean. We too will start and complete the journey of our own survival. The hour is darkest before the dawn. The winter silence is loudest, before the chiffchaff sings. Like the birds, like nature our companion and protector, like our Sister Earth, let us choose life.



Eco top tips

June – Your electrical appliances

1. You can save around £30 a year just by remembering to turn your appliances off at the plug rather than leaving them in standby mode. www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/home-energy-efficiency/energy-saving-quick-wins
2. Take your phone charger out of the socket when not in use. It uses energy even when it's not charging your phone.
3. Buy A-rated electrical appliances whenever you can. They may be more expensive initially but you will save on your energy bills.
4. The location of your fridge can make a difference in how energy efficient it is. Make sure it is out of direct sunlight and not close to the oven. Keeping it against an outside wall will help the heat it generates escape easily, and always make sure that there is a few inches' space all around the fridge so that air can circulate.
5. Electrical gadgets are great, but the environmental impact of manufacturing them and disposing of them at the end of their life is high. Think before you buy more gadgets.

Provided by Jemima Parker, Diocesan Environment Officer

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Readings



June 7th

Isaiah 40:12-17, 27-end
2 Corinthians 13:11-end
Matthew 28:16-20

June 11th – Corpus Christi

Genesis 14:18-20
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 6:51-58

June 14th

Exodus 19:2-8a
Romans 5:1-8
Matthew 9:35-10:23

June 21st

Jeremiah 20:7-13
Romans 6:1b-11
Matthew 10:24-39

June 28th

Jeremiah 28:5-9
Romans 6:12-end
Matthew 10:40-end

A Prayer during these challenging times

Loving Lord,

We pray for your love and compassion to abound as we walk through this challenging season,

We ask for wisdom for those who bear the load of making decisions with widespread consequence,

We pray for those who are suffering with sickness and all those who are caring for them,

We ask for protection for the elderly and vulnerable to not succumb to the risk of virus,

We pray for misinformation to be curbed that fear may take no hold in hearts and minds.

We pray that we exercise the good sense that you in your mercy provides and that we approach each day in faith and peace, trusting in the truth of your goodness towards us. **Amen**

From the Registers

Graveside Committals: 04/05/2020 – Florence Hibbert
06/05/2020 - Robert Richards



Transport

Would you like to come to Church services when they start up again but cannot get there by yourself? Please let us know and we will try to come up with a way of getting you here to worship with us.

St. Martin's Free Community Kitchen

Our doors are open to families, individuals, the homeless, underprivileged and whoever else may be in need of some delicious food.

Every Saturday, serving 12pm-2pm

Come and find us at

St. Martin's Institute
St. Martin's View
Leeds
LS7 3LA



Just off Chapeltown Road



Community Kitchen

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in"
(Matthew 25:35)

Started in July 2014, The Community Kitchen is usually open on Saturdays from 12.00 to 2.00pm. A free three course meal of soup, a main course and dessert is normally provided. Tea, coffee and fruit juices are also served.



St Martin's Institute

St Martin's View, LS7 3LA

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