



## What's Happening at St Michael and All Angels, Blewbury during the Covid-19 restrictions

Greetings from the clergy and all from St Michael and All Angels. We wanted to let you know what is happening here and the other churches in the Churn Benefice. While the church buildings are closed, the church community continue to be very active, despite the current limitations on our gatherings and movements. Services and groups are continuing online and by telephone, and the clergy are available if people have questions, would like to talk, or would like to ask for prayer for themselves or someone they care about.

### Weekly Benefice activities and services

#### a. Would you like to talk with our clergy?

Our Clergy are available to respond to emails and phone calls. You can contact them through emails to the Benefice Team ([office@churnchurches.co.uk](mailto:office@churnchurches.co.uk)) or by ringing the main parish number (01235 850267) or individual clergy numbers, which are found on the Churn website.

#### b. Services

We're still meeting together for prayer and worship – and we welcome visitors! The Benefice uses GoToMeeting (GTM) to hold on-line church services every Sunday at 10.30am (you can join from 10:00 onwards if you want to have a chat and/or to try out the technology first), and brief evening prayers Monday to Friday at 8pm. We are holding [a special VE Day](#) service on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

It's easy to join in. Any device that will get you online – phone, tablet or computer – can be used to join the service: instructions are below and on our website. And if you don't have an internet connection, that's not a problem. You can join the service by telephone. For details on how to join, please contact the Benefice office on the number above.

#### c. The weekly Churn newsletter

Want to find out what's happening week by week? We're now sending out a weekly email of the Benefice newsletter (The Churn) and the Sunday Bible readings. To receive it, please contact the Benefice office. The Benefice office can also help you if you require a paper copy of the newsletter.

#### d. The Rector's Daily Reflections

The Rector writes daily reflections which many find of comfort during these times. You can sign up to receive these, too, by contacting the Benefice Office.

#### e. The website

The [ChurnChurches](#) website is regularly updated to show a [calendar](#), [notices](#), [events](#) and [services](#) and carries the Rector's Daily Reflections. It also contains instructions of how to upload the GoToMeeting App and useful information about how to get support during this crisis. The weekly Churn newsletter and the Readings for the next Sunday are posted on the website on Fridays.

### Special Events

#### a. A short service for children with music

Do you have children at home? [Revd Louise](#) will lead "GROWING WITH JESUS" via Zoom on Wednesday 6 May at 4pm, a short service for children with music, story, action and



prayer. Children are encouraged to show a growing plant(s) a large picture of a flower, or for older children, the plan of a secret garden. Contact the Benefice Office for the link to join in.

b. The Churn Mothers' Union

The Churn Mothers' Union is working to raise funds for AFIA – a programme that offers holidays away (once that's possible again!) for families who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford them. This is going to be needed more than ever! To raise the money, the MU is doing a 'sponsored card' event. MU members will make and send 100 cards in May to people who are helping out during the crisis and people who have been affected by the crisis and might particularly appreciate a card at this time.

Could you sponsor us for 5 or 10p per card (£5 or £10 total)? Cash can be given in a sealed envelope, or cheque to "The Churn MU" and delivered to Revd Louise Butler, Penridge, Church Road, Blewbury, OX11 9PY. Bank transfers can also be made, please contact Louise for account details.

[Please let Louise](#) know if you have names of carers, medical staff, and other key workers you feel should be thanked at this time. MU members will be supplying the stamps, making, and writing cards and posting them