



St Leonard's Church
cnr Strickland & Mitchell Sts
Denmark

Anglican Parish of Denmark-Walpole

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St. George's Church
11 Vista St
Walpole

Parish Priest: Revd Sally Buckley tssf 9848 2173
Wardens: Alison Kershaw 9848 2606, Sally Prickett 0428 747 262. Judy Ross 0455 509 317
Treasurer: Chris Prickett 0413 103 743

We endeavour to be an expression of God's love in the community

Thursday, 18 June 2020.

Dear Parishioners,

Well, this will be my last weekly letter to you for a few weeks, as I will be away on three weeks' annual leave.

It was lovely to again worship at St George's, Walpole, last Sunday, and I am looking forward to being able to re-open St Leonard's, Denmark, when I return from my break. It will be lovely seeing you all again.

Please remember that under the current COVID Safety Plans in place – now stage 3 – the following regulations will be in place:

- If you are feeling unwell, in any shape or form, please **do not** come to church.
- The current regulations allow for 2m² space around each person. Please only sit in the seats or places marked. If you do not normally live with a person, please make sure that distancing is maintained at all times.
- There will be no handshaking or hugs at any time.
- Please use hand sanitiser on entering the church.
- Please make sure your name and contact number is registered as you enter the church. Please note that this will **only** be used to contact you should someone attending the service come down with the virus.
- All cushions and soft fabric chairs have been removed from St Leonard's. If you want a cushion, please bring your own and take it with you afterwards.
- There will be no after church fellowship, tea, coffee or other refreshments until further notice.
- The churches will be thoroughly cleaned before or after each service, with chairs/pews and other surfaces disinfected.
- For the time being, worship will be a form of Morning Prayer.

Please respect this, so that safe worship may be allowed to take place.

Please note that St Leonard's will not be open to the public outside Sunday worship. This is because it needs to be cleaned after anyone has been in, and with visitors wandering in, we won't necessarily know when people have been in or what has been touched etc.

Another issue which has been drawn to our notice, is that we are unable to use the prayer books and hymn books, because, again, they will need to be cleaned thoroughly after each use. At St. George's, this is not an issue because the whole service is on the screen.

Unfortunately, at St. Leonard's we do not have that facility and so I will be producing a Morning Prayer booklet. **This will be available on Sunday July 19, when we re-open St Leonard's.** Everyone will be given one when they arrive at church and you will take and retain it, bringing it back each Sunday. Pew sheets and a separate sheet with the hymns for that week will be available each Sunday and you will be required to take them with you. It is important to keep the service booklet safe and bring it back each week, so we do not have avoidable wastage with having to print extra copies for people who keep forgetting to bring theirs. Saying that, there will be extra copies available for those who were not at previous services.

I know that some of you may think this is all 'over-kill', but it is what we have to have in place and abide by to enable us to worship together.

This week has seen much sadness and chaos around the world in the wake of various incidents. I leave you with a few prayers and reflections which have helped me to stay focused and positive, and I hope one or other may speak into your heart, encouraging you and giving you peace.

Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief.

Do justice now.

Love mercy now.

Walk humbly now.

*You are not obligated to complete the work
but neither are you free to abandon it.*

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You have no idea what another person is going through –
the loneliness which wraps around them like a shawl;
the grief from a relationship broken years ago;
the guilt for not doing enough for others in these days;
the pain of separation from loved ones;
the guilt of not doing enough for themselves;
the weariness from not getting enough sleep;
the sadness from not being able to say goodbye;
the bone-tired days which stretch into long, long nights.

You have no idea what another person is going through –
so, if you are that person of faith as you claim to be,
cut everybody some slack
especially on this ugly system of communicating
called social media.

Be kind
be gracious
be gentle
be loving

you have no idea of what another person is going through.

Thom Shuman (c) 2020, posted on FaceBook.

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In the silence of our hearts we listen for wisdom, O God
that we may learn again that we are born of you
and that all people are bearers of your everlasting image.

In the silence of our hearts we listen
that we may know once more that the earth
and all its creatures are sacred
and that within us and among us is your
wisdom and your delight.

John Philip Newell

Please stay safe and well, and I hope to see you, or be in touch with you when I get back from leave ... with husband in tow!

With my prayers and good wishes, your priest and your friend,

