



# Weekly News

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2020

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

[www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk](http://www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk)

St Peter's Church, Cambridge Road, Harrogate, HG1 1PB

## A thousand hot meals during lockdown

Although the Church building is closed and all our services have moved online, St Peter's keeps on **feeding hungry people**. During April, thanks to our wonderful volunteers and generous donors, over 1,000 hot meals will have been served from the West Door of the Church.



Niel Martin

Although a hot breakfast has always been available at St Peter's, we have only been serving hot food in the evenings since the lockdown began. This all started when Betty's Café was closed suddenly, and they sent over all that day's beautifully prepared, fresh meals - but they had to be served hot that day! Now volunteers like Alex and Niel (*pictured on this page*) help to turn the food donated by local businesses into delicious takeaway meals for all those who are hungry or in need.

A hot breakfast is still served from Monday to Saturday from 8:20 – 8:45 am. Then every afternoon from 4:00 – 5:00 pm there's a hot meal, as well as the usual tins and whatever else we have to give away. On Sundays, a hot takeaway lunch is served from 1:00 – 1:30 pm.

The Vicar, Alan Garrow, says, "St Peter's food ministry is a small sign of God's open-armed generosity - thanks to the tireless efforts of an incredibly hard-working team of volunteers who have been shopping for, collecting and delivering produce, cooking, packing, serving and keeping the place clean and tidy. In this and many other ways St Peter's ministry doesn't stop."

*(continued overleaf)*



Alex Armour

## A thousand hot meals during lockdown



*Harry Satloka, who usually leads the Free Walking Tour of Harrogate, also volunteers at St Peter's*



*Hannah Beck, Lay Reader and Team Leader, prepares hot drinks at breakfast*



*Christine Sweeney, a member of the Monday Breakfast Team*



*Martin Woodhead, a member of our Breakfast Club picks up some food*



*Steve Gibb, Deputy Team Leader, managing the stores.*

## **Thank you** to the businesses who support us:

Addyman Butchers

Betty's Harrogate

Debenhams

Fox's Biscuits

Heck Food

Jigsaw Insurance Services

Morrisons

Tesco

Waitrose

*We are also grateful to everyone who has collected and donated food and carrier bags.*

Asda

Cardamom Black

Fodder Farm Shop

Graveley's of Harrogate

Hotel Chocolat

Jinnah Restaurant

Starling Independent Bar Café Kitchen

The Den

## Readings for Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

### The Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Third Sunday after Easter (BCP)

**Old Testament** Genesis 7

**Gospel** John 10 v 1 - 10

**Epistle** Acts 2 v 42 - 47



## Christian Aid week is moving online

Next week (10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May) is Christian Aid week, when usually there would be house-to-house collections and fundraising events in churches up and down the country. This year, instead, there will be a virtual Christian Aid Week you can take part in online. New resources have been designed to help you pray, raise funds, and connect with friends and family during this time of coronavirus. To download the resources or to donate visit [christianaid.org.uk](http://christianaid.org.uk)

## Sanctuary update

Our youth group, Sanctuary, continues to get together online via Zoom. On Sunday evenings at 7:00 pm there's time to chat and catch up; this week they also had a quiz. Then during the week they have a Bible Study session – currently they are studying the Book of James. Please contact Chris Clayton if you would like to join them. On Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May they will be leading the online all-age service at 9:30 am based on the Bible passage James 2 v 14 – 26. Details of how to access our [online worship](#) are available on our website.

## New 24-hour phone line receives over 6,000 calls in first 48 hours

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has launched a free national phone line as a simple way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes while church buildings are closed. Callers will hear a special greeting from the Archbishop before being able to choose from a range of options, including hymns, prayers, reflections and advice on COVID-19.



Archbishop Justin said, "With many in our country on lockdown, it's important that we support those who are feeling lonely and isolated, whatever age they are. The **Daily Hope** service will allow people to hear hymns, prayers and words that offer comfort and hope, especially in this Easter season. I want to urge people to spread the news about this service. If there is someone you know who is particularly struggling, give them a call and let them know about the **Daily Hope**. I'm going to phone a friend; will you join me?"

**Please pray for those who have asked for our prayers:**

Nicky Aitken, Pat Anderson, Ruth Bowes, Mary Burcher, Louise Emrullahu, Cathy Fuller, Pam Gardiner, Vicky Harrison, David Hipkin, Caroline Kelly, Sian Lockwood, Charlie Martineau, Peggy Palmer, Alan Richardson, Michele Roszak, Frances Roxby-Proud, Colin Sinclair and Keith Ward.

**RIP – Edna Hodgkiss**

**Also in our prayers this week:**

- Mon** All healthcare workers  
Those working as part of the health and social care supply chain
- Tues** All who are affected by  
Coronavirus COVID-19  
Funeral directors and crematorium staff
- Wed** Those at risk of domestic abuse  
Women's refuges all over the UK
- Thurs** All our emergency services  
The staff maintaining power and water to our homes
- Fri** Those who are guiding our nation  
All attending the COBRA meetings at Downing Street
- Sat** Alan Garrow, Vicar of St Peter's  
All working as Hospital Chaplains

**Daily Readings**

*Morning Prayer is at 8:00 am and Evening Prayer at 5:00 pm daily. These are the Bible readings we will be using in Church each morning this week. Why not read them at home if you are unable to come to the service?*

- Mon** *English Saints and Martyrs of the Reformation era*  
Psalm 103  
Exodus 32 v 1 - 14  
Luke 2 v 41 to end
- Tues** Psalm 48  
Exodus 32 v 15 - 34  
Luke 3 v 1 - 14
- Wed** Psalm 135  
Exodus 33  
Luke 3 v 15 - 22
- Thurs** Psalm 57  
Exodus 34 v 1 – 10, 27 to end  
Luke 4 v 1 - 13
- Fri** *Julian of Norwich, spiritual writer, c 1417*  
Psalm 51  
Exodus 35 v 20 – 36 v 7  
Luke 4 v 14 - 30
- Sat** Psalm 34  
Exodus 40 v 17 to end  
Luke 4 v 31 - 37

**The Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**or**

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father.

# A doctor returns the applause

*This article first appeared in **Lift up your hearts** free to download from the Church Times website. In it Alice Gerth, a doctor in the east of England, responds to the accolades given to medical staff.*

I find it strange that we are held up as heroes. Don't get me wrong: I understand the intention, and it is overwhelmingly generous. But hear me when I say we aren't the heroes. You are. For all of us working in hospitals, doctors in particular, we have a stable salary and a job that will exist at the end of all of this. In fact, I'm earning more, as I'm working longer and more antisocial hours. Business and local communities are providing food for us for free.

The sentiment is so kind, but I feel guilty. There are many in much harder economic situations than I am. There are the children who normally get their main hot meal at school, and their parents trying to feed them on their two-of-any-item rations and a reduced salary. Those who need foodbanks, which are struggling to meet their needs. Those who have lost jobs or had their hours cut.

Christianity doesn't really subscribe to the idea of heroes in the same way as the Greek and Roman mythology that it was born amongst. There are no Herculean trials of strength. Instead Jesus washes feet, mixes with undesirables, and demonstrates God's heroism in dying for others. This is biblical heroism, sacrificing yourself to help others.

Doing what is hard to protect others from Covid-19 is modelling Christ's heroism more clearly than any health-care professional who goes to work. The heroes are the parents with children at home 24/7; and that's before I consider single parents, or those in houses/flats that are too small for their families.

The heroes are those staying at home who don't know whether their job will still exist at the end of this, and for how long their employer will keep paying them.

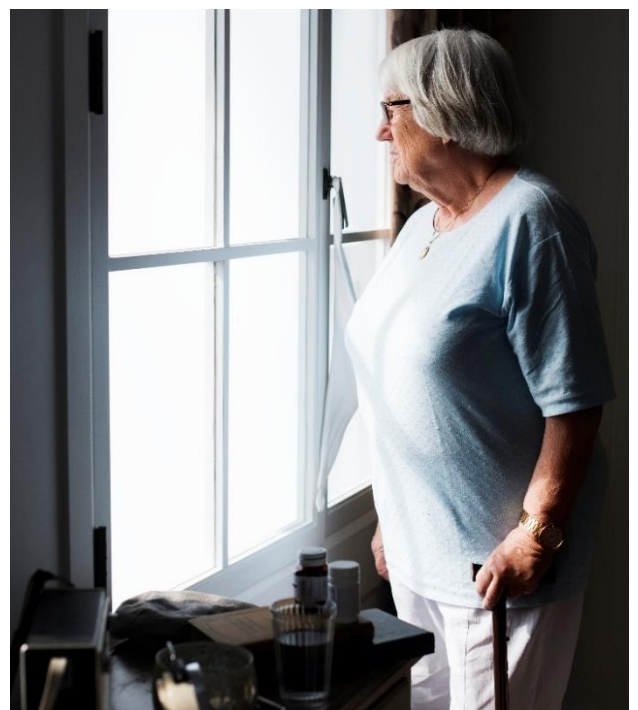
The heroes are the business owners desperately trying to keep staff on the books whilst maintaining the chance of their business surviving.

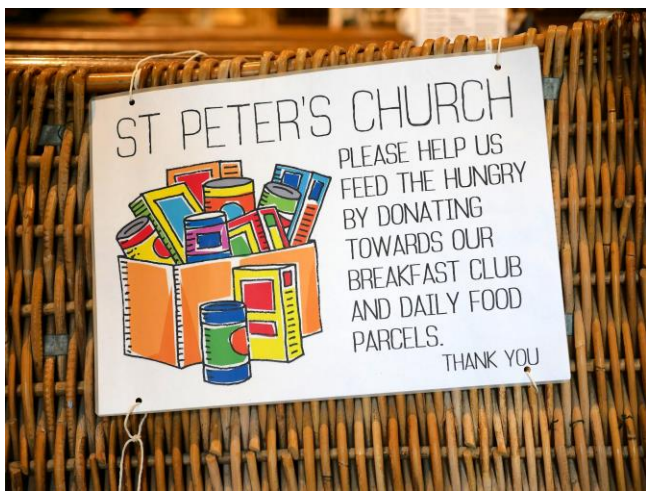
The heroes are those who live alone, who have lost their Thursday lunch club, who don't have Zoom or Facebook to keep in touch, who are scared because they are frail and old.

The heroes are the families who worry about us and tell us to stay safe as we go out to work.

The heroes are the patients and families separated by stringent visiting rules that mean they cannot be together when ill or dying.

The heroes are those who unceremoniously get on with the unglamorous, day to day staying at home with no applause or accolade.





As you can see St Peter's is continuing to give out food **every day** to those in need. If you would like to donate something - toiletries, tinned and dried food – please bring it to Church from 8:00 – 9:00 am on Mondays to Saturdays, 1:00 – 1:30 pm on Sundays or 4:00 – 5:00 pm daily.

### A prayer for health workers

Gracious God,  
give skill, sympathy and resilience  
to all who are caring for the sick,  
and your wisdom to those searching  
for a cure.  
Strengthen them with your Spirit,  
that through their work many will be  
restored to health;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

### Financial Giving

If you would like to support us financially at this difficult time, please use these bank details to contribute by BACS:

**St Peter's Church PCC Harrogate**

account at Natwest Bank PLC

Sort Code: 53-50-21

Account No: 67137628

or **download a Planned Giving Form** from the website. **THANK YOU!**

### Next Week's Deadline

The deadline for the next edition of the Weekly News (10<sup>th</sup> May) will be noon on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May. Please send any items (including photos) to Alan Garrow or to Marian Chambers (addresses below).

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