



**ALL SAINTS  
HIGHER WALTON**

**THE PARISHES OF**



**HOLY TRINITY  
HOGHTON**



**NEWSLETTER**

**22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2020**

Visit our websites

[www.allsaintshigherwalton.org](http://www.allsaintshigherwalton.org)  
[www.holytrinity.moonfruit.com](http://www.holytrinity.moonfruit.com)



**SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS AT ALL SAINTS HIGHER WALTON**

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**Contact** for baptisms weddings or funerals The Vicar : Revd. Hannah Boyd tel 01772 335138

***'God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble.' Psalm 46:1***



These words seem particularly appropriate at this uncertain, confusing and difficult time in our country and our world. Every day the news changes, the information and advice change and it can be so easy to become swamped in the panic and fear which pervades. As Christians we are called to a different way of living, we have the Prince of Peace as our Saviour, Redeemer and best friend.

We can turn to the one who is our refuge and strength who is always ready to help us. We do not know what these next few days or weeks will hold but we do know the one who holds them for us. Hebrews 13:8 reminds us that 'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.' Wherever you may find yourself in these coming days and weeks I pray that you may find time to deepen your relationship with Jesus, to make the most of the extra time and space and quiet to focus on him. To read more of your Bible, to engage in prayer in new and different ways, to reach out to people in new ways and to find their love and kindness and compassion as you show that to those who come into contact with you.

As a community the way we do Church may have changed but as the Archbishops said to the clergy in their letter this week 'Our life is going to be less characterised by attendance at church on Sunday, and more characterised by the prayer and service we offer each day.' This is a great goal to aim for and we are going to try for as long as possible to keep All Saints open every weekday for prayer between 9am and 3pm and 7pm – 8pm. Please come and use the building, if you are well and it is safe to do so, for private prayer and reflection. Please take heed of the information available when you arrive at the church but please do come. We are also going to have both churches open every Sunday morning between 9am and 11am, again for private prayer only. Please maintain a respectful distance from other people and make use of the space available to pray.

As part of our service at this time it would be wonderful if you felt willing and able to bring an item or two for the foodbank to church when you come to pray. All our local foodbanks are running desperately low at this terrible time and need our support more than ever. A friend of mine is a volunteer at a local foodbank and met a young man this week: this is what happened: "He said he would take anything we could offer him as he couldn't get food in the shops as the shelves were empty. He said "it's not fair".

At this time of difficulty we must not forget our duty as Christians to love and serve the poor however we can.

We will also be uploading weekly videos of short services for you to watch : these will arrive via email and Facebook. We will also be delivering paper resources to those without internet access. If there is anyone you know of who would benefit from being kept in regular contact with someone please do phone me in the first instance and let me know and we will add them to our new initiative 'Friends on the Phone' You can see more about this overleaf

At this time of change and distress let us keep praying and keep turning to the one who is always faithful and always willing to help us. Let us truly be the Body of Christ. Physically we may be distanced and dispersed but we are united around our Saviour.

***With my love and prayers, Rev'd Hannah***

The announcement about suspension of services and social events is shown overleaf

**Ian  
Wilde**  
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This message was broadcast on Church Desk last Tuesday.

## **SUSPENSION OF WORSHIP & SOCIAL GATHERINGS**

Due to the recent Government advice regarding the Coronavirus the Archbishops have updated their advice to all clergy and unfortunately all public worship is suspended until further notice.

This is very upsetting news I know, but we must remember that the Church is not the building ; it is the Body of Christ, the people of God and the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit. There are plans developing for how we will worship remotely from each other and I will be in touch again soon with more details on that. We are also developing ways of keeping in touch with those who will have to self-isolate and to keep in touch with other members of our parishes, again further information will follow on this.

For now we are able to keep church open for prayer and as we already have church open for prayer this is wonderful that we can carry on with this. All Saints Church will be open every weekday between 9am and 3pm (please note the extension of the time) and again between 7pm and 8pm. Please come and use the space to pray and to meet with God whenever you wish to.

It goes without saying that all other social gatherings are cancelled for the foreseeable future including Coffee Mornings both at All Saints or at The Oak Pub, there will be no House Groups, bell ringing, Steps to Heaven dance group, Mothers Union, stamp trimming, hand bells or any other social gathering.

Thank you for your support in what is a very difficult time. Please do keep on praying for all those affected by the outbreak both here and around the world. If you wish to discuss anything at all please do telephone me on 01772 335138

With my love and prayers Hannah

### **SPORT RELIEF WALK**

Well done to our new TG group who did a 3 mile sponsored walk from Holy Trinity down to All Saints on a beautifully sunny Sunday morning, they have raised an impressive **£196.17** for Sports Relief  
Many thanks to all those who so generously supported them.



### **FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS**

**Baptisms 15<sup>th</sup> March at ASHW**

**Quinn James Turner**

and

**Anaya Mae Turner**



## **Friends on the Phone**

If you are alone and having to self-isolate we'd love to phone you and talk through how we can help you.

We could ring you every week for a chat, help you get sorted with prescriptions and food, whatever you need at this moment. Just let us know and we can help.

If you are able to get out and about All Saints Church, Higher Walton is open every week day from 9am till 3pm for peace and space to reflect and be quiet.  
All welcome.



### **A MESSAGE FROM DAVID WOODHOUSE**

#### **THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL SURPRISE!**

The Service was ending when suddenly there was an interruption; had I missed something or was there an emergency? Then Hannah came forward, mic in hand and ambushed me! I was showered with beautiful 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Cards full of very moving greetings and a seemingly Father-Christmas-load of thoughtful presents – all with a common theme! It was truly overwhelming. Please accept my sincere thanks to all the Conspirators who set this up and to all of you for your cards, gifts, Birthday Cakes and refreshments! We thank God for your valued fellowship and for all the blessings of his strength and safe keeping.

**David.**

### **AN UPDATE FROM STEPHEN NIVEN ON HIS WALK ALL OVER CANCER**



I have done 233,751 steps (106.95 miles) as of 19<sup>th</sup> March. This equates to an average of 5.63 miles/day The sponsorship has been so generous and to date stands at £634.50 with an additional amount of over £120 in Gift Aid which at the moment means an incredible amount of over £750 to Cancer Research UK to help towards their vital work to defeat cancer. The generosity, prayers and support of the good folk of All Saints and beyond has been overwhelming and such an encouragement to me to finish the job!! Thank you all so much.

If you would like to support Stephen, you can sign up on the list in church during the open hours or go on-line to <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/stephens-walk-all-over-cancer-fundraising-page-29>

**MANY THANKS** to all who organised or Quiz at St. Aidan's on 14<sup>th</sup> March and to all who supported it by attending. It was as always, much enjoyed by all and raised the sum of **£230** for church funds

**Next Newsletter 5<sup>th</sup> April**

