

St Christopher's Church
Tatum Street
Walworth
London
SE17 1QR

19 March 2020

Dear brothers and sisters,

You will probably have heard by now that the Church of England has asked us to suspend public worship for the time being in response to Coronavirus - Covid-19.

This means that for the time being we cannot celebrate mass publicly, whether during the week or on Sunday. This is an extraordinary measure for an extraordinary time, but with the health and well being of our community in mind.

At the moment we are not sure what will be happening in St Christopher's but it would be good if we can all be praying for each other and the wider community. If we all do it at 10.00 on Sunday morning, the time our Mass would normally be starting then we can all be praying together. The Church of England has an app for this called Daily Prayer, or it is available online at: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer> if you scroll down the page and click on the appropriate link for the time of day.

In addition, Bishop Christopher has suggested that if possible we should say the Lord's Prayer at 1.00pm and 7.00pm and, where it is safe to do so, light a candle and put it in a window.

In the next few weeks we can perhaps think of ways to mark Holy Week and Easter.

For now there are some churches that are thinking of streaming a Mass on the internet for people to watch and participate in at home. If you have access to the internet you might like to join in. For now we know that St John the Divine Kennington is hoping to do this and there is more details on their website. We are trying to find out if some of our neighbouring churches are also doing it. We will try to keep you posted about these.

Regarding pastoral care we envisage that we will largely be keeping in touch with people over the phone and by text, and WhatsApp for smaller groups (not a whole St Christopher's WhatsApp).

Contacts: Bett, Tunde and Revd Deepthi

Contact email: church.admin@pembrokehouse.org.uk

Also, we encourage those who want to give to do so by making bank deposits or transfers. God bless you as you give.

Bank details available from church.admin@pembrokehouse.org.uk

We find ourselves in an extraordinary situation which we are all trying to respond to in the best way possible. The physical and spiritual health and well being of our community is paramount and it is

going to take some getting used to living our daily lives in such a different way. We are sure you would all wish to be alert to those within our community who live alone or are isolated in any way as we all play our part in keeping in touch with others, even if at a distance.

In the meantime please be assured that you remain in our thoughts and prayers and hold fast in the knowledge that God is good and we will find a way through this time.

God will continue to protect and strengthen you.

With best wishes.

Bett Tunde Revd Deepthi

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