



The Parish of Gornal and Sedgley

Registered Charity Number 1179471



All Saints' Sedgley, St Andrew the Straits and St Peter Upper Gornal

NOTICE SHEET - Sunday 5th April 2020

Palm Sunday

As we explore what it means to do church differently, we will continue to send you electronically the Sunday Readings for your personal use.

If you are aware of people at the moment that may benefit from receiving this notice sheet and the readers sheet, please let us know.

Currently all church groups including all children's and young people groups are postponed until we receive new advice from the Church of England and the government

NOTICES FOR THE WHOLE PARISH –

You can find full details of the current advice to churches on the internet at this address:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

We have included the links below, but you can access all these resources via the link above!

Digital resources - What is currently available?

There are a range of new and existing Christian resources available for people to engage with at this difficult and challenging time in the life of the nation and the world:

- **Weekly service broadcasts** – please search on the internet and you will find services being broadcast. We hope to try 'streaming' as a Parish, but are not quite there yet! Please pray for this.

- **Time to Pray app** - everything you need for Prayer During the Day, with variations according to the day of the week and the season of the Church's year here: <https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps/time-to-pray>.
- **Daytime prayer and Night prayer service audio** - building on the existing [daily prayer feed](#), this includes [daytime prayer and night prayer for each day](#). It will be available as a downloadable app in the coming weeks.
- **Live streaming services from churches** - AChurchNearYou.com now lists hundreds of churches offering livestreams of services from across the country. Churches need to add the 'Livestream' tag to their services and events that will be broadcast. Remember to add into the description how people can watch this. You add a link to the platform you're using to stream, such as your Facebook Page or YouTube Channel.
- **#LiveLent: Care for God's Creation** - the Church of England's Lent campaign for 2020. With weekly themes shaped around the first Genesis account of creation, it explores the urgent need for humans to value and protect the abundance God has created. This daily audio content is available via the app and daily emails. [Sign up for free https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/living-out-our-faith/lent-holy-week-and-easter/livelent-care-gods-creation](https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/living-out-our-faith/lent-holy-week-and-easter/livelent-care-gods-creation)
- **The BBC's Daily Service and Sunday Worship** - radio programmes will be using some of the [themes from #LiveLent as part of their broadcasts](#).
- **Prayer for the day** - each day the Church of England [publishes audio and text of the Prayer for the Day](#)
- **Smart speakers** – daily prayer and *#LiveLent* audio content can be [accessed via our smart speaker apps](#)
- **Mental health reflections** – [13 daily reflections](#) that seek to provide hope, reassurance and comfort. We have also [published five tips](#) to help tackle loneliness and isolation.

PAUL WILLMOTT – please pray for Paul and his ministry as the schools have now closed. You can see some of Pauls work on these links:

<http://twistonline.co.uk/> and <http://paulwillmott.com/>

OUR ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS - (ANNUAL DISTRICT CHURCH MEETING AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING)-

St Andrews ADCM was not able to take place and we have also had to postpone the APCM. These dates will be rearranged when the crisis has passed.

PARISH EMAIL NEWS GROUPS

Each of our churches has an email news group. If you know of anyone who would benefit from being on the news groups please ask them to let John Anderson treasurer@allsaintssedgley.co.uk or Guy know.

WE HAVE A TEAM OF PEOPLE TELEPHONING PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT ON EMAIL.

Thank you to everyone as you contact each other and encourage each other. We have a team of people telephoning those not on email. If you are aware of anyone who might have been missed or simply would appreciate a telephone call please let Guy, Catherine or Jan know.

DUDLEY BOROUGH BEFRIENDING SCHEME FOR THOSE WHO ARE SOCIALLY ISOLATED AT THIS TIME.

Dudley Council for Voluntary Service have been tasked with co-ordinating a telephone befriending scheme for the borough and have been working with key individuals from churches, agencies and community groups to make this happen. Guy has been asked to be a local co-ordinator. If you would like to be part of this which would mean telephone contact with a person in isolation, please let Guy know by email. The demand is not likely to be heavy at this time.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

- All of our NHS and care workers
- All of our emergency services
- All who are providing our food from production to sale
- Our local Food Bank
- All who are struggling with isolation
- All who have or are fearful of losing their work
- All those whose decisions effect the lives of others, especially the Government, all in Parliament and our Local Authorities
- All our children, especially those who are vulnerable
- For our teachers and educators

- All who are ill, bereaved, or suffering, those known to us and those who are unknown to us, that they may feel the closeness of the Lord's healing heart and His comforting arms around them.

A PRAYER ABOUT THE CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
Lord in your mercy ...

A PRAYER FOR THOSE IN ISOLATION

God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Lord in your mercy ...

FOR THOSE WHO ARE WORRIED/SOCIAL COHESION

Loving Jesus, you are compassionate to those in need
and heal the sick in body and mind.
Look kindly on those who are fearful at this time.
Help us all to put away all thoughts and actions
that separate us from you and from one another.
Give us grace to live our lives
confident in your promise that you are with us always.
Lord in your mercy ...

Lord Jesus Christ,
you taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need
as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to care for the sick,
and to assure the isolated

of our love, and your love,
Lord in your mercy ...

FOR HOSPITAL STAFF AND MEDICAL RESEARCHERS

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;
Lord in your mercy ...

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

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PARISH OFFICE – The parish office is currently closed and Gail is working from home Monday to Friday 10-12.00 noon. Her email address is: admin@allsaintssedgley.co.uk **Can items for the pew sheet be sent to her by Wednesday 12 noon please.** Thank you.

 follow us on Facebook –
'Gornal and Sedgley team
Ministry'



 follow us on
Twitter -
[@gornalsedgley](https://twitter.com/gornalsedgley)