



St Oswald's Church News Sheet

13th September 2020



Introduction

It's hard to believe that it is nearly 6 months since the first lockdown and sadly it looks as if there will be further restrictions for the time being. Given the latest 6-person rule, we've asked David Tucker to start this week's news sheet with an update for what it might mean for us.

Coronavirus Update for St Oswalds.

As the level of infections nationally, measured as the "R" or reinfection number, rises above 1, and the number of cases of Covid-19 appears likely to be pushed up by the re-opening of schools and the migration of students to university, the government has countered this by bringing in the "rule of six" which limits the number of people who can meet socially to six. There are exceptions, notably for attendance at an act of worship. There is no limit on the number of people who can attend an act of worship. There is a limit of 30 on the number of people who can attend a wedding, funeral or baptism. Activities such as PCC meetings may be exempt from the rule if they count as "work" but at the moment I am uncertain.

Government guidance says that those who attend an act of worship must not form groups of more than six. At the time of writing I am not sure quite what that means for us. **My main concern and responsibility is to ensure that anyone who comes into St Oswald's, whether for private prayer or for a service, is as safe from infection as we can make it.**

That means that we must continue to limit activity in church. So much of what is fellowship is also a potent means of spreading infection, and we must do all we can to protect everyone, of every age.

We are now required to make a record of everyone coming into church, as part of the track and trace programme. These records are destroyed after 21 days.

Cleaning and disinfecting takes place in the building regularly.

The new rule will also certainly affect some of the activities in the Parochial Hall.

If you are in any way concerned about whether you feel safe or comfortable in church, which is quite understandable, please call me on 522030 or 07710 747 841.

David Tucker

Churchwarden

GOING FORWARD

We will be having a service of HC tomorrow as usual. However, even with the renewed services since July in church, we have all very much missed seeing our families in church and in fellowship. The children of course have been continuing throughout and will continue with Sunday School but we thought it was about time we tried to involve everyone who cannot come to church in a regular act of worship (at least monthly). We will begin this next week (Sunday 20th September) with an AAW by Zoom. Many of you will be used to Zoom already and we hope that as many of you as possible will join us next Sunday. There will therefore be no physical 10.30am service in church next Sunday.

Although Sunday School has regularly used Zoom, we are obviously finding our way. We have devised a short service (25 minutes ish) which we hope you will all enjoy and afterwards, we would love you to stay and **have your coffee with us**. Zoom has a facility to put people into small groups randomly and it means that you will be able to have a chat to 3-4 people at a time just as you would on a normal Sunday. (As always, bear with us while we get used to the technology!).

It may well be that there will be more regular online services and we want to find the best ways of doing this. Some of you have already been tapping into online services for months and if you have ideas as to what you feel works well and would work best for us at St Oswalds, please tell us. In any event, any feedback can only help us make sure it is as good as we can make it. Although it might seem rather difficult now, when you think about it, it is actually a great opportunity, not only see each other regularly but also to tell God's Good News to more people than ever before. Please pray about it and do try it next Sunday.

We will be sending out instructions for the service by mid-week but here is the link.

Topic: **St Oswalds 10.30 Sunday Service**

Time: Sep 20, 2020 10:30 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9928421903?pwd=OUdOay9STXdaa2JSY0hwdDI5T1Z3UT09>

Meeting ID: 992 842 1903

Passcode: Oswald

For those of you unused to Zoom who want to practice, I'd be very happy to talk you through it this coming week. Just give a call/text or send an email – dmgbrooke@hotmail.com 07801475159 and we'll fix it up.

For those of who continue to enjoy our home service....

Readings for Sunday 13th September (Trinity 14)

Readings: Genesis 50.15-21
 Psalm 103.8-13
 Romans 14.1-12
 Matthew 18.21-35

Reflection

Please follow this link to Bishop Paul's reflection for this weekend.

<https://vimeo.com/456211126>

Prayers (from rootsontheweb.com)

Lord God,
help us to understand
how good it feels
to forgive and to be forgiven.
Help us to remember that
you forgive us again and again.
Amen.

Generous and compassionate God,
we come to you like the servant
who owes far more than he can ever pay,
but you are a God whose generosity knows no bounds,
and so we praise you.
We bring our prayers of gratitude
and our songs of worship.
We bring our longing to be transformed
into the likeness of your Son,
and we kneel at your feet,
merciful King, loving Father, Almighty God,
we kneel at your feet.
Amen.

Jesus' parables inspire us to pray for those who forgive us,
for big things and small...
for those who do not forgive, no matter what...
for those who do not know how to forgive...
for those who do not want to forgive...
for those who have not been forgiven.
God of forgiveness, for them all, we pray.
Amen.

Collect (Trinity 14)

Almighty God,
who in the passion of your blessed Son made an instrument of painful death
to be for us the means of life and peace: grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may
gladly suffer for his sake; who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Closing prayer

Into a world of noise and confusion;
into a world of delight and regret;
into a world of hope and fear;
into a world that is ever changing,
we go with the message of an unchanging God
who gave his all, that we might live life in all its fullness.
God of all, go with us and within us,
this and every day.
Amen.

September Birthdays and Celebrations

Congratulations to Gayle and Malcolm Hartley's daughter Rebecca and her husband Nick on the birth of Alfie William on 6th September, a little brother for Imogen.

This week we wish a very Happy Birthday to:

Thomas Gwillam who is 11 on 17th September
Morris Fox, from Little Wonders, who is 2 on 17th September
Jill Drew who celebrates her 85th birthday on 18th September
and Blake Barton, from Youth Group, who is 11 on 19th September.

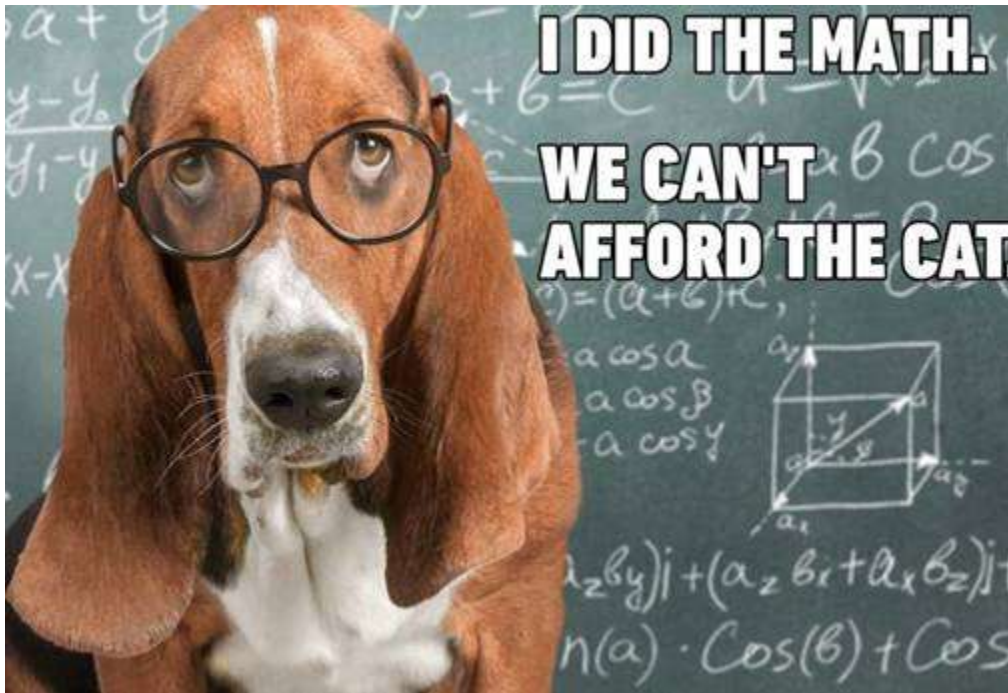
We pray that God will bless you on your birthdays and in the year ahead.

If you have a birthday or a special anniversary coming up in October please let Helen Irving know (helen@helenirving.co.uk or 01845 524308).

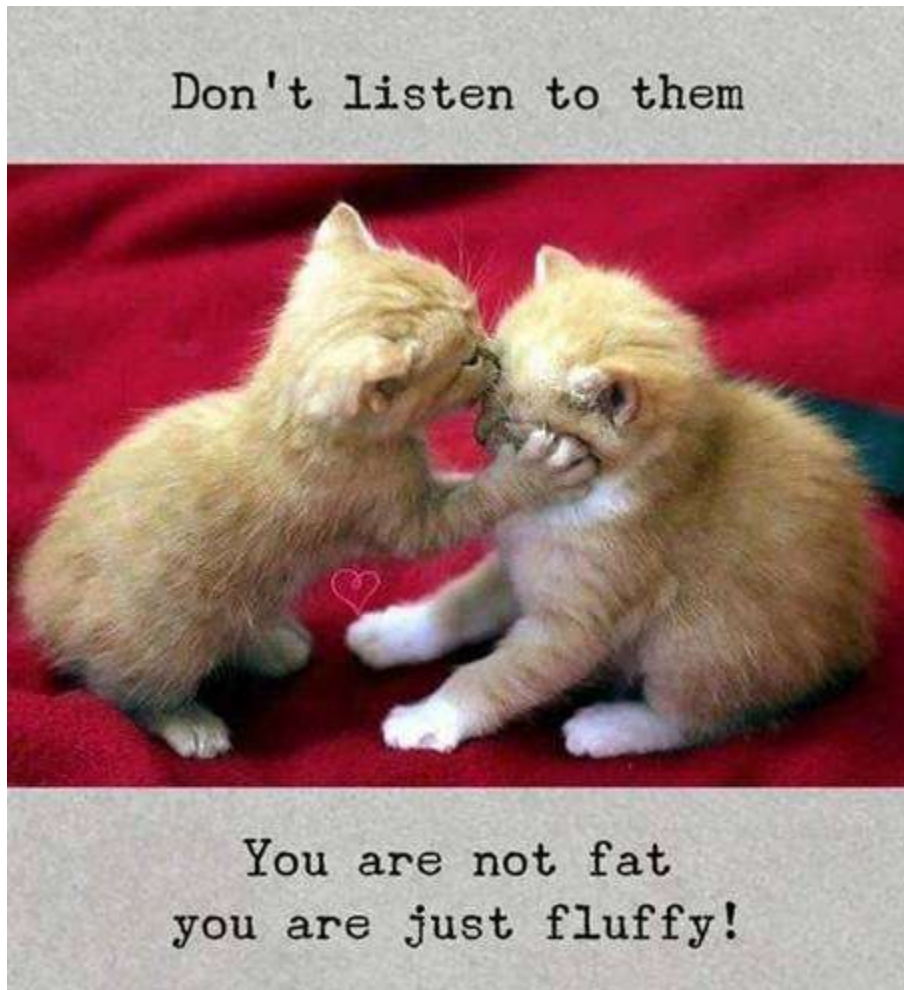
Thank you for your ongoing financial support for St Oswald's and the diocese.

Don't forget there is a new on-line giving page available at:

<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/fdc4c603-bdcf-4c89-94bc-c3507cdc8968>



I DID THE MATH.
WE CAN'T
AFFORD THE CAT



Don't listen to them

You are not fat
you are just fluffy!



Whitby