**Life at St Paul’s**

**Sunday 3rd May**

10.30am Morning Worship - accessible from the church website front page

Alternatively, there will be Sunday Worship on BBC Radio 4 at 8.10am,

or Songs of Praise on BBC1 at 1.15pm

**If you need help, please call and leave a message; we will get back to you.****T**: 887887

**Thanks to the Quizmaster** Oliver Wilderspin who organised a great quiz last weekend. Thanks too, to Claudia who hosted the event. There were a few challenges with the tech, but next time will be better!

**Alpha is going online!** Take part in a series of discussions looking at the big questions of life from the comfort of your own home. People aren't forced to speak or to take on other peoples’ views. It is just a chance to explore different issues about the Christian faith. For more information, check www.alpha.org
In each session, we will share a video for 20 minutes and have a discussion after for 20-30 minutes. To sign up, please go to the church website, events page. If you have any questions, contact Peter Clayton assistantminister@stpaulsjersey.org Please be thinking and praying about who you could invite.

If you haven’t managed to get **daily Bible notes**, but would like some, please contact the Church Office we have a small supply of UCB Word for Today booklets.

**Digital family prayer adventure** - An exciting new activity from Thy Kingdom Come for the whole family coming soon - 21st May to 31st May. Look out for more details next week.

HTB have updated **The Marriage Course** and have made it available for all free of charge. You need to register to take part. A great opportunity to invest in your marriage during lockdown. The sessions cover 7 weeks and are available now. For more information, head to [www.htb.org](http://www.htb.org)

Since the Christian Bookshop closed, may people may have started buying from Amazon. If you are able to, please consider supporting the smaller specifically **Christian booksellers**. These include:

www.[clcbookshops.com](http://clcbookshops.com/)

www.icmbooksdirect.co.uk – discount site

[www.eden.co.uk](http://eden.co.uk/)

www.tlmtrading.com

www.thegoodbook.co.uk

**Please keep in touch** with friends and those you know who might not be able to interact much… if you’re finding time on your hands, perhaps it’s time to dust off your pen and paper and send a letter or two!

Lots of people on ChurchSuite do not have their details (address/phone/email) showing. This may be because that is what you have chosen, but perhaps you also are unaware that nobody can see your contact details. Please use My ChurchSuite to check your settings and amend accordingly. If you are unable to do so, but would liek your settings changed, please inform the church office and it can be done for you.

If you need **practical support**, please get in touch with a member of the staff team who can guide you about how to go about accessing the food bank organised by the Salvation Army. The Church has its own **Help Fund** which is there to help and is available to help people in crisis. If you need support, please do be in touch with one of the staff or phone 887887.

After a couple of requests for **how to give** now that we are not meeting in the Church building, please find the church bank details below:

Lloyd’s bank Sort code. 30-94-61 Account no 03034080

Alternatively, you are able to use the “Givt” app. You can also post a cheque to the church payable to St. Paul’s Church

**Please pray for:**

* **St John’s Anglican Church -** as part of the Church in Jersey
* **Teachers and Students during the Covid-19 Crisis** - as part of the Diocese of Canterbury
* **Helen Vandenborn** (nee Bailey) the treatment for her cancer is not working therefore please pray for Helen, Len and the family that they would ride out these days as best they can and that they would know God's Presence and Peace
* **Mansell & Dianah Le Huray** who have been quite unwell
* **All our folk in Nursing and Care homes (& the staff caring for them)**, some are not able to communicate by telephone anymore and are missing our face to face visits
* Our **Mum's who are expecting babies** in the next couple of months

*Francelise Gallaher is the contact for the* ***Prayer Chain****; francelise2@yahoo.co.uk or 07584 511102*

**Verse for the week:** Ephesians 2:19-22

*“So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.”*

These verses conclude a truly glorious passage which is focussed on our unity in Christ. It’s worth reading the whole paragraph (2:11-22). The previous wall of division between Jew and Gentile has been broken down by the Christ who offered life with God by faith and not law. We are reconciled to God as one body through the cross and not by slavish obedience to rules.

It is inevitable that whenever I read a passage such as this, with the focus on our unity in Christ, that I recall the first meeting I attended at the Keswick Convention in 1956. Displayed across the front of the 7,000 seater marquee was a banner which boldly proclaimed, “ALL ON IN CHRIST JESUS”. Ever since those formative years of my Christian Pilgrimage the unity of the people of God has been a passion.

During this coming week we will of course be marking the conclusion of the horrendous years of conflict we know as the Second World War. In Jersey we will celebrate Liberation from the German Occupation and the renewed experience of freedom that resulted. Perhaps this celebration will be somewhat muted because of the current restrictions, but it may help us to be more reflective and consider what it means to be free.

For me the memories are different, more to do with the sight of London ablaze on the horizon during the blitz, exploding doodlebugs, an absent father for six years, but as with Jersey there was unbridled celebration on VE Day. I remember the bonfires on the estate, the fences torn down for fuel and the unbridled joyful exuberance.

Freedom is so important, but is always the beginning of something new. By grace I have been set free, but free to follow Christ, free to live his life, free to become increasingly a part of that united community called the Body of Christ and free with others to truly become corporately all one in Christ Jesus. **(RS)**