

**St Botolph's Weekly
Chronicle
Weekly Update 20
Week Ending
Friday 31st July
This week's Editors –
Carole & Charles**

Dear Friends,

Over the past weeks, Jo-Anne and I have been trying to go for a walk as often as we can. We tend to go out quite early and sometimes meet some of the other early-rising members of our church family. We have a few different routes that we follow: some taking us around the town; others leading us across the fields to Mareham Pastures; one going round Greylees and another taking us cross-country to the far end of the golf course and then back home. It has been wonderful to slow down and look at



God's creation and also to look at the changing face of our town. The photograph on the left is of the wheat field near the golf course. You may just be able to spot the bee hovering around, just above the red poppies. We have been able to marvel at the change in the fields as the crops grow and begin to ripen; some fields have been harvested already.

These walks remind us each time of the need to take care of creation and also of the amount of work that farmers have to put in at this time of year in order to make sure that we have enough to eat.

We are blessed in this country in having access to lots of shops near us and have fridges and freezers to store and preserve our food. You will know that the coronavirus is having a huge impact on every country across the world, but the virus is also disrupting people's access to basic food supplies. In places like India and Bangladesh the pandemic has prevented most poor people from working and most do not have any reserves of food or money to sustain them. Starvation is a very real threat to millions of poor across the world. You may already have received requests from charities asking for donations. If you haven't already done so, I would like to encourage you to give what you can to one of the charities working to address this very real problem. The Disasters Emergency Committee is leading a co-ordinated approach here in the UK, involving many of the major charitable organisations, such as Christian Aid, Cafod, Save the Children etc. You can donate on-line to <https://www.dec.org.uk> or by phoning 0370 6060 900.

And on a more local level, the Sleaford Larder has very low stocks of food, nappies and toiletries, so if you can make a donation, then please drop your gifts to New Life Church between 10am and 4pm, Monday to Friday.

Every Blessing Mark

Do not forget the Helpline number if you cannot get through on our usual numbers
07592 065567

Prayers – a prayer for the week ahead

Our green-fingered God help us to take care of your world and our own gardens within us.

Kind hearts are the gardens,
Kind words are the roots,
Kind thoughts are the flowers,
Kind deeds are the fruits.

Take care of your garden
And keep out the weeds
Fill it with sunshine,
Kind words and kind deeds. By H.W. Longfellow

Foodbank Urgent Request for Food

**Sleaford Larder are very low on food, toiletries, nappies, etc .
If you are able to help in any way, please drop your items off to
New Life Church between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday
(if you have contributions but are unable to get out please contact
Carole (01529 307781) who will arrange for collection**

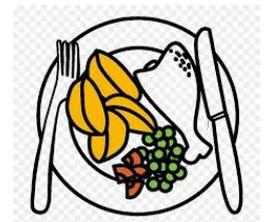


Photo Gallery

We are creating a gallery of images from this time of Lockdown. We are hoping to show what, as a parish, we are creating or observing. Why not join in? Please have a look at <http://quarringtonchurchsleaford.co.uk> . You can send your photos (jpegs please) to stbquarrington890@gmail.com

Just like this photo that Jan took on one of her early morning walks



Lockdown with a day at the Seaside

Can you still have fun during the Coronavirus pandemic?

Well, last Friday, I met up with my daughter and her two sons (aged 3 & 4). We decided to have a 'beach day'!! In order to make sure it was possible to 'social distance' at the beach, my husband John and I did a 'recce' the week before and checked out car parks, beaches, ice cream and coffee shop vendors.

So, we went prepared!! Carpark fee - paid via an App before we left home. Sorted (Louise did the same). Picnic, including a flask of coffee, sanitiser and wipes all packed together with blankets and two comfy chairs. The route was planned, the beach we were heading for agreed, so we set off!!

The drive to Hunstanton, our chosen destination, was good, taking about 1 hr 40 minutes and we arrived at the carpark at roughly the same time as our daughter. It was so wonderful seeing the delight on our grandchildren's faces as they shouted for all to hear 'Nannie, Grandad!!!' We duly unpacked the 'stuff' (and isn't there a lot to take down to the beach), and made our way to the sea.



It was truly beautiful. Although there were quite a few families there, all having a most marvelous time, there was plenty of space on the beach to socially distance ourselves. We set up camp and had such fun digging holes and building sandcastles. Although the boys were initially nervous about paddling in the sea, their curiosity finally gave way to lots of jumping, splashing and general larking about, until we were all soaked and decided to go back to camp.

It really was a most marvelous family day out, made even more special when the flag cruising along the beach ended up being an ice-cream vendor! Just on time and delicious!!

So, in answer to my question, 'Can you still have fun during the Coronavirus pandemic', the answer is a resounding 'Yes you certainly can!!' We all had a terrific day and wound our way home feeling tired but happy. I know John and I slept well Friday night and believe the boys did too!!



By Sue Tuck



Will this be the future for worship at Christmas?

Will make the crib service interesting!

Parish News

The opening of the church has gone well and will continue to be open on Fridays 11-12noon and on Mondays 1-2 pm. **In order for this to run smoothly two people are needed each session to act as stewards, if you are able to help with this please contact Maria.**

Church clock

Those of you who live within the sound of the Church will have heard that the clock chimes have been mended at last. Many thanks to all those who have contributed to our Just Giving page for the clock repairs which has raised a wonderful £770!



Notice from Dulcie

Dulcie has been in touch to say she has a collection of glass jars suitable for jam, chutney etc. She has said we can put this info in the Chronicle. If people wish to collect any from her she can be contacted on **01529 307394**.

Any articles, pictures or suggestions please send to

Carolesheard@icloud.com or phone Charles on 01529 307779/07964 754393 if you would like something collecting

During August it has been decided there will be just two editions of the newsletter so there will be one the 14th and 28th August. The frequency of issues will be reviewed in September

A Reflection on a reflection

In the 14th edition of the Newsletter, Andrea Barker wrote a Reflection on The Walk to Emmaus, Luke 24 v 14-34. She writes that others have taken up the theme of Emmaus Road, notably Earnest Shackleton and his expedition to the Antarctic in 1919, when he recounts how he was aware of a presence as they trekked across the mountains. I included a chapter in my children's book of Bible Stories, "A Visitor Comes to Town," in which a Roman legionary encounters Jesus

The legionary, Marcus, is due to retire after 25 years' service in the Roman Army. His final week coincides with Holy Week. He is a witness to The Triumphal Entry, the disputes in the Temple, and is a part of the arrest, trial, humiliation and the Crucifixion.

The story continues when the legionary has taken off his uniform and is now a Roman citizen. He is walking to the coast to board a ship, sail to Italy and join his wife in setting up a business to produce olive oil. He is joined on his journey by a stranger and they talk about the events of the previous week. At noon they rest under a tree and the stranger produces bread and wine which they share after a prayer has been said. Their walk continues until late in the day they reach the top of a long slow climb to see the sun setting on the horizon far out to sea. The path divides and Marcus walks down towards a harbour. The stranger bids farewell and walks towards the setting sun. He turns to wave and Marcus sees the marks of nails he had helped to hammer home. A last ray from the setting sun obscures his vision and the stranger is lost to sight.



The tale then jumps 25 years to the anniversary of these events and it is a story that is well known by his children and grandchildren but they want to hear it again. At its conclusion Marcus takes a loaf of bread, says a prayer, takes a piece and eats. He passes the loaf to his wife who does the same, as do all the family. The ritual is repeated with a cup of wine.

The story is an illustration of how the Christian message spread not only through the Roman Empire but across the world. Marcus remarks the world will change but the words of "the donkey man," which is how he describes the first encounter with Jesus riding into Jerusalem, will roll on through time.

Copyright Charles Coulson 2020

Mission and Ministry events for August 2020

The following events will continue through August

Ministry

Morning Prayer – each weekday (Monday to Friday) at 9.30am on Zoom
Private Prayer in Church - Monday 1pm to 2pm and Friday 11am-12 noon

Mission and Support

Coffee and Chat every Tuesday at 11am on Zoom
Pastoral Team meeting every Wednesday at 2pm on Zoom

Events which are on furlough until September!

Tiddlywinks
Bible Study

The Mission and Ministry Team wish you all a blessed summer.

Giving During the Lockdown

If you wish to make a donation by cheque, or set up a regular gift through the bank by standing order, then please give to the following account: -

By bank transfer

Bank: HSBC. Account Name: St Botolph's Church, Quarrington.
Sort Code: 40-42-07 Account No 21515403

By Cheque:

Please send any cheques made payable to "St Botolph's Church Quarrington"
to: Mr D Pursell, St Botolph's Church Treasurer, 75 London Road, Sleaford, NG34 7LL

Via the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS)

PGS receives regular giving on our behalf via the direct debit system and then passes it on to us, including the Gift Aid on behalf of taxpayers. More details from our treasurer

Please do not hesitate to contact David Pursell on 01529 306448 or by e-mail at jndpursell@hotmail.com to get information or advice about any aspect of our giving. And thanks again for your continued support.