Dear Church Family,

You may have already heard that this Wednesday (29th April) 10 Downing Street announced the names of the new bishops of Horsham and Lewes to serve as suffragan bishops in the Diocese of Chichester.

The Revd Ruth Bushyager, currently Vicar of St Paul’s, Dorking in the Diocese of Guildford will serve as Bishop of Horsham.

The Revd William Hazlewood, currently Vicar of the United Benefice of Dartmouth and Dittisham in the Diocese of Exeter will be the next Bishop of Lewes.

There was a digital announcement, the first virtual introduction of new bishops since the current lockdown began. A video launch, hosted by the Bishop of Chichester, which includes interviews with the new bishops, can be viewed on

https://www.facebook.com/DioceseofChichester

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQuXgODim0Y&t=903s

Worship

Good news for those without the Internet. Daily Hope Line. 0800 804 8044.

Liz Hill has sent in details of a telephone number set up by the Church of England for their ‘Daily Hope Line’ see above. It includes daily talks, hymns, and services (including Morning and Evening prayer). If you dial listen to the all of the number options. E.g. * = A message from Archbishop Justin Welby. 1 =Hymns we love. A short talk on a well known hymn. 2 = Hymn Line. Well known hymns played on a loop. 3 = Prayer line. Prayers, specifically for our times of the Corona Virus. 5 = the C of E Weekly Service. 6 = Morning and Evening prayer. Liz and Ian listened and found this very inspirational.

Sunday 3rd May 2020.

This Sunday is the first Sunday in the month – which means our monthly ‘All age worship, Family service’

Don’t miss this very special service with contributions from our some of our church families and the music group. It is pre-recorded and will be streamed at 10.00 am.

There will be Live stream of the Eucharist (Common Worship) at 11.00 am

Tuesday. 5th May 06.00 pm Reflection and Evening Prayer. Thursday. 7th May 10.00 am Morning Prayer and reflections.

All services will open 10 minutes before the scheduled time. Please keep a watch on Facebook and the Website for any further details.

https://www.facebook.com/StMaryAndStLaurenceGoringBySea/

Don’t forget to send in your news

Do you have something that you would like to share, especially to encourage us all? It could be a favourite or special prayer? Something you are reading or have seen that has interested you helped or made you think recently? Please share it with us. Send to Gill Keevill (gilliankeevill@me.com) or mobile number: 07715120841.

Prayer and Study Groups

If you have a prayer group that can open to others, or would like to join a group please let Fr. Keith or the Wardens know and they will try and match you up.

Pastoral visits

Please let Fr. Keith or the Wardens know if you have a personal pastoral concern or may know of somebody in need.
Thank you to all of you who have sent in your memories of John Lloyd. Particularly Viv Culton, Allan and Pat Plumpton, Janice Lelliott and Fr. Zachary Allen. Sadly John died last Tuesday, 21st April at the Fairlight Nursing home in Rustington.

John worked on the railway before he retired and we think he worked on railways in Asia at an earlier stage in his life. John enjoyed music, particularly organ music, and went whenever possible to John Mann’s recitals on the Wurlitzer organ in the Assembly Rooms, Worthing. John also enjoyed choral music. He could be guaranteed to patronise any concert by the Sussex Gruffs Male Voice Choir and was instrumental in getting them to sing at the Fairlight Nursing Home.

Those who knew John we were always struck by his sheer tenacity, always determined to climb independently up the steep stone steps to his front door in Chesham Close. Many in the parish will remember the splendid 90th birthday party that was arranged for him in St Mary’s Hall by the Social activities committee, when he blew out all the candles and insisted on cutting the cake himself. He was also pleased that John Mann was able to be there.

Those who, like Viv, had the privilege to visit John in recent years at the Starlight nursing home tell of a kind caring and interesting man. He had a great sense of humour and was also concerned about others asking after friends he had known locally after moving from Goring. When the home celebrated the Royal Wedding by acting it out John was chosen to be the Best Man. He prepared a speech for the occasion and they had a lovely meal to celebrate. Although frustrated by his Parkinson’s Disease and the Bell’s Palsy which made it difficult to understand him, he still wanted to have conversations and made good use of an alphabet board made by his daughter. Viv recollects ‘his brain went a lot faster than mine and I struggled to keep up with the speed he touched the letters!’

John participated regularly in the monthly celebration of Holy Communion at Fairlight. Fr. Zachary Allen, then Vicar at Rustington, now a member of our Parish writes:

John very rarely missed the service, and derived a great deal of comfort from being able to participate in it. It was obvious that his having been part of the church in Goring continued to mean a great deal to him, and he recalled his time here with great fondness. He came across as modest, unfailingly courteous and full of gratitude for the monthly opportunity to share the scriptures, sing hymns and receive Holy Communion.

When I think of John, together with other faithful Christians I have encountered who have no longer been able to attend church services, but whose believing in the Lord, and belonging to His Church has clearly meant the world to them, I am reminded of the value of the church’s ministry of visiting and taking Holy Communion to individuals in their own homes and in residential care. I am confident that those at Fairlight who cared for John, as well as others who knew him will feel, as I do, enriched through having known and had to do with him. May he rest in peace, and rise in glory …