

Dear All ...

As you will be aware the government is introducing another set of lockdown restrictions from tomorrow (Thursday 5th November). In essence this means services of public worship are no longer permitted in a church building, but funerals can continue with restricted numbers. These restrictions are set to last for 4 weeks initially. Whilst we are no longer able to meet in church for public worship we will continue to provide the alternative resources which we have developed over the recent months. A reminder of these is given at the end of this email.

Please also note that on Sunday 8th November we will livestream an **Act of Remembrance** from the church at 10:50am, this will be available via the church youtube channel. The church will not be open to the public so please do not try to attend in person.

In a letter to the clergy the Archbishop's of Canterbury and York are encouraging us to make this month of lockdown a month of prayer ...

“Bearing in mind our primary vocation as the Church of Jesus Christ to pray and to serve we call upon the Church of England to make this month of lockdown a month of prayer. More than anything else, whatever the nation thinks, we know that we are in the faithful hands of the risen Christ who knows our weaknesses, tiredness and struggles and whose steadfast love endures forever.”

So may I encourage you to make the time to pray even more than you might usually do this month.

- We will be opening the church up for private prayer on Wednesday's and Sunday's between 10-12noon, starting on Wednesday 11th November.
- We will offer a regular online 'Prayer Time' group(s) using the Duo app on smartphones. If you are interested in being part of this please contact our Prayer Chain Coordinator; Trish Smith (07766 711405) for further details.
- Later in the month we are planning a praying at home initiative for Advent. More details to follow in due course.

Our ongoing resources:

- Sunday Pre-recorded Service - available via the church youtube channel/website
- Sunday Live Worship at 7pm - available via the church facebook page
- Weekday emails - including a reflection on the daily readings on Tuesday/Thursday
- Facebook blogs from the Rector on Tuesday/Thursday
- Wednesday Live Worship at 7pm via the church facebook page
- A daily office & reading plan based upon the lectionary (see attached)
- Telephone support from the ministry team

Church website - www.middlewichparishchurch.org.uk

Church youtube channel - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChA8MLlkBwaNvSlIcwav2gA>

Church facebook page - @Middlewichparish

On behalf of the ministry team may I assure you all of our ongoing prayers for you during the coming weeks.

Yours in Christ

Simon