

St Peter's Hartshorne



Hello everyone

As we leave the season of Epiphany on Tuesday, I find that we only have two weeks until we enter the season of Lent. As with many of our seasons over the past year, the way we mark Lent will be different. The extension of the current lock-down and the ongoing difficulties in our hospitals mean that we cannot meet together to mark Ash Wednesday as we would normally do so we intend, instead to bring church to your home in two ways. Firstly, by offering to mark Ash Wednesday with the sign of the cross on your front door and secondly with 'Lent in a bag' a series of items to help you reflect on the meaning of Lent. The bags will be delivered by 14th February.

Ash Wednesday, February 17th.

As we cannot meet to begin our Lenten journey in church, I am offering to come to your home and mark the sign of the cross on your doorpost. You can choose to stand at an open front door if you wish [suitably distanced and masked of course] and I will do three things:

- give a brief reminder about the importance of the Cross of Ash and of Lent,
- pray a slightly adapted version of the 'ashing' prayer, "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return, Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ" WHILE - I make the sign of the Cross on your doorpost in ash.
- then we can pray the Lord's Prayer together and I will ask God's blessing on you before I move on to the next home.

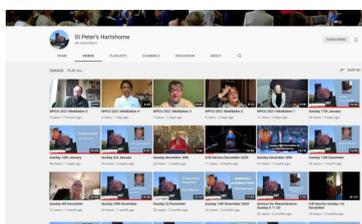
If you are not going to be at home or don't wish to stand at an open door I can still come and perform the rite and will drop in a card to remind you that it has been done [you might notice the Cross anyway!]. If a lot of people request this, I may have to complete the task the day after.

If you would like to mark the start of Lent in this way, please email me on greenwoodstella@yahoo.com or text on **07802963817** leaving your name, address and contact number (so I can let you know when I am coming) plus an indication of whether you want to be present [open door] or for me come, perform the rite and leave a card.

**Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.**

God Bless and stay safe

Stella

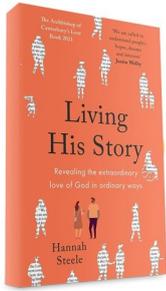


While we are in lockdown and the church is closed for congregational worship, our weekly sermons will be uploaded each Sunday on our Facebook page and prayer chain. If you have any questions or anything that you want to know, then please contact us via Facebook or telephone.

Sunday recordings



Lent Book Club



The Big Lent Read

17/02/2021
thebigchurchread.co.uk

It may still be officially Epiphany but we are rapidly heading towards Lent. As we are not able to hold face to face Lent groups this year, I would like to suggest we consider joining in the Big Lent Read. The idea being that we all read the book (or a section of it) and then join together to discuss the ideas within the book.

The book we will read is **Living His Story** by **Hannah Steele**, this book uncovers liberating and practical ways of sharing the gospel story afresh. Showing us, with warmth and encouragement we can live Jesus' story in our own lives simply by being the people God made us and allowing people to be drawn to him through our natural gifts.

The book is priced at £9.99 in St Andrew's bookshop but there are discounts for bulk buys. So, if you would like to join in, please let me know by 31st January and I will order some books. If you would like to host a group to discuss (maybe in your house group or similar) then let me know and I will direct you to the accompanying videos and discussion questions.

I will send out days and times for discussion groups next week.

Phone support

For those who do not have access to Social Media, please remember that you can keep in contact through our Prayer Chain messaging system. If you are not on the prayer chain and would like to join, please send your mobile number to Stella (07802963817) and we can add you to the list.



Alternatively, you can access prayers and hymns via the Church of England Daily Hope telephone number.

After church coffee

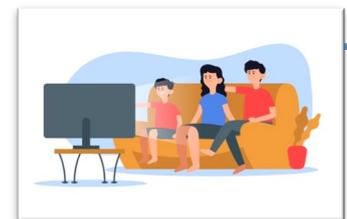
After church coffee will be held this week at 4pm on Sunday. Please join us on Zoom if you can.

Copy and paste this link into your search bar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86499618208?pwd=UVZUN2lGbjYrUlpla2NEYVRnaFhZz09>

Meeting ID: 864 9961 8208

Passcode: 233865



Community testing for COVID-19 is still available at:

- Grove Hall, Grove Street, Swadlincote
 - Midway Community Centre, Chestnut Ave, Swadlincote
 - Gresley Old Hall, Gresley Wood Road, Swadlincote
- Opening times
- 9am to 7pm Monday to Friday - last admission 6:15pm
 - 9am to 4pm Saturday and Sunday - last admission 3:15pm

Community testing for COVID-19