

St Peter's Hartshorne

Hello everyone

Over the last few days, it has certainly become more autumnal. It seems that we chose the last possible day to hold our outdoor harvest festival service. Thank you to everyone who donated food, other items or money for the Swadlincote food bank. These donations are needed more than ever at this time.

In the next few weeks, we move from the theme of creation and harvest to the theme of remembrance, this may well be a difficult time for some in our community so please continue to pray for each other and for all those in our community who are grieving.

God Bless

Stella

A prayer for the Christian Community
We are not people of fear:
we are people of courage.
We are not people who protect our own safety:
we are people who protect our neighbours' safety.
We are not people of greed:
we are people of generosity.
We are your people God,
giving and loving,
wherever we are,
whatever it costs
For as long as it takes
wherever you call us.

Communion

This Sunday (4th October), we are celebrating communion as part of our Sunday worship. In order to be safe, we do need to do some things differently.

- We will be taking communion in one kind only (bread only, no wine)
- Communion will be received in your seat (no moving about)
- The words of distribution ('The body and blood of Christ') will be spoken to the congregation before the distribution and all who intend to receive respond with, 'Amen'.
- The bread will then be distributed in silence, I would encourage you to pray silently as you receive and consume the bread.

Remembrance



Remembrance Sunday this year is on Sunday November 8th. As with many events this year, COVID restrictions mean that we will have to 'do' remembrance differently. The service will take place entirely in the church yard where people can more easily socially distance. There will be no singing but I hope to be able to play the last post and reveille over the sound system. More details as they are finalised...

After church coffee

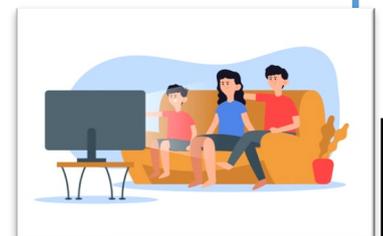
Our after-church coffee time is still ongoing, please join us at...

Sunday at 12:30am

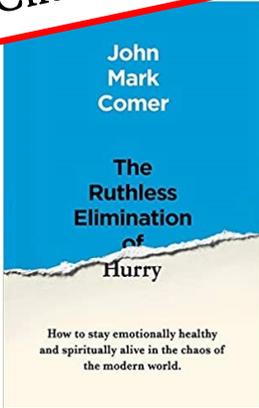
Please join us on the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87324356137?pwd=ckdVMTN6eS9GMjRveUMyMWwvT1ZVZz09>

Or by telephone on 0203 481 5240



Big Church Read



The Big Church Read continues with groups meeting on Wednesday and Thursday via Zoom. There is still time to get involved, contact Stella for details or check out the web page:

<https://thebigchurchread.co.uk/>

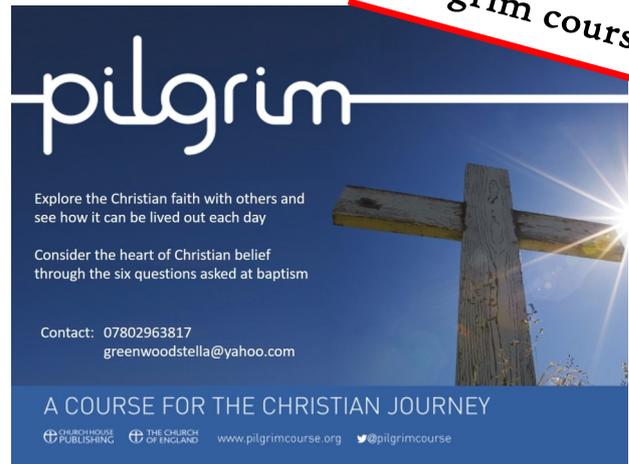
The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry. The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry is the book that everyone in the UK Church is talking about. It offers a fresh, challenging and compassionate response to busyness, based on the way of life Jesus offered his disciples.

Pilgrim course

I am intending running another Pilgrim course over the next few weeks, possibly by zoom (as this will allow more attendees).

This will be Pilgrim part 1 – Turning to Christ. This looks at what we mean by the promises we make at Baptism. This is a good course for those new to the Christian Faith, but is also helpful to those of us who have know Jesus longer as a reminder of what we believe and why.

If you are interested in joining us, please let me know.



Baptism

On Sunday 18th October, Ezra Nightingale will be joining us, along with his parents, Godparents and a few friends to celebrate his baptism. Due to COVID restrictions and church cleaning requirements, this will take place at the end of the Sunday morning worship. In order to welcome Ezra and his family on that Sunday, there will, unfortunately, be less availability for the rest of the congregation. Please be aware and book your place early. Please also pray for Ezra and his family as they make this commitment. Thank you

Pumpkin Trail

For the last three years we have held a Light Party at Halloween, giving families a chance to have fun and learn about Jesus the Light of the World. Covid restrictions mean that we will not be able to host a party this year, however we would like to do something to highlight Jesus at this time.

One of the big draws of the light party was always the **pumpkin trail** from the hall to the church, so I am suggesting that we make a trail across the church yard ending in the church porch where families can pick up some information or a bag of hope containing information about Jesus, an activity sheet and some chocolate or similar.



This links in with the suggestion on the village Facebook page for people to carve pumpkins and place them outside their homes for children to see. To do this we will need a number of people to carve pumpkins (nothing scary please) between 28th-30th October ready for the trail. Pumpkins can either left at Church or collected from your home (call me to arrange).

Please let me know if you can help.