Hello everyone

From Bishop Libby:

My friends,

I have benefitted from annual leave over the past 2 weeks. It was good to have time and space to enjoy some simple pleasures: contact with my family, fine weather, trips out to new places and local attractions, preparing and eating good food, long walks, time for crosswords and jigsaws – and no emails. I am thankful that colleagues made that possible.

You will see below that this week seems to have prompts for thankfulness: on Wednesday it is 'National Thank a Teacher Day' - what a debt of gratitude we owe to all those who work in and support our schools; we are offered updated resources for planning our participation in Thank You Day on July 4th - the Church of England is a partner in this project to recognise and celebrate those who have made a difference over the past 18 months. And this weekend we ordain our Deacons and Priests in the Cathedral. I thank God for their faithfulness, courage and persistence in vocation over these past couple of years - every one of them is a gift to us, please pray for them.

Can I encourage you to say 'thank you' over the next couple of weeks? Although we are tired, although we are frustrated by continuing restrictions, although we are anxious about what the future may hold, let's exercise thankfulness and take a moment to notice and appreciate people around us - at home, at school, at work, at church, as we go about our daily lives.

And thank you – for your commitment, perseverance, imagination and faith, for all you are contributing to the flourishing of our church and communities.

You remain in my prayers.

+Libby

God Bless

Stella

A prayer for all who work in education

Loving God,
we pray for all those involved in the shaping of young lives.
We give you thanks for the sacrifice and commitment of teachers and all those involved in serving children and young people in education, especially over this past year.
We pray that all might be nurtured and cared for
and that every needful resource would be made available –
that all lives can flourish even through these difficult times and that no-one would be overlooked.
Amen.

Links to register for services

Going forward we will be asking you to register for each service. This allows us to restrict numbers and adhere to social distancing and to keep a record of attendees for Test and Trace purposes. If you would like to join us, please register using the appropriate link. If you do not have internet access, or are unable to use the portal, please contact me or one of the Leadership team who can register a place for you.

June 27th - https://tickets.myiknowchurch.co.uk/gb/MzA0Mi05/t
July 4th - https://tickets.myiknowchurch.co.uk/gb/MzA0Mi0xMA/t
July 11th- https://tickets.myiknowchurch.co.uk/gb/MzA0Mi0xMQ/t

The church will continue to be open for personal prayer and reflection on Saturday & Wednesday.

Church Cleaning

As we open up the church for worship, we will need to ensure that we clean the building on a regular basis, including each Saturday evening or Sunday morning prior to each service.

If you are able to join a team to clean on a rota basis, please contact the Church Warden, on churchwardens@hartshornechurch.org.uk

Prayer Group

Ayesha has moved the time of the twice monthly prayer group on zoom. The group will meet for 40 mins to pray intentionally for the world and for local situations. If you would like to join, please contact Ayesha directly (07368224419) or via Stella (07802963817).

The next meeting will be on ***1st July at 7:00pm***.

Ordination

Bex Allpress will be ordained Deacon in Derby Cathedral at 2pm on Saturday 26th June before taking up her role as Curate to Swadlincote Minster.

Unfortunately, due to the current restrictions we are not able to be with her for the service but hope to welcome her to her new role in the coming weeks.

Please pray for Bex, Chris and Sam as they embark on this new phase of ministry.

APCM

Thank you to those who attended our APCM last week and congratulations to Debbie Patrick on being re-elected as Church Warden and those re-elected onto PCC.

Please pray for all those involved in leading our church whether in worship or in administration. They are essential to God's mission in this place.