

September 10<sup>th</sup> 2020

Dear Friends

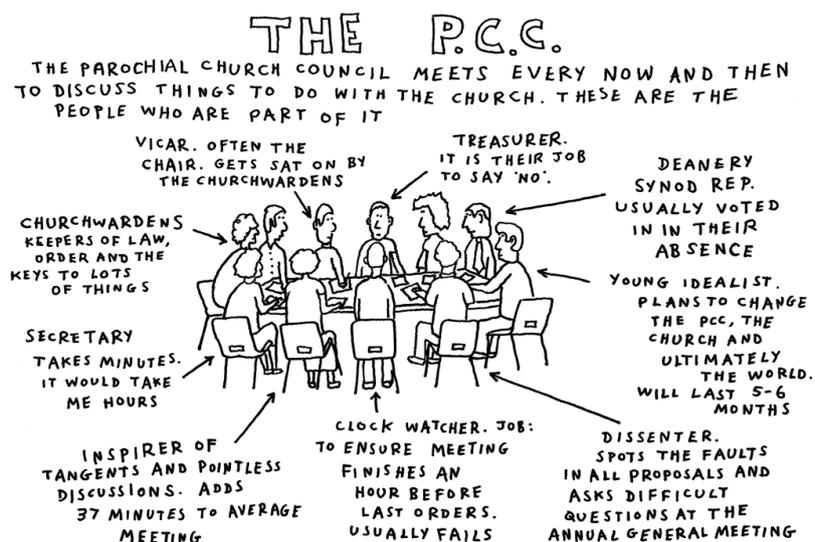
We had an anxious wait when the government introduced new legislation on social gatherings this week . Happily, gathered worship is not included in the plans, although we must all ensure that we take responsibility for our own behaviour and that we do everything we can to protect ourselves and others. In the light of this we have attached the plans for what to expect on a Sunday which have been slightly amended. These plans are in place for the health and safety of everyone and for the time being, this is how we must behave if we are to join in worship. Please be understanding towards those who are wary about coming back into the church building and may find it very difficult, by ensuring that you keep at a safe distance at all times. We all need to feel safe and comfortable and how we achieve this will be different for each of us so, please respect that.

The PCC met (virtually) on Monday and began to put in place plans for the Church AGM. This will take place on **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October** at 10am in church, in place of the usual service, though there will space for prayer and reflection during the meeting. If you are not on the electoral roll and wish to vote at the AGM you will need to get forms as soon as possible from Chris Booth to enable you to do this [C.booth@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:C.booth@sheffield.ac.uk). If you already on the electoral roll you do not need to do anything.

The annual report will be available the week before the AGM and you will be able to submit questions and also to vote by post if you are unable to attend the AGM in person. More details on this over the next few weeks. There are 4 vacancies on the PCC and if you are interested in standing you will need to get forms from Chris Musther [chrismusther@gmail.com](mailto:chrismusther@gmail.com)

There are also 2 vacancies for churchwardens as Angela and I are standing down after 3 years in the role. Please remember that if you nominate someone to stand as churchwarden, you need to have spoken to them BEFORE you do so!!!

If you ever wondered what happens at a PCC meeting .....



Maurice Snowdon has kindly sent us an article that he has written about dreams and hallucinations which is attached. Many thanks to Maurice for sharing this with us.

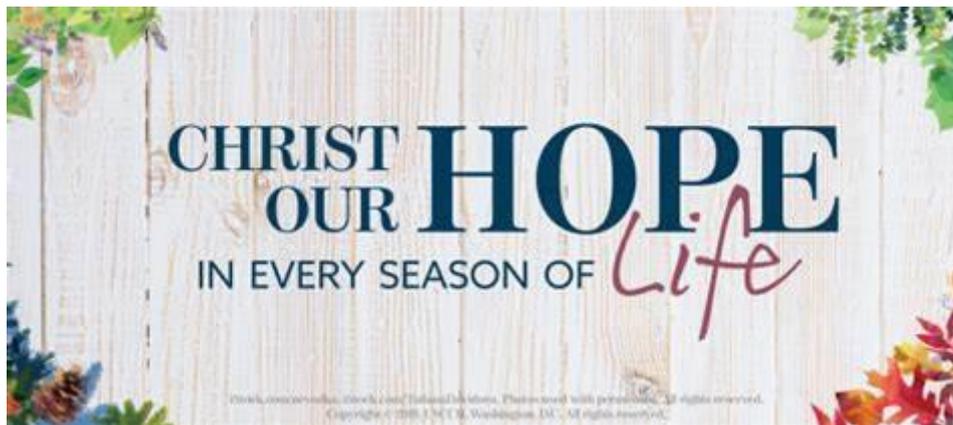
As we try to pick up the threads of life once again it is clear that much has changed and for the time being certainly, we are having to adapt in ways we never imagined. As a community we can look out for each other. We don't

always know what others are going through, it is all too easy to assume that all is well, so a phone call or a (socially distanced) cup of tea is usually most welcome. Please remember to pray for each other and for our world at this difficult time. There is much to be thankful for, in spite of the grim headlines.

The bishops weekly mailing offered us great hope both individually and as the family of God

***'Those who sow in tears shall reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping bearing the seed, will come back with shouts of joy bearing their sheaves with them' (Psalm 126:7)***

As the season turns, the new term is beginning like no other. Though there are plans to be made and events to be marked and new beginnings underway, there is still rightly, much caution as we take our tentative steps into the future. This psalm from morning prayer is the seventh in a series of fifteen pilgrim songs. Marvelling at God's goodness in bringing his people out of exile, it reminds us that adversity never has the final word and that sorrow will be overcome in the end. The prayer crafted from it in Morning Prayer today addresses the God 'who has indeed done great things for us. We pray 'help us to grow good seed in time of adversity and to live to rejoice in your good harvest of all creation.' We know that God has been at work in ways we cannot fully know during these difficult months. As we gradually move into the future may we begin to see the fruits of our labour as we prayerfully gather in and build on that which God has been doing in our Diocese, that we too may come back with shouts of joy.



With love

Angela and Liz