

Dear Friends,

Our last two letters have included an encouragement to pray for our nation and the current situation. This week you may be encouraged to know that others are praying for us. Angela has pointed out that we feature in the Diocesan Prayer Diary, together with All Saints School, next Tuesday so there will be people across the diocese praying for us.

The PCC had a meeting recently and spent time thinking about plans for the Christmas season. We are planning to have a service in church on Christmas Day at **9.30am** which will also be recorded and put on the website. Unfortunately we will be unable to hold the Midnight Communion on Christmas Eve because of the cleaning requirements between services

Instead of the usual Carol Service, which would be very strange with the ban on singing, we plan to record items including members of the community, and build them into a service to put on the church website.

This year we had planned to have a Christmas Tree Festival again but that isn't possible so plans are afoot to see if we could have a virtual one with people sending in photos of their own trees. As with all these things, more details to come later but please pray for the people working on the planning.

During **Advent** as a church we will be taking part in a course "**Light in the Darkness**". It will be "a chance to reflect prayerfully on how the extraordinary events and experiences of 2020 have impacted us, whilst also looking to the opportunities of the year ahead." The sessions will be run on Zoom and can be joined on a Tuesday evening, Wednesday evening or Wednesday afternoon. There should also be a booklet available for people who don't have access to Zoom. Further details about the course can be found on the Diocesan website using the link below and there will be more details to come about how to join in.

<https://www.lightsforchrist.uk/lightinthedarkness>

If you have walked through the church grounds recently you may be wondering if we are making any progress with the extension to the Memorial Garden Extension. The PCC have now chosen one of the options suggested by the architect with a couple of queries and suggestions so we are now waiting to hear from her about the next step.

This morning we took advantage of the sunshine to have a short walk through Green Oak Park, along Totley Hall Lane and home via the church grounds. We met a couple from church, a fellow helper from Lunch Club and a volunteer

from Transport 17 all in the course of 15 minutes! It was a joy to be outdoors in a beautiful place, to appreciate the human contact we miss so much and to be thankful for the Totle community.

With love from,

Ann & James

PS

Gay has asked us to pass on this information from CSW (Christian Solidarity Worldwide)

From Friday, all gifts to CSW from individuals will be doubled from a fund of £20,000, until the end of the year or the matching funds are used up. Your gift will have double the impact in the lives of those facing injustice for their beliefs. Their website address is: [csw.org.uk](http://csw.org.uk)