

## Church of the Holy Spirit, Mossley

"I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.'"

(Psalm 91:2)

## Dear Friends,

Last week we issued a pastoral letter that outlined some initial preparations which had been made as our parish seeks to remain active as a community of faith while, at the same time, protect and care for one another. Since that letter further governmental recommendations have been made and because of this we have had to adapt our plans accordingly.

- All church services have been suspended until further notice. It had been hoped that we could meet
  for quiet prayer on Sunday mornings, but escalating guidelines have ensured that this is no longer
  possible.
- Our **parish webpage** (<u>www.mossley.org</u>) and our **Facebook** page will be a primary means of contact with parishioners, friends of parish, and people from our local community and beyond.
- **Short services, sermons**, and a **range of other resources for all-ages** will be uploaded so that we can continue to grow spiritually together.
- For those who are not on Facebook, all video recordings will also be available on YouTube. Simply go
  to <a href="www.youtube.com">www.youtube.com</a> and in the search box at the top of the page enter Church of the Holy Spirit
  Mossley.
- A **Parish Prayer Booklet** has been produced and is available to download from Facebook and the parish webpage (<a href="www.mossley.org">www.mossley.org</a>). Some paper copies are available from the Rector.
- **Parish visitation** has also been suspended. This is a protective action which seeks to safeguard the health of clergy and parishioners. As an alternative, the Rector, Rev Louise and other members of the parish will be in contact via telephone.
- **Practical help** (e.g. picking up prescriptions or shopping) is available. A team of volunteers, to help with such practicalities, is being assembled. If you can help with this, or if you could benefit from such practical help, please contact the Rector.
- Some parishioners have already enquired about how they can continue to submit their **freewill offering** at this time. We suggest, where possible, that parishioners explore the prospect of standing orders (even on a temporary basis). For further details contact the Rector (02890832726), Mr Ken Jackson (02890294967) or Mr David Flint (02890836304). Alternatively, parishioners could continue to fill their weekly envelopes, as usual, until such times as arrangements can be made for collection.

These are challenging and unprecedented times. However, we continue to trust in the sovereignty of God, and we are praying for each of you on a regular basis. We may not be able to gather as a church family in the ways that we did only a few weeks ago, but we can continue to encourage and support one another through phone calls, text messages and other creative ways. Please stay in touch with us. We are still here for you and would be only too delighted to hear from you.

## Every blessing,

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Rev Louise Bowes 07900410069 <u>elbowes4x4@btinternet.com</u>