

Our Lady and St Aidan & St Bernadette's Parish Communities 29th March 2020

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Dear Friends

As you know the Coronavirus situation is changing daily and current restrictions mean that we are now unable to hold open church for quiet prayer as we had previously planned.

It is amazing to see at a national level the way in which people are coming together—the huge numbers of people who have volunteered as NHS helpers, the support groups that are springing up in communities around the country - there are many things for us to be positive about and there is no doubt that the Holy Spirit is at work in our world. We must try and listen and discern what it is we are asked to do!

It is now more important than ever that we find ways to reach out to others in our community and provide help and support in any way that we can.

In response to the request for help in our own parishes a number of people have volunteered, and they are standing ready to assist people as far as they are able.

Mary Coughlan has agreed to act as our Mutual Support Group co-ordinator and can be contacted on 07870965084 if you wish to help, or know of people who are in need of help. I would like to thank Mary for taking on this work on our behalf!

As a result of the initiatives that are taking place in our parishes I hope that our communities will emerge with a renewed sense of mission and a greater understanding of what it means to belong to a Christian Community.

With every blessing

Fr John

Our new websites bring you the most up to date news regarding our parish communities and is updated on a regular basis. These can be found at:

www.staidanschurch.uk or www.stbernadetteschurch.uk

On the website you can find links to online celebrations of Mass, reflections, homilies and of course the newsletter as well as much more.

Additionally we have a Face book Page: [St Aidan's and St Bernadette's Community Page](#) which you can join.

We have been delighted at the number of people who have subscribed to our new website which helps us bring you the latest newsletter and updates as they occur.

If you haven't yet signed up this can be done by scrolling to the bottom of each page on the website and filling in your details. Given the current social distancing advice it is very important that our most vulnerable parishioners, who may not have internet access are kept up to date, and know how to find help. Copies of our newsletter will be available on a Sunday morning from the entrance area of St Aidan's church, please find a way of using the time you are allowed out to exercise to pick up and deliver newsletters to any of your neighbours who may not otherwise be able to access parish news.

Thanks to those who have signed up for Standing Order. Envelopes can be posted in to the presbytery at any time.

Please don't forget our foodbank—items can be dropped off in the entrance area to St Aidan's church at any time