



Dear friends,

Well we are still here, this must be about week 6 now, and from all my phone calls and ringing doorbells, knocking on windows and shouting down drives, you all seem to be well and coping. Some of us are bored and have resorted to dismantling furniture, homes and redecorating, please if you are in that frame of mind let me know, we can have a redecoration programme going on in the hall and in the vicarage, we can all adhere to social distancing and I guarantee your boredom will not last long!!! The important thing is that we are well, such a blessing.

I have to say though, I do have some sad news, Kathleen Warren, a regular member of church and the Thursday social group, has been called home to God; may she rest in peace and rise in glory. 95 years young, active right until the end, not bothered about this virus, she has peacefully been gathered into the arms of God. We pray for her soul, and for all her family, and especially for Pat, Gordon and Ali at this time of sad loss.

Well so 6 weeks in and counting. I hope that we will soon be able to think about getting back into church, wouldn't that be great? I know so many of you settle down with the services I send out on a Sunday and join me in the "service" as I go into church, and I know your love and prayers are with me as we worship and pray together. What I ask, is going to happen when we are allowed out to play again? How will this all pan out? What do you hope for and expect from church after all this? How will we be church then? I really would like to know your thoughts please. I have already had several requests from people wanting certain things, but what do you want? I have some plans.... well you would be so disappointed if I didn't have one or two ideas up my sleeve, wouldn't you? But how do you see it all after shut-down. You all know where I am and how to get in touch, drop me a line(revrie52@outlook.com, 1a, St Margaret's Close) or ring me (01772 727208) and let me know your thoughts, hopes and ideas.



On a more celebratory note, 8th of May is the 75th anniversary of VE day. Normally we would be celebrating this in church, so I have sent you all a copy of a service of celebration for Sunday 10th May that we can all join in with and use to commemorate the day. I have also enclosed a pennant, part of what would have made bunting for church. I would have asked you to complete the back of the bunting pennant and then bring it into church where we would have strung them all together around church. Please, even though we are not in church, complete names on the back of the pennant and either put it in a prominent place for you to see, or have it handy whilst you are doing the service with me. We have much to be thankful for and should celebrate, and respectfully remember on this day. I will also put prayers on the website for Friday 8th for all to access.

So, the message is keep going everyone..... keep calm and carry on! – as some great man once said! We are well into the second phase of “lock-down” now so we must be heading for an end, or at least a change soon. Keep going, keep praying and keep joining me in the services. I will be thinking of you all, holding you close in prayer and giving thanks that we, as a congregation, are doing so well. Please if any of you need anything, you know where I am and that I would be only too happy to help out if I can. Be kind to yourselves, and to each other, with God’s love and grace we will soon be out the other side.

With all my love and every blessing

Rev Rie

-x-