

## Prayer at the Heart

### Immediate needs 2 - 4 weeks



*Please pray for:*

Melissa Clackett who has dislocated her left shoulder four times since 12 December and for Isaac who started portage (help with speech, language and mobility) on 22 January for ongoing problems. Becky (Whittaker) recently tested positive for COVID. Jane, (Colin Curtis' daughter) and her family. Stella for a good recovery following a hip-replacement operation. Gill, as doctors strive to find her more suitable and effective drugs. Pat Martin, making a slow improvement following a knee replacement operation.

Carol Holgate, Beryl Davies and her daughter Karen - prayers for recovery from shock following a car accident. Continued prayers for Beth (Stan and Carol's daughter) as she undergoes chemotherapy. Dorothy Vener. Bob Simmons. Debbie (Frances Crocker's daughter). Ann Harley, awaiting a diagnosis for ongoing heart problems.. Audrey (Porter) for continued healing of her back. Pat Wade suffering with painful shingles. During February we will be praying for those living in The Grange, Chanctonbury Chase and St. Margaret's Close.

### Long term needs - up to 3 months

Sheila Pearse. Ray Clarke. Joan Moss. Isaac Clackett. Dennis Spinner, please pray for him to get strong and stay free from illness. Lise Jennings, for relief from pain.

#### Prayer Needs

*Please contact: Carol Judge 277752; or David and Lynda Kemp 272470*

***We also have a Prayer Requests page on Facebook, please let us know if you would like your prayer needs to be posted there.***

If you would like to contribute to these church notices; do please get in touch with me.

Please be aware when supplying contact information for notices, this notice sheet is circulated physically and digitally via our website, social media and email.

Paula. Email: [deaneves@msn.com](mailto:deaneves@msn.com)



## Welcome to St Alphege, Seasalter

31 January 2021

Presentation of Christ (Epiphany 4)

Readings: Malachi 3: 1-5; Luke 2: 22-40

### 24 hours of prayer and fasting

will take place on the first Wednesday in February i.e. 3 February. This time there will be the opportunity to pray with others via zoom at:-

7 am  
12 noon  
3 pm  
6 pm  
9 pm  
12 midnight



If anyone wants to do this please contact Tobi who will send them the link for the zoom prayers.

It is possible to pop into the zoom meetings for a short while. Prayer bookings can be made through Diana (High).

### Seasalter Parish Charities - prayer and support

A few of our St Alphege Seasalter members serve/have served as Trustees to this charity. Its aim is to provide alms to the "ancient parish of Seasalter". This is done, currently, by the provision of alms-houses in the shape of 5 self-contained flats in a house in Tankerton and a flat in Swale Park.

The current trustees would really welcome prayer for these 3 key areas, for God's guidance and help:

- The well-being and health of the 6 current residents
- The development of the charity in terms of how it delivers for those from Seasalter who will benefit the most
- Attracting new people to help manage the charity

If you'd like to know more information about this or think you could help, please get in touch with Richard Candy at: [richardcandy@me.com](mailto:richardcandy@me.com)

## Banner of Hope



I want to produce a 'banner of hope' which we can hang in the Christian Centre when we return.

This is going to comprise short words, pictures, verses or anything that has given you hope over the last 10 months, and will be sewn or drawn. It may simply be 1 word like 'family' or 'prayer', a verse of scripture or a picture. Please prayerfully consider what you want to put and then download from the internet a picture of a leaf or heart or a shape you want to use or use a square. This shape should not be more than 8" square. Then choose a piece of fabric on which to put your words. If you don't have fabric or the facility to download anything then please contact me and I will provide the shape and material. If the material frays easily then hem it down or blanket stitch the edges. If you are drawing something on the material, please remember that fabric pens can sometimes 'bleed' into the material, so choose carefully. If you are sewing something then each time you put the needle up through the fabric lift a prayer to the Lord. It may only be a person's name, but lift what is on your heart to the Lord.

Please do not think 'I can't do this because I don't sew,' as it is not intended to be a beautiful work of art. Simple running stitches will suffice. If it is a verse then draw lightly in pencil and do your running stitch over the pencil.

If you really want to join in but need help then please contact me and I will be more than willing to help.

Please let me have your contribution within the next 3-4 weeks.

Eventually I will mount all of these on to a large piece of fabric and we will hang it up.

Diana (262495) john\_high@sky.com

## Laptops etc

Going in to our third lockdown last week I've really felt for all the teachers who are busting a gut trying to organise online learning. Again! Whilst also juggling all those who are still going in to school. We have several teachers amongst our congregations so please keep them in your prayers.

One of the biggest problem is for those children who don't have a laptop/tablet to be able to access the work that is set for them. It got me thinking of what we could do to help.

I'm trying to get hold of as many unused laptops and tablets as possible and aim to get them to children and young people who really need them in order to access school work being set for them. So they don't get left behind.

The government have recognised this as a huge problem and are trying nationally to do what they can. I'm going to focus on our area and see if we can make a difference here.

So if any of you have any old iPads, tablets or laptops' to donate to help local children and young people please contact me ASAP. We will then get them swiped clean (if you're unable to do so) before passing them on.

Thanks  
Georgina



Hi church!

We are hoping to set up a monthly 'check in' for people working in the emergency/ public services at the moment. Examples would be police/ fire service/ paramedics/ NHS (e.g. doctors/ midwives/ OTs/ nurses). This isn't an exhaustive list but gives an idea, I apologise if I haven't used your profession as an example and you're included. Teaching staff would something like this be helpful for you too? Please do let us know if it is 😊



We thought it would be great, shifts allowing, to touch base and have a chat about how we are. We might have an ice breaker or a reflection. Everything is optional, you can join without feeling you need to 'join in' or you can offer to bring something if you feel promoted to. The certain thing each time is that we will pray together and for each other. It would be 30-45mins once a month, if you'd like to join a WhatsApp group in between to communicate we can create this too.

Please speak to Rachel Berner or Tom Hedley-Smith if you are interested. Or contact via email on [rberner588@gmail.com](mailto:rberner588@gmail.com)

We have a trained prayer ministry team at St Alphege Seasalter who are happy to pray with anyone who would like confidential prayer for themselves or someone else (our safeguarding policy applies).

If you'd like that, please let Paulette ([paulette.stubbings@stalphegeseasalter.org](mailto:paulette.stubbings@stalphegeseasalter.org)) or Diana High know, or message me in the chat privately and we can arrange for someone to get in touch to do that. Do offer this to friends or neighbours.



## Zoom Coffee 11 am after the Sunday Service

Some connect groups do this already but for those who don't there will be an opportunity for 'Coffee after the service' on Zoom from 11 am for half an hour following the pre-recorded service on YouTube each Sunday.



It will be good to see each other even if it's only from the waist up! We join the zoom then go into a series of random smaller groups to chat more easily (managed by the Zoom host). You don't have to stay for the whole half hour.

Zoom Link available from Paulette - [paulette.stubbings@stalphegeseasalter.org](mailto:paulette.stubbings@stalphegeseasalter.org) if you email her she'll email the link to you.

Please don't share the link publicly or with anyone you don't know.

It will be a re-usable link for that weekly post-service meeting, so you should be able to re-use it for future weeks

## Lent Course

Chris Skingley will be running a Lent Course for 3<sup>rd</sup> Agers and any who would like to join. The course is called *Daring to See God Now* and is in five sessions. The sessions are: The Good News of God, The time is now, God is present, Change your mind, and Live it! The course will run on Zoom on Thursday mornings starting on 18<sup>th</sup> February at 10am.



Contact Chris Skingley on [chris.skingley@btinternet.com](mailto:chris.skingley@btinternet.com) if you would like to join and he will send session links nearer the time.

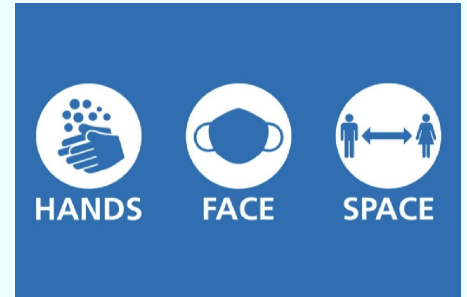
## WASH YOUR HANDS, WEAR A MASK WHEN ASKED TO .....

Are you familiar with the Old Testament account of Naaman's healing as told in 2 Kings chapter 5? I never tire of reading it. In brief, Naaman was the commander of the army of Aram, a valiant soldier and a man highly regarded by everyone, who caught leprosy. At the instigation of his wife's servant girl, Naaman secured the permission of the king of Aram to visit Israel and seek out a prophet who might be able to help him. Eventually, the prophet Elisha heard about Naaman and his problem but when Naaman went to see him, didn't come out and speak to him but told a servant to tell Naaman to go and wash seven times in the Jordan river. Not only was Naaman furious that Elisha didn't come out and give him the message but he was being asked to wash in the river Jordan when there were bigger and better rivers in the region he had come from. His own servants however put a question to him. 'If the prophet had told you to do some great thing would you have done it? How much more then when he tells you wash and be cleansed?' Result? Naaman went down, dipped himself in the Jordan seven times and was completely healed of leprosy.

As some of you reading this know, I had a not too-dissimilar experience back in the 1980s when I was Vicar of St. Paul's Cliftonville. For those who haven't heard it before, let me give you a very brief account now. For weeks I visited doctors at the local surgery after developing a skin problem affecting about a third of my whole body including my arms and legs but fortunately not my face, which caused continuous itching – a complaint which I later learned if it had not manifested itself in that form would have done so in the form of severe asthma from which I would probably have died. Whilst in this condition, I mentioned to a nurse in our congregation after the Sunday morning service, that a skin specialist was actually going to come to see me at the vicarage the next Tuesday. Her reply astounded me 'The Lord has told me you need to be baptised'. I didn't get in a rage like Naaman but spluttered that I had been baptised as an infant, was a vicar and couldn't possibly explain my action, if I went ahead with it, to the rest of the church family. However, events which followed later that morning, ending with a conversation with the local Baptist Minister, resulted in my being baptised by total immersion in Cecil Square Baptist Church, Margate, the following Sunday afternoon before a congregation made up of members from most of the churches in the area. But that's not all. By the previous Friday I was already healed, with no sign of the huge, red, itching patches that had covered so much of my body for weeks – the skin specialist had told me that even with treatment it would take 6 months to a year to clear up. To God be praised. Not

only was I baptised but able to testify to my healing. I have often wondered since what would have happened had I not obeyed that simple thing the Lord asked me to do.

Since the outbreak of COVID 19 almost a year ago, we have been told to do a number of quite simple things like 'Wash your hands', 'Wear a mask when asked to' etc. Although sadly COVID is still spreading and thousands worldwide are still dying from it, I like to think that the majority of us are obeying these simple



requests, not only for our own benefit but for that of all the doctors and nurses in our hospitals who every day are risking their lives treating patients and may I also mention those working for the Ambulance Service. One crew member told me recently that when he arrives home after a shift not only does he feel exhausted, longing for something to eat and for sleep but his wife insists as he gets inside the front door of his house that he strips off so his uniform and all his underwear can go straight into the washing machine, then he has to shower before he can do anything else, including give his wife a kiss or a hug, or he can ask her how her day has been or she ask how his day or night shift has gone. No doubt something similar goes on for most if not all our healthcare workers at this time and indeed for anyone in likely contact with or caring for those with COVID 19. This is something we might all think about as we go about the simple task of washing or sanitising our hands, putting on a face mask when required or responding to the invitation to be vaccinated. Such simple instructions that are needing to be carried out in a spirit of thankfulness to God and for the benefit not only of ourselves but also for others, and to show our appreciation of the NHS, and particularly all who work in hospitals, surgeries and clinics at this time. There are so many other countries in the world which are not nearly so blessed.

Iran is a good example with 1.3 million cases of the pandemic so far and more than 56,000 deaths, have banned the import of all COVID vaccines made in the US and Britain stating that they are 'completely untrustworthy' despite the fact that a group of US philanthropists had arranged for the distribution of 150,000 doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine. All to do with politics and the US sanctions imposed on Iran which are badly hurting the country.