

Prayer of the week:
Almighty God,
your Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

MARMINGATHA

Stories to Inspire

WEEK ENDING 25 OCTOBER 2020



SERVING AND SHARING TOGETHER

St Mark's Camberwell

'Staying apart keeps us together.' I've heard that phrase over and over again these past few months, and it still feels as hollow as it did back in March! All of us know, deep down, that it's staying together that keeps us together, don't we? As the church, the body of Christ, we know that as well as anyone. At St Mark's in Camberwell, we're trying hard to stay together as best we can under our government's restrictions.

Our Sunday 6pm congregation is made up of teenagers, young adults and a welcome cohort of more seasoned veterans. We've been meeting on Zoom each week to watch our pre-recorded service on YouTube, followed by time for discussion, prayer and some fun together. That was great as far as it went, but as lockdown wore on we became more and more convinced that we needed a change. Our 6pm congregation is geared towards training and equipping young for a life of faith, whether they stay in Camberwell or head to pastures new. However, simply watching our pre-recorded service for close to 6 months meant we had pressed 'pause' on this purpose. So, change we did.

For the past few weeks we have been conducting a live 6pm service on Zoom, as many other churches are, and it has begun with a real buzz. Our young people are serving and sharing together, doing exactly as the author of Hebrews encourages us - 'spurring one another on to love and good deeds, and not giving up meeting together' (Heb. 10:24-25). We're one body together, even on Zoom, under Jesus.

Staying together keeps us together!

- *The Reverend Ben Hewitt*



WELLBEING WEBINAR

Bishop Kate Prowd and the Rev'd Dr Wendy Crouch will lead a webinar on Self-Care in Ministry for all clergy and ASLMs on

Wednesday, 11 November, 2pm – 4pm on Zoom.

In the context of the usual demands of ministry, and their heightening by the COVID-19 pandemic, this webinar will apply both psychological and spiritual understandings in helping those taking part manage their varied professional and personal stressors.

Please **RSVP by Friday, 6 November** to **Nicole Tyrrell** & she will send the Zoom details.

The Area Deans have all experienced this webinar. I have been at a number of Deaneries where they have spoken highly of it. In a time when many of us are feeling the effects of the year, let me encourage you to make the time to attend.



Click here for this weeks' video message from the Archbishop

Please keep sending your stories to inspire... +Genieve