

*In collaboration with Knutsford Town Council
and local businesses*

Knutsford COVID-19 Local Support Group

WE ARE KNUTSFORD

To access support

or to find out more about volunteering:

tel: 0800 118 1692 (freephone)

tel: 01565 817 444

Web: www.weareknutsford.org

To access the Audio Services from St Cross

<http://www.stcrossknutsford.org.uk/media/>

then click on the arrow on the left hand side next to
the respective service.

And for Video Recordings

<http://www.stcrossknutsford.org.uk/video/>

then click on the arrow on the left hand side next to
the respective video recording.

*To find out more about taking part in prayers by telephone
conference with people from St Cross call Allison Whiteley
on 01565 654909*

Daily Hope, a freephone line of hymns, reflections and prayers
from the Church of England. Call 0800 804 8044

**Worship for the public has resumed in our Church building
but please remember to arrive in good time to assist our
Attendants.**



St Cross Newsletter July 2020

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One of our Readers, Mary writes

Dear Friends

Life suddenly changed for us in mid March. Self isolation, lockdown, social distancing, we'd never heard of them. Churches services were forbidden and every entry into a church had to be monitored and recorded. It seemed inconceivable that our corporate worship and social fellowship could end so abruptly.

I am sure we are all grateful for those who have used their expertise to find innovative ways to maintain the unity of our Church family at St Cross and to ensure everyone has felt cared for. How blessed we are that our church still stands and we have the freedom to worship together when circumstances permit.

Around the world millions of Christians do not have that freedom. They have been self isolating for years and years not because of a biological virus but because their faith is seen as toxic and dangerous. Fear rules their lives; fear of kidnap, torture, murder, discrimination. Employment opportunities, food or medical assistance are denied to those who bravely declare their faith. Worshipping together, however small the number, is often impossible for fear of being raided and the premises ransacked or even set on fire. And yet, their faith and trust

in God is humbling. As the world grapples with the Corona Virus our Christian brothers and sisters are in need of encouragement now more than ever and we can help.

I contacted George and Sandra Smith, our local Open Doors representatives who came to speak to us in Lent 2018. It was very heartening for me to send over 40 of your Easter cards for Open Doors to distribute but technology moves on and it is now possible for us to send short email messages to those who courageously follow Jesus.

The email address is, inspire@opendoorsuk.org

Our messages should be up to 500 characters or 100 plus a landscape photo (Middle Eastern culture especially is very visual, so perhaps a cross or praying hands or something depicting the beauty of nature). The inclusion of a Bible verse will be welcomed because Bibles are often very scarce. You should just add your Christian name and England.

Please take time to go to the letter writing website which is entitled SEND HOPE

<https://www.opendoorsuk.org/act/letter/>

and follow the links

Short moving videos will open a window on a world of Open Doors agents who work tirelessly to bring relief often in dangerous circumstances and Christians have the courage to speak movingly about their plight in these strange times. It will become clear how our simple messages of encouragement can bring comfort and draw us all together in Christ across the miles. We can let them know they are not forgotten.

Please pray that isolated Christians will feel a sense of belonging and that more controlling governments would not take advantage of the pandemic to crack down on House Churches. Pray too for Christian communities to get the medical treatment they need to combat the

virus, perhaps above all please pray that persecuted believers would continue to be salt and light to their communities. Remember them. Love crosses borders and can bring hope.

I will be very happy to provide you with more information so please get in touch.

Mary

Readings for Services - Sundays and Wednesdays		
MP = Morning Prayer SE = Said Eucharist (in church 10am) CE = Celtic Evening Prayer	Morning	Evening
Wednesday 1 July	MP Matthew 8.28-end	
Sunday 5 July Trinity 4	MP/SE Matthew 11. 16-19, 25-end SE plus Psalm 145.8-15	CE Luke 18.31-end
Wednesday 8 July	MP Luke 18.15-30	
Sunday 12 July Trinity 5	MP/SE Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23 SE plus Isaiah 55.10-13	
Wednesday 15 July	MP Luke 20.1-8	
Sunday 19 July Trinity 6	MP/SE Matthew 13.24-30,36-43 SE plus Romans 8.12-25 Young Church video service Matthew 13.1-9, 18-23	
Wednesday 22 July Mary Magdalene	MP John 20. 1-2, 11-18	
Sunday 26 July Trinity 7	MP/SE Matthew 13.31-33, 44-52 SE plus Romans 8.26-39	
Wednesday 29 July	MP John 12.1-8	