

THE COMMONER

ST BARNABAS CLAPHAM COMMON

11 MARCH 2021 ISSUE #30

INNOVATIONS

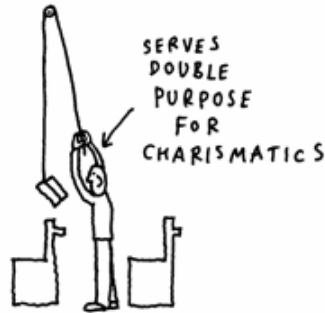
THAT COULD CHANGE THE CHURCH AS WE KNOW IT

THE AUTOMATIC KNEELER



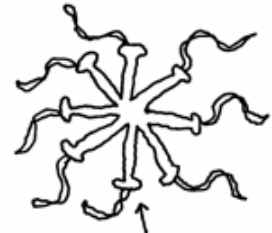
↑ RISES UP TO CORRECT LEVEL FOR COMFORTABLE PRAYERS

THE HEAVY HYMNBOOK PULLEY



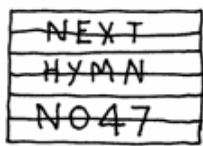
SERVES DOUBLE PURPOSE FOR CHARISMATIC

THE NOISELESS TOY



(SHAPE AND FUNCTION UNCERTAIN. DIAGRAM FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY)

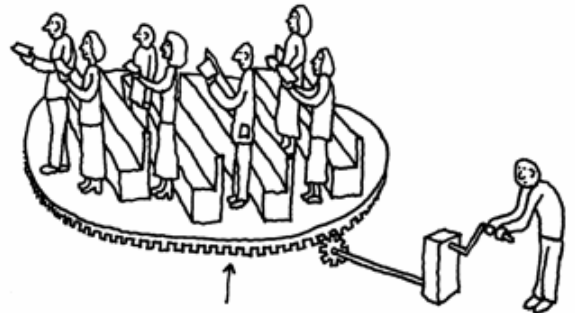
THE NEXT HYMN INDICATOR



← FLIPS AROUND LIKE TRAIN DEPARTURE BOARDS



THE ROTATABLE CONGREGATION



↑ CAN BE CORRECTLY ALIGNED FOR GOSPEL, CREED ETC

CartoonChurch.com

EVERYTHING CHANGES (BUT WE CAN BE THE SAME AS BEFORE)

God is the Father of lights with whom there's no variation or shadow due to change. So says the New Testament epistle of James. Elsewhere, the letter to the Hebrews chimes in on a very similar vibe: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

So if you want a point of spiritual security in an often precarious and uncertain world, there you have it: the faithfulness and fixity of God.

I don't know about you but when three different lock-downs disrupt your year and a much-needed track and trace system fails to do either, I think that's kind of good to know.

Meanwhile, in one way or another, everything else about church changes. Buildings need maintaining and improving which is why we recently replaced the floor in the Choir Vestry. Forms of service and patterns of worship evolve about which there are more details on the next page (so please read, mark, learn and inwardly digest). And, of course, technology progresses hence recent services on Zoom but also (wait for it...) the imminent installation of a camera to livestream services in the very near future, pandemic or not! Everything changes means learning to do things differently. The funny thing is, it's only so we can be the same as before: a church for all - including you [RT].

SERVICE TIMES

With infection rates decreasing and the number of people having received their 1st dose of vaccination increasing, we feel that we can now reopen *in person* services safely.

Our monthly service of **Taize Evening Prayer** was held yesterday evening in church. Meanwhile, on Sundays, we will offer both *in person* and *online* services and young people's groups as follows:

Sunday 14 March *In person* Morning Prayer at 9.30am
CYP: Film Bible Study on zoom at 10am
Zoom Morning Worship at 11am

Sunday 21 March *In person* Holy Communion at 9.30am
CYP: Grid, Yrs 7 to 10 on zoom at 10am
Zoom Morning Worship at 11am

Sunday 28 March *In person* BCP Communion at 9.30am
PALM SUNDAY Zoom All Age Morning Worship at 11am

Please note that all Covid-19 restrictions still apply for *in person* services, including wearing a mask, distanced seating, no singing and leaving the church promptly whilst maintaining social distancing at the end of services.

We have also restarted **Daily Prayer** from 12.30pm-1.00pm, Monday to Wednesday. We will continue to open up for **Private Prayer** between 12.00-12.30 on these days too.

Last but not least, our **Lent Course** continues on zoom on Thursdays at 7.30pm. The next 2 sessions are *The Sea* and *The Garden*. You can join us for either or both of the remaining sessions whether you have attended or not previous ones.

The videos takes us to the stunning scenery of the Holy Land retracing Jesus's steps and the sessions are led by Ian and his wife Vicky. Contact Ian at curate@stbcc.co.uk for more information or check the materials on our website at www.stbcc.co.uk/lent.

PRAYERS

As we reopen for services, we thank you, Lord, for the enthusiasm of our clergy as they seek to offer worship for everyone. May you help them open a safe, welcoming church.

As all children and young people return to school, we pray for headteachers, teachers, pupils and others in the school community. May you grant wisdom to those making decision, patience where needed, peace to those who are anxious and joy to those who have been looking forward to being back.

We pray for the family and friends of Layo Caulcrick, daughter of Mrs Oni, whose funeral will take place on Friday 9th April.

Lastly, we remember the family and friends of Sarah Everard following her disappearance last week, and for all who feel the impact of the events surrounding her. Lighten our darkness, Lord, we pray and have mercy on us in this broken world.

NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUPS

Since they were introduced, three neighbourhood groups have been created, and the feedback has been very positive. Stephanie Wilson, tells us more about her experience:

What drew you to joining a neighbourhood group? *It was the idea of having someone, other than immediate family, to be able to converse with and also to be able to listen to issues affecting others or just to have a chat and a laugh.*

How do you communicate? *We meet up every 3 weeks via Zoom but have created a WhatsApp group where we can communicate in between. There's no right or wrong, we decided amongst ourselves what is best for us and will see how it goes.*

Where do you see it going? *I have thoroughly enjoyed our meetings. We seemed to bond very quickly. Whilst having family members who are very ill, it's so nice to know there are others who are praying for you, supporting you or just listening to you. The WhatsApp group has been very good for quick messages of support for which I have personally been very grateful. We may be well be coming to the end of this lockdown and a return to 'normal' life but I can see the bonds created here lasting.*

Please contact Ian if you would like to find out more.

NIGHTSHELTER UPDATE

As we near Easter and the end of our 5th Nightshelter season, we look back at Glassdoor's works in figures:



SPECIAL OPENING

With so many around Clapham Common feeling the impact of what has happened to Sarah Everard, church will be open on **Fri 12 March between 2pm-5pm** for any to come and process thoughts and feelings in a safe and prayerful space.



ST BARNABAS CLAPHAM COMMON
CHURCH FOR ALL - INCLUDING YOU

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