

The Benefice & Team Ministry of Tettenhall Wood and Perton

The Parish of Tettenhall Wood

Rev Phil Wootton
Team Rector

7 Broxwood Park, Tettenhall Wood
Wolverhampton. WV6 8LZ
Tel: 01902 751116
e-mail: philwootton@sky.com

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Dear Friends,

I hope you are keeping well. There's a lot for me to cover this week, so I'll dive straight in.

This week's service: the church's year enters 'Ordinary Time' (although it doesn't feel so ordinary!) I am grateful to Rev Carol for her sermon for this week, and to George for the intercessions. We also have another lovely work of art from Isabelle and Emily. Please continue to use the Trinity order of service sent out last week (and still available on the website if you've mislaid it). The readings for this week are Romans 5: 1-8 and Mark 9: 33-37. The Collect is:

*God of truth, help us to keep your law of love, and to walk in ways of wisdom,
that we may find true life in Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.*

You will have heard that the government has decided to allow churches to re-open for private prayer from Monday 15 June, subject to safety standards being met. Good Shepherd was not been open during the week before, so there are no immediate plans to do so now (although this could be considered if people express the demand for it). At Christ Church, I have been working with the Wardens and others to put in place all relevant national church guidelines so people can once more enter the church individually to pray. Subject to no further change to the regulations, I am confident we can re-open, and my intention will be to have the church open from approximately 9.30am to 4.00pm Monday to Thursday (leaving three days 'fallow' over the long weekend). For the time-being, I will do all the opening and locking myself, and will ensure door handles and surfaces likely to be touched are sterilised every day. Please see separate sheet for details of the necessary precautions.

Please be clear: there is no obligation on anyone to come to church: prayer at home is equally valid as prayer in church. If you are highly vulnerable, don't come out, or take the extra precautions you feel necessary.

Many of us have been concerned that we have not been able to keep up our support for local charitable work through the Little Brothers of the Good Shepherd and Good Shepherd Relief-in-Need. Both are really needy! With the church re-opening, these collections can begin again, so, if you can do so safely, please bring tinned or packaged foods, and clothes and household goods, as you did before.

We have received a supporters' letter from Good Shepherd Ministries, and I enclose that with this mailing. It's good to see they have continued to operate through these difficult times. You will see they are conducting a 'silent auction' to raise funds. Do join in, or, if you prefer more conventional ways of giving donations, these can be done online: www.gsmwolverhampton.org.uk or by a cheque payable to Good Shepherd Ministry sent to Helen Holloway, Good Shepherd Wolverhampton Ministries, 65 Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton, WV1 4QU.

I hope the week ahead for you is happy and blessed.

Phil

The Parish of Tettenhall Wood

Christ Church, Tettenhall Wood & The Church of the Good Shepherd, Castlecroft

The Parish of Perton

The Church At Perton (A Local Ecumenical Partnership between the Church of England and the United Reformed Church)
Parish Office Tel: 01902 238988 e-mail: info@christchurchtettenhallwood.co.uk