

St Richard's Crowborough – News update 16 January 2022

Sunday 16 January 2022

Morning Service at 10.45am (with children & young people's groups)

Ephesians 1 - The Father chooses, the Son saves, and the Spirit seals

(Mark Rapley preaching & Abi Lattimer leading)

Sunday evening service at All Saints, 6.30pm – Matt 28:16-20 *"The disciples get baptised!"*, come along to All Saints or *tune in to the All Saints Live Stream for the evening service:* allsaintscrowborough.org/live

SUNDAYS AT ST RICHARD'S

If you are a regular member of the church family, you will know that our plan is to continue coming out of lockdown and social distancing gradually. We long to open up and do as much as we can together, but the overriding principle is a love and concern for others, especially those who feel less confident and more vulnerable than we might. So here is a brief reminder of some of the things we are doing, and encouraging all of us to do together, over the coming weeks:

- We are now serving **refreshments** from the front after church – we are asking everyone to **bring their own 'keep cup'** (travel mugs / mugs with lids) to use. We have a small number available for those who do not have (and cannot get) one, but it would help us massively if you can please bring your own to church.
- We will still have **hand sanitiser** at the doors **for you to use** coming in and going out.
- **Masks** have once again been made mandatory (**10 Dec 2021**) so **please do wear a face covering unless you are exempt or under the age of 11 yrs.**
- As a courtesy **please ask the person you plan to sit next to** if they want you to leave a seat empty or not, and please, if you feel more comfortable with a seat between you and another household do say so to the person planning to sit next to you without any embarrassment. Please consider this too, when sitting in front of, or behind, someone on the rows.
- We will keep the building **ventilated** as much as reasonably possible, with windows open.
- We can **chat** in the building after a service, but if the weather is fine, **we encourage you to chat outside.**
- We continue to encourage people to **exit** via the back door into the outside space for the time being.
- We plan to continue administering wine at **The Lord's Supper** this month in a safe manner.



1 March - Curry evening with guest speaker (*Please note change of date!*)

19 March - Afternoon tea with guest speaker

Be praying for and thinking about who you might invite

CHURCH NEWS AND COMING UP...

- **Weekly lunchtime prayers at St Richard's – Wednesday 19 January 12.00-12.45pm.** A time of fellowship around God's word and prayer. Join with us to pray for our church, our community and the world. Bring your own sandwiches to share time together over lunch too if you would like.
- **Women's Bible study** – If you would like to join a women's Bible study there are two options.
Ladies 10:25 Bible Study group meets weekly on Fridays over Zoom (and once a month in someone's home) from 10.15–11.15am. For more information please contact Trish Scobell 01892 611318.

St Richard's Women's Bible Study group meets fortnightly on Thursdays 9.15am to 10.30am in downstairs rooms All Saints. (Creche available 9.30am to 10.30am.) 13th Jan, 27th Jan, 10th Feb, 24th Feb, 10th Mar, 24 Mar. More information – Contact the church office on 01892 611318

OTHER NEWS...

- **David & Elizabeth Buck** wish to say a big 'Thank you' for the very kind gift the management team sent us on behalf of the church. It has been such a joy to be with you all and to serve together for these few weeks and we shall always treasure that memory. We continue to pray for you and wish you God's richest blessing for the future.
- **Passion for Life (Pfl) prayers this week.** Pfl is an initiative linking UK evangelical churches, as they proclaim the good news of Jesus in their communities over the coming months. **This week, please pray:**

In Isaiah 65:1 (repeated in Romans 10:20) the Lord says

I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me; I was found by those who did not seek me.

Lord God,
Would you do it again.

Help us not to limit our expectations of who you are drawing to yourself. Even those we know who are not interested, or are even antagonistic toward your gospel- may we be faithful in praying for them and have courage to speak up when you bring an opportunity to share our faith. Lord, would you reveal yourself and be found by those we lift to you in prayer.

For your glory
Amen

This week please pray:

- For the organising teams for each event as they plan – may they find a good balance between making the event as safe as possible and creating an informal and relaxed atmosphere.
 - For the speakers at the events as they prepare the words they will share.
 - That people would not be anxious about inviting friends to the events, whether due to fear of a negative response or because of concerns regarding Covid.
 - Pray for those who are unable or unwilling to come to the events- thank God that he can meet them where they are and be found by them.
- **Churches Together** All Saints at 4pm on 23rd January, live link also available

Next Sunday – 23 January 2022

Lord's Supper at 10.45am (with children & young people's groups!)

Ephesians 2 - Face the fear and act in faith

(Mark Rapley preaching & Andrew Gibson leading)