

## WEEKLY MESSAGE FROM OUR VICAR, ALEX –26<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Church Family and Parish Friends,

Hoping this finds you all well.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our magnificent Foodbank collection this week, of which a photograph is attached.

Also attached is a copy of our parish key dates through to the end of April (there was a typo in the last set - thank you to those who pointed this out). Please do pop these dates into your diaries, so you know what is coming up in the parish. The document also includes information about our services.

Other items included in this news email are:

- a) An update on our 'Special Project's Giving Appeal'
- b) Open Doors visit follow up
- c) Alpha
- d) Refresh@10
- e) Songs of Praise
- f) Harp Concert at St. Paul's on Saturday 4th February at 3 pm
- g) A notice from Jean Watson about Bruce's ordination
- h) A notice from George Drewitt about Afasic

Love and prayers,  
Alex

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### **a) An update on our 'Special Project's Giving Appeal'**

Thank you to everyone who has so generously contributed to our 'Special Projects' Appeal (for which a copy of the letter from the wardens is attached for the final time). Including gift aid, we have now raised £17,262.50 of our target to raise £40,000. This is absolutely wonderful - I am so grateful to everyone who has helped us so much.

If you have not had the chance to read the letter from the wardens yet, please do take a look and if you are able to give to this appeal and haven't yet already, we are very grateful for any further contributions.

### **b) Open Doors visit follow up**

On Sunday, 78 of us (including those on zoom, as well as at St. Paul's) greatly enjoyed the visit from Mark Liburd, who came to share in our service with us and speak about Open Doors.

Open Doors is one of our 6 mission partners, who we support from the giving to our parish.

If you would like to look at the World Watch List Top 10 video again, the information is below:

World Watch List Top 10: 2023  
<https://youtu.be/4t3Wc9lWwQ4>

Mark is going to return and lead us in a prayer meeting at some point in the coming months. More information will follow about this soon.

### **c) Alpha**

Alpha began on Wednesday evening and there is a lovely group who have gathered for this, however it is not too late to join if you would like to.

Alpha is running at 8 pm on Wednesday evenings this term, in the St. Paul's Church Hall.

If you would like further information about this, please contact David Packham (Our Curate):  
curate@norkwithburgh.com

### **d) Refresh@10**

This Saturday morning, it is Refresh@10, our monthly coffee morning at St. Mary's from 10 am - 12 pm. A time for conversation, refreshments and fun. Please do come and join us!

### **e) Songs of Praise**

On Sunday evening at 6pm, we have our next Parish Songs of Praise, which will be at St. Mary's. The last occasion was a super success and we are so looking forward to worshipping God and being together again for this special event.

### **f) Harp Concert at St. Paul's on Saturday 4th February at 3 pm**

On Saturday 4th February at 3pm, a lovely lady called Margaret Watson, who is a professional harpist will be visiting St. Paul's to offer an hour's harp concert for us, which will be followed by refreshments.

Margaret is a church warden in her own church and knows the importance of generating funds for parishes and so is putting on this short concert for us free of charge.

Please do come along and listen and support her/ us, as she makes this generous and kind gesture. It is suitable for children as well as adults.

Those who attend will be asked for donations and all proceeds will go towards the Parish Projects Appeal.

### **g) A notice from Jean Watson about Bruce's ordination**

On Sunday 5th February, Bruce Watson (Jean and Alastair's older son) will be licenced in his new role as 'Pioneer, Families and Fresh Expressions Minister' in the parish of Warblington with Emsworth.

Please hold Bruce, Jacqui his wife, Jean and all the family in your prayers at this time.

## **h) A notice from George Drewitt about Afasic**

As well as being Warden for our parish, George is also Chairman of the charity Afasic North Surrey, a charity which supports children with speech and language and developmental needs.

Please see this link: <https://www.afasic.org.uk/>

This quarter, Afasic North Surrey have been selected by the Asda foundation to take part in their Green Tokens scheme in Burgh Heath.

Due to covid restrictions, the scheme is online only, so they would love some online votes from us to maximise the donation. If they come first place, they will raise £500 for the charity.

Please use this link to vote: <https://www.asda.com/green-tokens/store?store=4167>

Love and prayers,  
Alex

**Rev Alex Stevens**  
**Vicar**  
**Parish of Nork with Burgh Heath**  
**07312 113019**

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