

# Distant but United

## St Martin's Parish Church



### Trinity Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> June

It's June already! I can't quite believe it. The thing I've noticed about Lockdown is the days have gone very slowly, but the weeks and months have flown by.

But for the first time in a long time I have noticed the Spring more than ever before. Perhaps it's being in a rural setting again after 3 years in a city, but I also think the circumstances of life at the moment have made me slow down, press pause, and notice the million tiny changes than the spring has brought. I am immensely grateful for that.

But now it is Trinity Sunday and we enter into 'Ordinary Time' as a church: a long swathe of gentle reflection and worship without the drama of Festivals and Seasons, that will take us right through to All Saints and Advent as winter approaches again.

Of course, there is nothing at all 'Ordinary' about the time we are in. The Government has announced that Places of Worship may re-open later this month, but there is still a lot of work to do with the Deanery and Church Council before we can say what this means for us, and 'ordinary' worship will still be a good way off.

There are many challenges ahead, and it will take time to adjust to them all. But be assured, the world keeps turning, the seasons keep changing, and the God who made us and who knows us and who loves us is still the same: yesterday, today and tomorrow.

*Rev Jonny*

### Channel Islands Blessing



Church Worship leaders from across the Channel Islands have come together to record a music video of Blessing.

It is drawn from the words of the Lord from Deuteronomy Chapter 6:

*"The Lord bless you  
and keep you;  
the Lord make his face shine on you  
and be gracious to you;  
the Lord turn his face toward you  
and give you peace."*

You can watch and share the video here:

<https://youtu.be/h9EM6XNgyds>

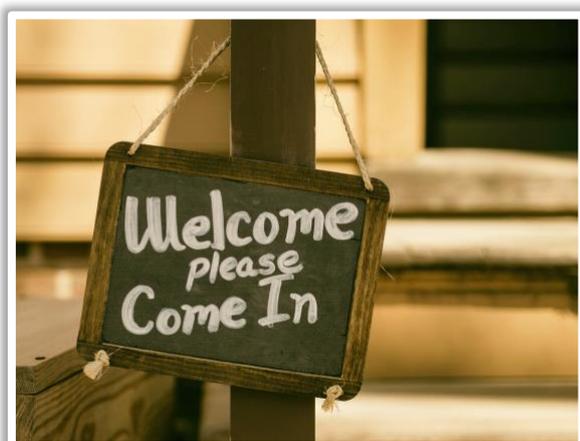
or search for 'Channel Islands Blessing' on YouTube.

## Your Generous Giving

On behalf of the church, can I please say a huge 'thank you' to those who have continued their giving, even in the absence of a collection plate. The ministry of the church will continue, come what may, but with your help we can ensure we will meet the costs ahead. Everyone's financial situations are changing as a result of this crisis, so please think carefully of your own needs before you decide whether and how to give.



For details on how to give, ring Thelma on 852709



## Church Stewards

As we look towards the prospect of gradually re-opening the church building, it will be important to gather a team of volunteer stewards. The hope is that Stewards can be a gentle presence at the church, for an hour at a time, as and when we can open for limited periods of private prayer.

Please let the Rector know if you would like to help with this.

## Daily Hope Phonenumber

The Archbishop of Canterbury has launched a free national phonenumber as a simple new way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes.

Daily Hope, which is available from today, offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services at the end of a telephone line.

The line - which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** - has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind.



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

To speak to Rev Jonny, please ring: 07797 939692 or email: [smartinsrector@gmail.com](mailto:smartinsrector@gmail.com)