

WELCOME TO NORTHOLT PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Regrettably the following notice was posted on our Church door: 'CHURCH CLOSURE – Coronavirus (COVID-19)
In the light of the Coronavirus pandemic, and acting on strong advice from the Baptist Union UK, I have decided to suspend all church activities, including Sunday morning services until further notice, with immediate effect.' Naturally, this isn't a course of action that has been taken lightly, but it is imperative in order to protect our elderly, medically vulnerable and local community and act responsibly in the current climate.

Minister: Revd. Michael Lovejoy

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OUR VISION IS...
KNOW CHRIST
AND MAKE HIM **KNOWN**

NPBC is a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain



Sunday 12th April 2020

Resurrection Sunday – Jesus is Resen !

EASTER SUNDAY

Bringing the Gospel reality to an online world!

Welcome to your weekly newsletter from Northolt Park Baptist Church. This Sunday we are planning to present another online service. Rev'd Michael Lovejoy will be bringing a message hope and encouragement during these unprecedented times of uncertainty. A time of prayer/worship and sermon will be streamed live. It would be wonderful if you could join us online as we celebrate the risen Lord Jesus this Easter Sunday.

This week's scripture reading Matthew 22:1-20 (NIV)

Scripture Focus verses 18-20

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Livestreaming and Online Matters

Olu has kindly offered to support us with his Information Communication Technology (ICT) experience during these uncertain times. Please see, below, his message relating to live streaming our service for this coming Sunday.

In light of current circumstances and our inability to meet in person, we are using Blizz to live stream our Sunday Services. It was great seeing some of the congregation this past Sunday, to worship together. If you haven't, please download the Blizz video instructions at https://1drv.ms/u/s!AgbMp-T9wQyci-k7tHM45Hg_jo9I2Q?e=8zIPCi and go through the one for your relevant device (i.e. desktop or phone).

The videos are for Windows and iPhone devices, but a lot of the principles shown apply to both Mac and Android devices. We will be having 1 Test session (mainly for first time users) before the Sunday Service session. The session is to ensure that everyone is familiar with Blizz, the on-line meeting software and to ensure that any issues are resolved before the Sunday service. For each session you should be able to see something similar to one of the screens we had last week. Please find, for each session, the meeting title, meeting times, meeting web address(URL) and meeting ID below

Session Name: Daily Prayer Meeting
Date: 07, 08, 09, 10 April 2020 at 6-7 pm
Web Address (URL): <https://go.blizz.com/join/m43844262>
Meeting ID: m438-442-62

To join by landline, please dial 0845 034 151 0 and then key in the relevant meeting id. The meeting id for the daily prayer meeting is 43844262.

Session Name: Good Friday Service
Date: 10/04/2020 10:15 for 10:30 am
Web Address(URL): <https://go.blizz.com/join/m79164454>
Meeting ID: m791-644-54

To join by landline, please dial 0845 034 151 0 and then key in the relevant meeting id. The meeting id for the Good Friday Service is 79164454.

Session Name: Sunday Service
Date: 12/04/2020 10:15 for 10:30 am
Web Address(URL): <https://go.blizz.com/join/m38264420>
Meeting ID: m382-644-20

To join by landline, please dial 0845 034 151 0 and then key in the relevant meeting id. The meeting id for the Sunday Service is 38264420. Both the Good Friday and Easter Sunday online service starts at 10.30am, however, please logon at 10.15am. This will give some time for everyone to get logged in before we start service.

ALL SERVICES ARE CANCELLED

SERVICES IN APRIL 2020

Sunday 5th April (Palm Sunday)

Theme: 'Jesus - The Messiah'
Speaker: Dr. Annette Glaw
Scriptures: Matthew (*Ref TBC*)

Friday 10th April (Good Friday)

Theme: 'Easter People living in a Good Friday World'
Speaker: Rev. Michael Lovejoy
Scripture: Matthew 27:32-54

Sunday 12th April (Easter Sunday)

FAMILY DEDICATION SERVICE
Theme: 'Jesus - The Resurrection'
Speaker: Rev. Michael Lovejoy
Scriptures: Matthew 28:1-20

Sunday 19th April

COMMUNION SERVICE
Theme: 'Jesus - The Servant'
Speaker: Rev. Michael Lovejoy
Scriptures: Mark (*Ref TBC*)

Sunday 26th April

MISSION PRAYER SERVICE
Theme: 'Jesus - The Son of God'
Speaker: Olu Falowo
Scriptures: Mark (*Ref TBC*)

If you do not have a web connected computer or mobile smart phone, but have a free Weekend 0845 landline package, you can join the meeting by calling the number already mentioned at the stated time and then key in the relevant meeting id (e.g. m382-644-20). Please note 0845 numbers are free on the weekend in most phone packages. For those who do not have access to free 0845 numbers, please let Michael know and we can arrange for an alternative way for you to join Sunday service.

ALL EVENTS CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19 VIRUS
TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY
WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP GROUP
BREAD FOR LIFE
ALPHA COURSE

Church building works stopped due to COVID-19

The Church building works stopped due to the COVID-19. This has caused disruptions to our building works during these uncertain times. Both JBSR and Daniels have confirmed stopping work until further notice.

An alternative opportunity, to donate, would be to either save the donation and present it on our return to normal Sunday service gatherings or pay directly into our Church Barclays' account, No: 70317500, Bank Code 20-38-83. Again, thank you to everyone for your continued prayer support and very generous donations to date. We still have some way to go to reach £50,000 vision and target. Smile! But please do continue saving your pennies - £££ and give as the Lord leads.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Again, we are reminded of our giving unto the Lord. We would want you to either save your tithe/offering until our return to public worship/fellowship or make deposits directly into our Church Barclays' account, No: 70317500, Bank Code 20-38-83. Thank you for your continued support in your giving unto the Lord. May God continue to bless your giving especially during a time of so much uncertainty in our country and world due to COVID-19 Virus.

Isolated – but Interconnected

We are looking for your stories, poems, reflections, prayers...etc, to encourage others who maybe feeling isolated and lonely missing the fellowship of our church and family community. Please send in your contributions to our Pastor at rev.maclovejoy@gmail.com
Thanks in advance for all your contributions!

There are so many other needs we can bring before the Lord: unemployment, educational, financial, emotional, mental health, social needs, relationship breakdowns...etc. Let's bring them all before God. Let's learn to let go and let God deal with it all through prayer and faith in the Lord.

Janet has kindly put together a list of names within our fellowship to aid communication, fellowship and prayer. Whether we are members of leadership team, church members, friends or visitors to NPBC, let's all continue to contact each other, pray for the church and one another especially during these difficult time of health concerns and feelings of isolation.

SPIRIT EMPOWERED MINISTRY DOESN'T JUST HAPPEN!

The following Sunday 19th April, Rev. Michael Lovejoy will be bringing the ministry of the Word to us. Pray for Michael as he prepares to minister to us especially during these uncertain times.

PRAYER MATTERS

Pray for Femi, Olu's brother, who lives in Atlanta Georgia USA. He has contracted pneumonia and has difficulty with breathing and been formally diagnosed with COVID-19. These are anxious time for Olu and extended family. We are trusting God for Femi's healing and restoration back to health. Do pray for Olu and his extended family during this anxious and difficult time.

Pray for Tanner's mother Deborah, she also lives in USA within the Oregon State. She had recent undergone a knee replacement but has developed post-operative infection requiring IV medication. Pray also for Tanner's elderly dad and his brother in support during this difficult time.

Let's continue praying for Joyce and family during this difficult time. Please support Joyce with your prayers and telephone calls . I am planning to hold a 'Celebration of Life' memorial service for her mother Vi, at NPBC, when public church services resume.

Do pray for Margaret Carey. She is on medication and feeling the effects of being unwell. Please do continue to pray for Margaret and Stan. Pray she will continue to gain her strength and recover fully.

Do pray for Josephine who is unwell. Let's pray for God's healing restoration for Josephine. Continue to pray for our NHS in their advice and medical care if needed in Josephine's situation.

Do continue praying for those in our number who are unwell, or have not seen for a while. Let's be mindful of the unspoken requests and needs of others.

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Living a Good Friday reality with a Easter Sunday Hope

I just love the theological story, practical re-enactment and engagement of Jewish festivals. The oral tradition with its recitation, rhyme and rhythm. Acts of celebration and worship that evoke all the senses. On the night of Jesus' betrayal people were gathered for the Passover. You may be focused on the theme of resurrection because it happens to be Easter Sunday. Let's not confuse the Pagan Spring festival with the Christian celebration of Christ's resurrection. More recently television media show chocolate Easter eggs being hidden, in obscure places, with the hope of being discovered. Speaking of eggs, I always wanted to know the answer to what came first – the chicken or the egg? (Smile)

My Easter message is one of hope.

A hope in time of difficulty and uncertainty. Jesus is the Resurrection and Life. Resurrection matters! Just as prayer matters. Resurrection matters in all aspects of your life. Christians live is a Good Friday reality with an Easter Sunday hope. Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-19. Paul begins with a question. 'How can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead?' He goes on to argue in two ways: Firstly, his ministry will be null and void (Means nothing all) and secondly, his faith will mean nothing absolutely nothing! Paul make clear the importance of the resurrection of Christ. Do you know this hope in Christ?

Jesus has risen! - He has risen indeed!

On the third day Jesus arose from the dead as scriptures have foretold. This is the hope we hold on to as Christians. If there was no resurrection, your faith is useless. If there was no resurrection, Old Testament prophecy and most of the New Testament would be a lie. If there was no resurrection, Jesus Christ is still dead. If there was no resurrection, you do not have forgiveness of your sins through Jesus Christ. If there was no resurrection, everyone who has died before us and to die is lost. If there was no resurrection, we have no hope. In other words, the resurrection of Jesus Christ is essential to the Christian faith. Without the resurrection, none of this matter. But it does matter! You will see what Jesus has done for you if you will believe? You can be right with God, right now, because of the His resurrection. You can overcome the sin in your life because of the Christ's resurrection. Therefore, BELIEVE! Come to the Lord just as you are, in repentance, and live a life of resurrection in Jesus' name!

Love, as always, in Christ,

Pastor Michael

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