



St Botolph's Church, Colchester

18th July 2021

7th Sunday after Trinity

Dear Friends,

As our country moves towards the release of Covid 19 restrictions, paradoxically the number of cases is rising. Caution must be our way forward, and whilst we currently await the Diocesan recommended changes in respect of protecting each other within our Churches, we at St. Botolphs will continue with measures already in hand. The matter is on the agenda of the PCC meeting this coming Wednesday, by which time we hope to have further information.

Looking into the future with, we trust, a little more freedom to meet one another, our Deanery will be seeking a solution to the placing of individual Churches within 'Ministry Groups'. Our experience at St. Botolph's over the past 11 months will, we are sure, help us and those responsible for the final decision making.

This week's Epistle from Ephesians Ch. 2, gives us great encouragement. No one is so far off that they cannot become members of the Christian faith. Jesus proclaimed peace to ALL, both those far off and those who are near. In the Gospel from Mark Ch. 6, we see that this inclusiveness allows Jesus and his disciples little or no time to withdraw from the crowds to rest and recuperate. Both readings do express the great love that Jesus has for us all.

The service this Sunday at St. Botolph's at 10.30 will be Morning Prayer led by Canon Paul Norrington. Next week our Communion Service at 10.30. will be led by Rev. Jacquie Messinger, Assistant Curate at St. Leonard's Lexden.

To join Castle Methodist Sunday service, you will need to search YouTube for Castle Methodist Church, finding the one with the stained glass in the circle and the service can be found live a few minutes before 10.30 am each Sunday and at any time after then.

A range of options are available at Christchurch, please have a look at Colchester Christ Church Facebook page.

Collect for the 7th Sunday after Trinity.

**Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen**