

Dear friends

As we informed you last weekend, due to COVID-19 there will be no services in the Churches of the Diocese of Ottawa (including Holy Trinity Church) until at least Holy Week. We will of course let you know when services will be resuming.

Until we resume, each week I will post resources on our website holytrinitymetcalfe.com to allow parishioners to pray at home on Sunday. They will include the Collect for the Day, the scripture readings, a homily, a prayer litany together with intercessions from the Diocesan Prayer Calendar, the Anglican Communion Prayer Calendar, and our own parish prayer list. You may use them privately, or make it into a worship service in your home, with different family members participating. Although you can use them at any time, I encourage you to try to do so at 10.30 a.m., our normal time of worship; even though we're not gathered together as a Parish family, we are in our own homes all praying and worshiping together at the same time.

Just because we are not gathering together does not mean that the Anglican Church is closed for business; our work as Christians is defined by what we do and say, and how we reach out to our neighbours. That is always true, of course; but it is especially true as we live through the present crisis. Are we phoning those we know who are isolated, are we picking up groceries for those who can't get out, are we making contact with those who are easily forgotten?

Responses such as these will mark who we are as Christians. I commend to you the Pastoral Letter from Bishop John Chapman – you will find it at this link: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/hh44h6ulua0zsrh/A%20Pastoral%20Letter%20from%20the%20Bishop.pdf?dl=0>

Yours in Christ

The Venerable Paul Blunt

Priest-in-charge