

**Dear Church family,**

It's great to be back from holidays. I do feel the break made a significant difference to me, both in state of mind, and state of our garden! Thanks go to the many who stepped up in my absence.

**Thanks to those who helped at the book launch**

I was encouraged by the evening of my book launch. The kind words said about me and about the book were lovely, as were the various friendly faces that attended. But the highlight was the chance to commend the Lord Jesus, and our need of him, to many people. These included some whom we do not normally see, and some who live far from our city. Please pray for God's word to have effect on those who heard it. Many thanks to all those who contributed to make it a great night.

If you missed it, you can see the video of the launch at this address:  
<https://youtu.be/2-x8q0BuTpw>.

**10:30 Communion this week, run differently**

This Sunday we are having Communion at 10:30 for the second time since COVID restrictions took force. This time we are intending to run it differently, since last time we found it difficult to keep everyone safely apart while distributing Communion to a nearly full church. So this time, we intend to keep everyone in the seats, bring the bread and wine or juice to the people, and eat and drink together after everyone has received. We will make use of the fact that every second row is roped off, to help us with distributing. This will have a different feel, but it seems a more sensible way to go to follow the relevant government requirements.

**Rosters for November-February**

We are in the midst of planning the rosters for the next four months. Can I encourage you please to send in the times you are not available, if you currently serve in some way. It very much helps everyone if we don't roster people on weeks when they are on holidays. So please let us know!

## **Parish Picnic 1pm Sunday 25th October at the Gums**

If you're free, please join us for this event. Please bring food to share.

### **10:30 Church still be accessible by Zoom**

We will still be streaming our 10:30 church meeting via Zoom. Zoom church will still go out using the same Zoom code, as before <https://zoom.us/j/400678771>. To enter the zoom meeting by phone, the number is 7150 1149. Then enter the relevant 9 digit meeting code.

### **Prayer Meetings**

As ever, you can join our regular prayer meetings via Zoom Saturdays 11am-11:40am. The zoom code for these meetings is <https://zoom.us/j/544859603>. If you have specific things you'd like to inform us about for prayer at these meetings, please contact Stafford Cowling or myself.

### **From the Bible**

With the book launch still fresh in my mind, here's that part of Romans we focussed on Tuesday night - Paul's teaching that we are without excuse, so that we all need Jesus:

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. Romans 1:18-20

**Mike Russell**