



***'Don't reach for normal, reach for better.'* Michelle Norris**

**September 2020**

*Dear all,*

Well September is upon us and this would normally be the time when children go back to School, College, University full of excitement at the prospect of a new academic year.

This year, however, as 2020 and the pandemic has taught us, it is all rather different. Whilst all these things are still happening, they are going ahead with a sense of trepidation for all concerned. The staff, pupils and parents all trying to work out how to adjust to this new way of living, whilst simultaneously trying to work out how many hundreds of pages of guidelines they need to read through first.

At the outset, despite what was said, I don't think any of us could have imagined what life would look like now. Whilst there is a return to some normality, with the opening of shops and restaurants, life just is not normal. Try forgetting your mask and you are quickly reminded of that!

We have been back in church on a Sunday for a month and that has been working well, with many of the congregation still choosing to join us via Zoom, but it still doesn't feel right not being able to greet each other the way we would like to, or sharing communion as it was intended.

Then I listened to a podcast by Michelle Obama. Her guest, Michelle Norris, came up with the phrase 'Don't reach for normal, reach for better.' It made me think that we need to re-evaluate what we see as 'normal', to turn this difficult situation on its head and ask what positives we can take from it. After all, there has never been a better time to look at things with fresh eyes. To really look at why we do the things we do.

One of the things we will be doing is to look at our services and to see if there are any changes that need to be made to adapt to life in 2020. Certainly, the use of Zoom will be a fixture for the time being, but how else do we need to adapt our services to make them 'better' and more accessible.

Whilst the challenges continue, my prayer is that we will be guided to 'reach for better' for all who live and worship in Grayswood.

*My love to you all,*

*Fú x*

## **Gathered Worship every Sunday at 10 am**

Join us on **zoom**

See back page for  
meeting details



*There are limited spaces in Church  
- please book online at  
**[allsaintsgrayswood.org](http://allsaintsgrayswood.org)** or call  
07769 856343*

### **8 am Services**

#### **Holy Communion in Church**

13th & 27th September

### **10 am Services**

#### **in Church and on zoom**

6th - Parish Communion

13th - Morning Worship

20th - Parish Communion

27th - 4th Sunday Service

**Children:** There will be Sunday School so for activities for younger congregation members, please take a look at our [Children at Home page](#) on the website

### **Private Prayer**

#### **Church opening times**

**in September**

**Wednesdays**

**from 10 - 12 noon**

## **PLANTS, CAKES & PRODUCE STALLS**

**SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 1.30-4PM**

**Next to the church or on the green**

**Donations welcome of cakes and produce to Di (654303) or plants to Pauline (643798)**

**Contactless payments only**



**Contact: 07769 856343 or [allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com](mailto:allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com) Next deadline: 15th Sept**





### Come and join our team of Church Flower Arrangers

Whether you attend church or not, your creative talents can be appreciated by congregation and passers-by alike.

The more people like you, the more we share the load and we always have great fun making All Saints look spectacular for Christmas, Easter, Harvest, weddings and festivals\*. Come and join our friendly team. Thank you!

Call or email Sasi for a friendly chat:  
01428 480666, sasicave@gmail.com

*\*We supply oasis and floral tape as well as flowers for the festivals (you supply flowers at other times).*

### Toddler Group



Fi and I and the toys in the cupboard miss you all so much. Life has been so different since we last met and we hope that some of you have managed to meet up and share some time together (taking distancing precautions of course!) We are hoping that we can meet together soon and share time, laughter, tea, coffee and cake with you all. We will miss those who would have left us to join nursery schools and we hope that you will come and see us soon and have a biscuit or a crisp with us.

To all our 'older children' we hope that you and your families are safe and well. As I am writing this the sun is shining and I can hear children playing in gardens which just reminds me of how much I miss hearing the laughter and giggles from all the little people we are lucky enough to meet. We hope that it won't be too long before we see you all.

Love Fi and Jane x

### RUNNING THE 'VIRTUAL' LONDON MARATHON

"It was announced on Thursday 6th August that the 2020 London Marathon could not go ahead in the usual way. As much as we had all suspected that this would be the case, it didn't stop the feeling of disappointment when it was announced.

The 2020 London Marathon is still going ahead (having been repeatedly postponed this year!) however it is happening as a 'virtual' race. This means that I won't be joining the 44,999 others running around London, however I will still be completing 26.2 miles on Sunday 4th October with friends and family running sections with me and with friends, family and the community cheering me along. Holdfast Lane is the new Mall for me this year!

Blesma have offered to defer my marathon place so that one day I will still get to run for them at a 'proper' London Marathon, however by running the virtual marathon I still get to fundraise for them (which is more important than ever at the moment) and from a personal perspective the 420 miles I have already run this year won't go to waste (don't worry – a tracking app means there are no shortcuts!). Blesma, as with so many other charities, has been financially affected by the pandemic. I would therefore be very grateful if you would consider sponsoring me through my fundraising page - <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/HannahBleach>

I have yet to plan my route for the 26.2 miles on Sunday 4th October however it is likely to finish through Grayswood so I hope to see some of you on my final miles.

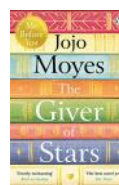
I will keep everyone informed via my fundraising page and social media.



Thank you in advance for your sponsorship, support and prayers." Hannah



### GRAYSWOOD BOOK CLUB



We will be holding a Zoom session to discuss :

"The Giver of Stars' by Jojo Moyes  
on Tues, 15th September at 8 pm  
Please contact Angela on  
AWheeler100@gmail.com



### Our September centenary celebration!

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE THE DATE CHANGE\*\***

**DATE:** Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September  
**TIME:** 2-4pm

With lockdown restrictions easing a little, we are delighted to be able to celebrate our centenary anniversary with afternoon tea.

Members should have already received their invites detailing location and details for our celebration. In line with government restrictions on meetings, we request only members (and not families) attend.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

[grayswoodwi@gmail.com](mailto:grayswoodwi@gmail.com)

**Find us on Facebook**

@GrayswoodWomensInstitute



**The Same Boat** by Julie Sheldon

'We're all in the same boat' they say  
But I would disagree  
So many different sailing crafts  
Upon this stormy sea

Some sail on ocean liners  
In comfort, style, and ease  
Relaxing on their balconies  
....Sipping their G & Ts

Some speed along in motor boats  
As if it's all ok.....  
With little care for smaller crafts  
Which may get in their way

Some struggle on their battleships  
Where nothing's going right  
Endlessly preparing.....  
For the next relentless fight

Some huddle in their lifeboats...  
And pray that they'll be saved  
Hoping for a calmer sea...  
And fearing every wave

Some drift around upon their rafts....  
They barely stay afloat  
They're praying for a change of luck...  
And chance to board a boat

Some haven't found their sea legs yet....  
And dread each wave and swell  
They're struggling to stay upright  
And don't feel very well

So whilst you're on your journey  
To a safe and calmer port  
Look out for fellow sailors  
Who may need some support

Could you throw them a life belt?  
Or a paddle or an oar?  
Perhaps you could help guide them  
A bit nearer to the shore



## THE WHEATSHEAF IS OPEN

lunches, dinners & Sunday roasts  
01428 644440



Bookings would be much appreciated in  
these uncertain times and enable us not to over order ~  
hopefully with your backing your village pub will survive.

Ken Martin

OPEN

COCO CARMEL  
HAIR BOUTIQUE

Call 01428 642821 to book an appointment  
Please check the website or facebook page for details  
<https://cococarmel.co.uk/>



## GRAYSWOOD CLUB

**OPEN**

Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
evenings at 8.00pm.

New members welcome (£10 annual  
membership/£5 for over-60s).

Dear Residents of Grayswood,

I hope you are keeping safe and well in these unusual times. As we prepare for the children to return to full on-site education from September, we wanted to let residents know that we have had to make some adjustments to the school day to accommodate government guidelines.

Amongst these changes include staggering our start and finish times to run from 8.30 to 9.00am and 3.00 to 3.30pm and temporarily pausing our 'kiss and drop' service. This means more parents will need to park and walk their children to the gate and some will have to wait for siblings to come out at a different time.

We appreciate this will have an impact on parking in the area and ask for your support and forbearance as we adjust to these temporary measures. We will of course keep matters under review and reassess if we don't feel the new system is working. Thank you  
Miss H Cole Head of School





**CHURCH SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER**  
**8 am Holy Communion Services in Church**  
 13th & 27th September

**10 am Services in Church and on zoom**

6th - Parish Communion

13th - Morning Worship

20th - Parish Communion

27th - 4th Sunday Service

**6th September**

Meeting ID: 820 8489 0266

Passcode: 644058

0203 901 7895 United Kingdom

**13th September**

Meeting ID: 857 5801 5103

Passcode: 715303

0203 901 7895 United Kingdom

**20th September**

Meeting ID: 865 9555 7562

Passcode: 103598

0203 901 7895 United Kingdom

**27th September**

Meeting ID: 817 9577 8852

Passcode: 268739

0203 901 7895 United Kingdom

*If you are calling in to zoom - dial the number for the relevant service. You will be asked to enter the meeting ID followed by the # key. You will be asked to enter the passcode followed by the # key. They will then tell you that you have joined the meeting and are on mute. Please do not unmute yourself unless necessary as this can distort the reception for everyone else. If you do need to unmute you press \*6. Please note that unless you have inclusive calls then the calls will be charged at your usual standard rate - which would be for approximately 40 minutes.*

**WAYS TO CONTACT THE CHURCH**

**Would you like us to pray for you?**

God hears you, but it is good to know you have other people who care, joining with you! Phone us, email us, pop a note into the box in the church porch, or ask someone to pass a message on. A first name is all we need and confidences are ALWAYS respected.

**Would you like to speak with a priest?**

**Rev'd Fi Gwynn** works part-time. Her day off is Friday.

Tel 01428 654728 / 07769 856343

Email: revfigwynn@gmail.com

**Baptism? Wedding? Funeral?**

Please contact the church office on 07769 856343 or email allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com in the first instance.

**Do you have a general enquiry?**

You can still contact our church administrator Sarah Bennett by email allsaintsgrayswood@gmail.com

For more information, please visit our website:

**allsaintsgrayswood.org**

**VILLAGE PRAYER**

In September, we pray for those who live and work in The Mount, Upper Mount and Williamson Close



**HASLEMERE FOOD BANK**

The Haslemere Food Bank continues to operate thanks to generous donations.

**Tuesday Trolley Collection 9.30-11.30 at Grayswood Village Hall or Wednesdays Church Porch** when the church is open for private prayer (10am – 12 noon).

THANK YOU for your support

Please remember that all of us can need support at some time or another especially in the present circumstances, IF YOU, or ANYONE YOU KNOW is in need during this time please do not hesitate to obtain a voucher for the Food Bank.

Please speak in confidence to Rev Fi Gwynn if you or a family you know are in need on 07769 856343.

All good wishes from the Haslemere Food Bank,  
 stay safe stay fed!

**DONATIONS**

Items URGENTLY needed during lockdown:  
 (Large packets, bags and jars are very generous but difficult to fit into food packs.)

- Tinned baked beans, tinned pulses
- Tinned carrots, tomatoes
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned tomatoes
- Small and modestly sized packaging please
- Couscous
- Coffee and small box tea bags
- Oats
- Shampoo

THANK YOU

