

THE PARISHES OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST AND ST MARY MAGDALENE
35 Brighton Place, Edinburgh EH15 1LL Bingham Avenue, Edinburgh EH15 3HY
Parish Priest: Fr. Jock Dalrymple: 0131 669 5447
Deacon – Revd Eddie White 07986 015772
Pastoral Team: Alice Codling, Jennifer Morris and Chris Vinestock
Shared Parish House: 3 Sandford Gardens, EH15 1LP

Administrator: Karen Blair (Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 10am to 3pm)
Web address: www.stjohnsportobello.co.uk Web address: www.stmarymagdalenes.co.uk
Joint e-mail for our sister parishes: stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com

12th Sunday of the Year – Sunday 21 June 2020

WELCOME....If you're visiting, are new to the area, or just live here, you are most welcome in our sister parishes – even if, sadly, for the moment we can't welcome you to our churches quite yet. If you are new to the parish or area, please make yourself known to Fr Jock by email or on the phone and ask for details of how to register on the parishes' roll.



We Wish all Fathers and Grandfathers and Great Grandfathers a very happy Father's Day.... and we remember in prayer our deceased fathers and grandfathers and great grandfathers too.

Plans for Opening our Churches for Private Prayer

Jennifer Morris and Chris Vinestock write: 'Now we are moving to Phase 2, we hope to open our churches for private prayer **next Sunday 28 June**, the feast of St Peter and St Paul. Various steps have already been taken in preparation:

- The seating in the churches has been measured to comply with social distancing.
- Application forms for potential volunteers have been sent out.
- Guidance notes and a training video for volunteers have been produced.

On receipt of the completed application forms, and what they reveal about the number and availability of our volunteers, and after we have arranged brief training for them, we can determine when and how often we can open.

As a first step **next Sunday, 28 June, we hope to open**

St John's for two hours (from 2pm-4pm) and

St Mary Magdalene's for one hour (from 1pm-2pm)

When you come into the church for private prayer, you will be greeted by one of our volunteers who will guide you to your seat. Please wear a face covering (it's advisable to bring your own but we have a small supply). Please also sanitise your hands as you enter and leave the church. Sanitiser will be available at the entrance/exit.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. A warm welcome will be waiting for you.'

If you are available and willing to assist, please contact the Parish House.

St John's Primary School Leavers' Mass – 7pm – this Tuesday 23 June ...the Leavers' Mass is normally a private Mass in the school for the children and their families. In these unusual days, it will become both a 'Zoom' Mass for the children, and our Tuesday evening Parish Mass on YouTube and Facebook.

(and if you want an illustration of how much life – and our vocabulary – has changed in the last three months, try and imagine your reaction to the above paragraph if you'd read it in early March...)

A Prayer in Lockdown

The doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked. (John 20.19)

*Ever present God,
be with us in our isolation,
be close to us in our distancing,
be healing in our sickness,
be joy in our sadness,
be light in our darkness,
be wisdom in our confusion,
be all that is familiar when all is unfamiliar,
that when the doors reopen
we may with the zeal of Pentecost
inhabit our communities.*

SUNDAY

Sunday Mass this Sunday online at 11am

live-streamed from the Prayer Room in the Parish House.

The web address will appear as the top post on our Facebook page -

www.facebook.com/StJohnsAndStMaryMagdalenes

and also as the top post on

www.stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes.com/news

The Mass will then be available as a recording on both addresses and on the St Mary Magdalene's website. For details and livestream links for all our Masses, please see (on the hard copy) the back of the *Sunday Plus*.

Children's Liturgy at Sunday Mass

Arlene Lauder writes: 'Please join us this Sunday 21 June for a Zoom children's liturgy session which will be starting around 11:15 am. To join in please send your email address to me, Arlene, at Lauder.82@btinternet.com by 6pm on Saturday 20 June. Please tell us your full name, your child/children's names and which mass you would normally attend, this information is for our register to keep all involved safe.'

****Please note that we will automatically send the Zoom link by email to everyone who has joined us before.****

After Mass Teas and Coffees @ both St John's and St Mary Magdalene's - on Sunday During Lockdown via Zoom.

If you are interested in joining in one of these calls (even if you've never experienced Zoom before) and to have a tea/coffee and a chat with whoever else wishes to join us, **please access the link** on the Masses for 12th Sunday of the Year.

Benediction from St Mary Magdalene's Church - Wednesday 24 June - 7pm

The link for this is Link for this is <https://youtu.be/AJdvGl2Kpus>

It will also be on Facebook Live.'

On Friday 26 June between 9.20 and 9.55am there will be **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** (livestreamed) and at 11am there will be a **Rosary Meeting** on Zoom. If you would like to join the latter, please contact Maria Igoe (0798 1333219). 'For those who do not have the internet, we can phone them at that time and they can pray with us that way.'

Saturday Morning 'Zoom' Mass

Deacon Eddie writes: 'Please do join us on YouTube as usual for Mass on a Saturday morning, both this week and next week. **Or would you like to join us by zoom?** We are continuing our trial using Zoom alongside YouTube so that you can actively participate in the Mass, and even have a little chat and goodbye at the end like would normally happen at the back of the Church on the way out.'

We realise there were teething problems the first week – but thanks to feedback last Saturday, we seemed to have them sorted last week

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7127671276?pwd=dWYyRkJ4bFVxMnhGWkV5N1ZkQlhxdz09>

Meeting ID: 712 767 1276 Password: coffee

Or, if you prefer a link to press and not have to remember any of access codes, email me on ewhite@outlook.com and I will help.

THE PARISHES IN A TIME OF CRISIS - Caring for Each Other

A Message from our Parishes' St Vincent de Paul Conference

'Have you been financially hammered by the Covid 19 crisis? Have you lost your job or your business and have no financial reserves left? Are you unable to feed your family? The SVP might be able to help. Please **either text 07752 682 213** or **email** the parish house office on stjohnsandstmarymagdalenes@gmail.com with your **phone number, name and address** and a member of the Saint Vincent de Paul will get back to you within 48 hrs.'

Our PEP (Parish Emergency Planning) Group is meeting regularly to develop and put into practice plans for pastoral, spiritual and liturgical care in these very new circumstances..... **We would be so grateful if people were willing to put forward ideas for us to implement in the weeks ahead 21**

Our Covid Pastoral Care Group

is wondering if you know of anyone inadvertently missed out who would like
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Regular phone contact Buying and delivering shopping

Collection and delivery of medication Delivery of the weekly newsletter

If so, please do not hesitate to pass their details to Father Jock or to our co-ordinator, Gary Zoltie (email: garyzoltie@hotmail.com or phone 07768647923).

A Prayer for Wisdom

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go (Psalm 32:8)

Lord God, You create and recreate us in your goodness and wideness.

Thank you for the many outreaches and programmes
you have blessed us with,

Thank you for the ways they have changed us

Thank you for the ways they have changed our community.

As we look to a time beyond lockdown,
Keep us listening to the ways you want to restore us
And the ways you may want to recreate us.
May we not cling to the old out of nostalgia,
But rejoice at the new wine you bring
And look for the fruitfulness after the pruning.

In this time of preparation make us flexible;
To contain new wine without bursting,
To be ready for harvest,
To embrace with joy all you are recreating.

May we look to you for comfort, not comfortableness.
In the name of Jesus, our foretaste and pioneer of all things new. Amen.
(Esther Simpson)

THIS WEEK

Monday 22 June - 5pm – Parish House/Zoom – Parishes Emergency Planning (PEP!) Group Meeting

Tuesday 23 June – 7pm – Prayer Room/Zoom - St John's Primary School Leavers' Mass

Wednesday 24 June - 7pm – St Mary Magdalene's's/Youtube/Facebook – Benediction

Friday 25 June

9.20am – Youtube - **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

11am – Zoom – **Rosary**

TWO LOCKDOWN INITIATIVES

Lauriston Jesuit Centre - Lockdown Talks

'In May 2020, we at the Lauriston Jesuit Centre decided to not let the Covid-19 pandemic keep us from joining together as a community. From the safety & comfort of our homes we began hosting weekly Zoom sessions to discuss the pandemic's impact on society and the Church.

The next Zoom session talks will be ..

☐ **June 23rd, 7.30-8.30...Fr Augusto Zampini...Response to the Covid-19 pandemic from the Holy See**

☐ **June 30th, 7.30-8.30...Fr Damian Howard SJ ...The Church after Lockdown**

More information about these talks can be found on www.lauriston.org.uk

If you have missed any of the earlier talks you will still be able to find them on the above site.'

The Scottish Laity Network – A Journey of Discernment

Rab Burnett writes: 'The Scottish Laity Network seeks to enable Scottish laity to come together as disciples of Jesus, and through prayer, dialogue and discernment find 'new ways' of being Church in Scotland in the 21st Century.' During the time of lockdown we began reflecting on 'the Future of the Church After a Time of Pandemic' and how that related to our core vision.

We reflected on Pope Francis' leadership and saw clearly the centrality of discernment in his life and in his papacy and that his hope is for a discerning Church, and that hope that finds expression in his strong emphasis on a synodal Church.

We also reflected on how do we nurture that process of becoming a discerning Church? And asked how do we engage in a process of mutual listening and learning?

The idea of a **Journey of Discernment** was the fruit of this. And at the end of April we invited renowned Catholic speakers to share their thoughts and reflections with us and to be part of this stage of our discernment journey. The response was really positive and we put together our programme and contacted all members of the SLN, but also have wished to extend the invitation to all those interested.

Our journey began on Thursday 28 May and so far we have had presentations from **Fr Jim Martin, Massimo Faggoli, Austen Ivereigh and Mary McAleese**. Each speaker has highlighted for us ways to discern the 'signs of the times' and we are profoundly grateful for not only their presentations but also their willingness to engage fully in the Q&A session. Recordings of their Presentations and the Q&A are available on our Facebook page or by email slaitynetwork@gmail.com

- This Thursday 25 June at 7pm **Lorna Gold** will invite us to reflect on '**Listening and Responding to the Cry of the Earth.**' Lorna is vice chair of the Global Catholic Climate Movement and a member of the Vatican's COVID-19 Commission set up by Pope Francis. She is the author of '**Climate Generation: Awakening to our Children's Future.**'
- Our final session is on **Thursday 2 July** - at the earlier time of 6.30 pm – and is with **Jim Wallis** who will invite us to reflect on '**Listening and Responding to the Cry of the Poor.**' Jim is a globally respected writer, teacher, preacher, and justice advocate who believes the gospel of Jesus must be transformed from its cultural and political captivities. He is a *New York Times* bestselling author, Founder, President, and Editor-In-Chief of **Sojourners**. He served on President Obama's White House Advisory Council on Faith-based and Neighbourhood Partnerships.

If you have not registered for any of our sessions we warmly invite you to so.

We also invite you to register for our SLN Assembly on Saturday 11 July at which we will seek to the Respond to the Promptings of the Spirit that have arisen through our journey.

The opening presentation at our Assembly will be from **Fr Ougusto Zampini**, the Co-lead of the Vatican COVID-19 Commission that was created by Pope Francis with the aim of Embracing Hope and Embracing the Human Family. After Fr Ougusto's presentation there will be a Q&A session.

Then we will focus on the key challenges of our Assembly: **How do we continue to journey together, as disciples of Jesus, and authentic witnesses of hope?** If you want to be involved in how we continue our journey please let us know by emailing us at slaitynetwork@gmail.com with the heading SLN Assembly.'

NOTICEBOARD

A THANK YOU FROM SCIAF

Thank You
Louise Macleod of SCIAF writes: 'Thank you very much for your parishes' donation of £824.30. By supporting SCIAF's WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE appeal, you've already given life-changing help to millions of people devastated by hunger, poverty, war and natural disasters in some of the poorest countries in the world.'

On her little plot of land, Pauline grows cabbages and aubergines to sell at her local market. She can afford to send her children to school and makes sure they have nutritious meals every day. A few years ago, Pauline could not have dreamed that her life could have changed so much and it is all thanks to you.

Pauline's life has been shattered by sexual violence but she has received the help that she needs to recover and start rebuilding her life in the long term. Now she is using her experiences to help others, counselling women in her community also affected by sexual violence. Thank you.

Your parishes' donation will support SCIAF's life changing work around the world and it has been doubled to £1648.60, which is fantastic! Matched funding from the UK government will transform the lives of 4000 women affected by sexual violence. Already, it is helping women with healthcare, surgery, trauma counselling and support to become financially independent.

Your prayers and support are ensuring that people like Pauline can work their way out of poverty, live a life with dignity, support themselves and build a brighter future.'



Please pass on our thanks to everyone at St John the Evangelist and St Mary Magdalene's who contributed to our WEE BOX, BIG CHANGE appeal this Lent. If you would like any more information on our work, or for someone from SCIAF to visit your parish and talk about the difference your donation is making, please get in touch on 0141 354 5555 or email getinvolved@sciaf.org.uk

PRAY AS YOU GO - Available on our Facebook Page each morning from 8.30am

'Pray As You Go is a daily prayer session, lasting between ten and thirteen minutes and combining music, scripture and some questions for reflection.

It's designed to go with us wherever we go, to help us pray whenever we find time, but particularly whilst travelling to and from work, study, etc – or when under lockdown!

A new prayer session is produced every day of the working week – with one session for the weekend. **It is not a 'Thought for the Day', a sermon or a bible-study, but rather a framework for our own prayer.**

The aim is to help us to:

- become more aware of God's presence in our life
- listen to and reflect on God's word
- grow in our relationship with God

(The style of prayer is based on Ignatian Spirituality. It is produced by Jesuit Media Initiatives, with material written by a number of Jesuits, both in Britain and further afield, and other experts in the spirituality of St Ignatius of Loyola. Although the content is different every day, it keeps to the same basic format.)'



The Pamoja Fashion Team writes: 'Please do not leave any clothes at the back of the church for Pamoja Fashion until further notice. Many thanks.'

People Know How are currently running a service to provide computers to those who need help staying connected in Edinburgh and East Lothian. Members of the community who are self-isolating, home-schooling, on low income or would benefit for any other reason are all welcome to make a referral. They will deliver the computer to the doorstep, and have volunteers ready to offer phone support in setting up and connecting to the internet. For more information please email contactus@peopleknowhow.org

People Know How are also able to offer a distance befriending service for adults across Edinburgh over the phone or via video calling. From chatting about hobbies and interests to sharing advice on accessing resources, befrienders are there to listen, talk, and understand, offering a friendly ear to someone who may feel isolated. For more information

STEKA SKILLS – VARIOUS FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE DURING THE COVID'19 CRISIS TO KEEP THE HOME GOING – AND HELP THE SKILLS CENTRES BECOME A REALITY

Emma Wood and Catherine McAnenny write:

Fathers' Day Cards

'In a continuing effort to try and help its partners in Malawi survive the pandemic and have some hope of experiencing a green and just recovery, the charity STEKAskills has produced fathers' day cards which represent a donation (of hopefully around £10) to the charity. They hope that fathers everywhere will appreciate the impact that this virtual gift will make. The message inside the card – referring to Godknows Maseko, founder of the Home with his wife Helen, reads:

' TO THANK YOU FOR BEING SUCH A GREAT FATHER, I'VE DONATED TO THE CHARITY STEKASKILLS TO HELP ANOTHER GREAT FATHER BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR HIS 74 CHILDREN'.

There's a full account of what this gift will help achieve in Malawi too. The cards will be available to buy online from this weekend, and we will share the link via our Facebook site, or STEKAskills volunteers are happy to deliver cards locally if you contact Catherine McAnenny (07968970159) or stekaskills@gmail.com .

A Sponsored Walk

We are DELIGHTED that Clare Cunningham, one of the young people inspired by the founder of the Steka Children's Home in Malawi, the amazing Godknows Maseko, and by all we're trying to achieve through the Portobello-based charity, STEKAskills, has decided to help us raise the remaining money we need to open our skillscentres. She will do so by duplicating the 500km walk that Godknows made – from Blantyre to Lilongwe – in order to raise awareness of the plight of street kids' in Malawi just before he opened the Home.

Clare has written a beautiful account of the story of Godknows' walk and why she's been inspired to duplicate it. If any of The Home's supporters would like to read more about Godknows' original walk or are inspired to help Clare achieve her aim (and us achieve ours) please click on the link to read all about it.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/clare-cunningham5...>

We need to raise £2,000 to pay for simple toilets and handwashing facilities at the Skillscentres so they can be opened and used to offer support to communities during the Covid pandemic. With people having to shelter at home, psychosocial counselling and parenting advice are crucial. And it's even more important now to help people learn the skills they need to recover economically.

Facemasks

We're so grateful to some very generous volunteers who are making facemasks for us. These are high quality, multilayered and washable. Our fundraising (and fund earning) opportunities have fallen off a cliff because of the pandemic and we hope that this will help mitigate some of the impact. It also gives everyone a chance to contribute to a green and just recovery... We are going to start locally in Portobello where we can deliver (of course, respecting social distancing) but would also consider posting masks if that were needed.

The plan is that anyone who would like a mask emails stekaskills@gmail.com (or messages STEKAskills on Facebook). They can then pay online via our website and we will organise delivery (or we can take cash in an envelope locally - as long as it can be organised properly). We'd like a donation of £7 for each mask if possible, please. If anyone else is interested in volunteering their services to help make the masks, please contact Catherine McAnenny, on 07968970159 .'

St Teresa Craigmillar's Food Bank – ‘Many thanks from St Teresa’s for the donations of money and food which have helped the Food Bank continue its vital role during lockdown.’

Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline (24 hours)

☎0800 027 1234

PARISH REGISTER

Please pray for those who have died recently: June Maureen Michalski, Pauline Stonebridge, Margaret Pettit and Rena Mackay

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: David Robertson, Joseph Quinlan, Mary Durkin and Annie Bruce

St John's

June 21 :- Sien Loocia Tait (2007); Mary Durkin (1998); Joseph Fusco (1970); **June 22 :-** Rose Mary Gorrie (2009); Anne Maureen Jamieson (2005); Margaret Sweeney; **June 23 :-** David Robertson (2019); Patrick Knowles (1916); **June 24 :-** Rosa-Maria Ianetta (2017); Ruby Connachan (2015); Bridget Gallagher (1990); Maria Perilla; **June 25 :-** Alexander Whigham (2015); Mary Foley (1993); George Docherty (1992); Edward Coll (1978); **June 26 :-** Joseph Quinlan (2019); Margaret Crumlish (2006); Freda Lynch (1994); **June 27 :-** Edward Cassidy (2000); Norma Grant (1997)

St Mary Magdalene's

June 22 :- John Joe Callaghan (2018); **June 24 :-** Rosa MacLeod (2007); **June 27 :-** Jane Skey (2018)

Sick Parishioners - St. John's: Chloe Sutherland, Frances Cunningham, Susan O'Hara, David Reid, Molly Lugton, Sheila and Pat Tansey, Frank Logan, Charlotte McGregor, Betty Dougal, Anne Thomson, Eileen Brown, Mike Noonan, Sarah McManus, Sheila Alexander, Patricia Lawler, Mike Burns, Sr Jennifer Lindsay, Ernie Moran, Maureen Low, Pat Hunter, Dolores Jones, Alan Blyth, Mary Slight, Marie White, Cathy Walls, Anna Butler, Mary Phair, Sara Alkahankni, Rose Thornton, Kitty Dykes, Norman Telfer, Philip Jamieson, Guilio Crolla, Alf Macnamara, Stan McKay, Hugh Shannon, Maureen Lawrie, Mary Grady, Kathie Gallagher, Erin Corbett, Roz Byers, Marie Angela Crolla and Lorraine Syme.

Sick Parishioners - St. Mary Magdalene's: Clive Davis, Elizabeth Mackail, Ella Ayers, Isobel Phillips, Denis Davidson, Margaret Duffy, Maria Scott Jnr, Louise Gorman, Ann Dockrell, John Prior, Sheila Service, John Newell, Ray Donnelly, Michael McPhillips, Agnes Harvey, Bridget Malone, Charles Malcolm, Margaret Ryan, Jacqueline Hannan, Chris English, Julie Keegan, Rose McKay, Laurie Wallace, Annie Watson, David O'Donnell, Andrew Banks, Jude Ferguson, and Mary & James Muir.

Please pray for sick friends and relatives of parishioners, including: Richard Reid, James O'Rourke, Rose Paxton, Tommy Muir, Janice Todd, Lauli Ridge, Emilia Iheji, Jan Meise, Seval Kazimoglu, Anne Young, James Shepherd, Bill Hynd, Carla Zanetti, Peter Hanley, Fr Christopher Delaney, Jennifer Kay, Janie Low, Ranier Carpo, William Young, Marie Baird, Andrew Franklin, Gerry Mulvenna, Frank Palmer, Mairi Wilson, Paul Henderson, Ellen Green, Andrew Preston, Celine Diniz, Jamie Mitchell, Eunice Macdonald, Peter Bromley, Audrey Burgess, Kathleen Cawley, Margo Law, Misia Jack, Hannah Muldoon, Emma Bromet, Margaret Lee, Joan Bonnar, Mekala Osborne, Jean Nelson, Felicity McCluskey, Stephen Fernie, Edward Caulfield, Mike Enfield, Anthony Finnerty, Savannah McDonald, Pat Dignan, Sharon Anderson, Igor Rekowski, Sr Veronica Marshall, Martin Doherty, Maureen Connolly, Diana Hibbert, Roksana Moczulstra, Joan Brooks, Sr May Lewis, Mary Turnbull, Stuart Falconer, Jake Jorden and young Ray Donovan Syme.

Offertory Collections	St Mary Magdalene	St John the Evangelist
14 June 2020	Gift Aid of £85.00 and Direct Debits - £124.00 - ie £209	£ 1352 (including Gift Aid of £672) and £684.40 Direct Debits – ie £2036.80

Warm birthday greetings to Sam Henry, 80 last Saturday, 13 June

...and to Ann Dockrell, 97 on Monday 22 June

CARDS FROM THE STALL AT ST JOHN'S:

Maria Igoe writes: ‘It has been difficult to buy cards at this time when most shops have been closed. Please know that if you require a card for a Mass or for sympathy or other reason, this can be ordered and delivered to you. Feel free to contact Maria Igoe 0131 669 0247 or mariaigoe@yahoo.co.uk’

Maria also writes: ‘**BBC1 are screening Mass from St Augustine's, Coatbridge at 12 noon on Sunday.** This is a blessing for those who do not have the internet.

- **DIAL - A – MASS** - ‘For those who do not have the internet and have been unable to take part in Holy Mass, Fr Stephen Baillie, St Joseph's, Clarkston, Paisley Diocese, records his Mass daily and this can be sourced on the phone. Just dial 0141 473 4869 - you will get a short daily Mass, lasting about 15 minutes. This is a great service for those, who have felt disconnected during the last few months. Give it a try.



- **ATTENTION ALL CHILDREN - Backpacks for Children in Malawi**
 Would you like a project that will help a child in a poor country and make them very happy? If you have a backpack you no longer use, you could give it a clean and fill it with goodies, which will help another child to go to school.
Please fill your bag with: Notebook, pencils, pens, crayons, eraser, sharpener, ruler, pencil case, towel, shorts or skirt, t-shirt or dress, flip-flops or sandals, small ball (e.g. tennis ball), soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, spoon.
Handy Hints: Don't buy new, recycle where you can! Clothing for children between four and 12 years.
 Please label filled bags for boy/girl and age e.g. 8. Don't be tempted to put in toys or sweets. This can cause problems during delivery. Mary's Meals will deliver your backpack to a child in Malawi to help them get the most out of their education. So do not throw away last year's school backpack or your P.E. kit, which you have grown out of. Pass it on to a child who will be delighted to receive it from you.’

Restoring Societies

Despite the chaos and harm the Coronavirus has caused, Christian charity, Tearfund identified that the crisis has also revealed some of the best of humanity. It appears that a shift in social attitudes is beginning to emerge globally, with three areas of emphasis:

1. Togetherness. With the rapid spread of the disease internationally and extraordinary surges in local volunteering, we are both recognising our interconnectedness and beginning to work together in new ways.

2. Prioritising life. In a very short space of time, communities have rallied together to make huge sacrifices to save lives. At a scale never seen before, governments and central banks in high-income countries have pumped billions of dollars into their economies to increase social safety nets, keep businesses afloat, and help employers retain staff. As nations and individuals, we have been reminded of what truly matters.

3. Imagination. We have seen that we are capable of adapting fast as human beings and as a society: fundamental renewal feels possible. In a recent YouGov poll, only nine per cent of Britons want life to return to 'normal' once the lockdown is over.

Source: Tearfund Coronavirus Crisis: Restoring Societies/Policy Paper/May 2020

New research has also found that the Coronavirus pandemic has resulted in a 50 per cent surge in online searches for prayer as people turn to faith to cope with feelings of angst and despair. In March 2020, the share of Google searches for prayer rose to the highest level ever recorded. Jeanet Sinding Bentzen, associate professor of economics at the University of Copenhagen, who led the research, found that across all faiths the rise was largest for Christians, particularly Catholics, and Muslims.



BOO!