**News from Saint Mark’s**

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There is a lot to be happy about at the moment at St Mark’s as since we re-opened for worship we have seen the return of some old [in the nicest possible sense] faces as well as some new ones too. We are managing our music using my phone and a speaker, which means that I can fill the church with angelic voices rather than the squeaky out of key one that was me trying to lead the rest of the congregation! We also have been blessed with a wonderful donation of new mikes and speaker which will be fitted in due course by an expert! This will make a big difference to all of us and especially those who are more hearing impaired than others. Apart from the spiritual, St Mark’s is also reaching out into the community through making connections. We host a Hygiene Bank run by All Rise Collective, fortnightly. And this is providing much needed toiletries along with sanitary products which are not available at the Food Banks. Our congregation and that of St Alban’s continues to support this with donations. And in other good news we are looking forward to hosting Val’s Musicality Sessions here in St Mark’s. This is a wonderful idea giving people who have felt disconnected and anxious, to come together through music. Her sessions begin from 27th May and include: Tune Your Mood [Thursdays 14-18yrs 5-6pm and 18+ 6-7pm]; Singing & Toddling on Fridays 0945 and The Sound of Memories 1100. If anyone from St Clement’s is interested, Val’s email address is musicalitywithval@gmail.com.

In return Val will put on some shows for us as fund-raisers and we are also hoping she will build a couple of choirs who might be persuaded to join us one Sunday morning in the future! My other bit of news is that on the last Sunday of the month we will have a different format to our services as some mums have been encouraged to put together around the gospel and Mass. I hope it will give the children and families a greater sense of being part of the church. It will run on similar lines as the Family Services at St Clement’s. If anyone is interested we now have some gorgeous postcards for sale, 50p each. They feature a design by 9 year old Tommy who drew the church during the first lockdown. And for the techies out there – I learnt how to make a QR code for the website, [Not sure I can remember how to do again!] but it was rather exciting.

Finally, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart, for all the support and the prayers that you have been carrying out, as we could not be doing this without you at St Clement’s.

****Blessings and Prayers, Mother Cherry

