



# St Mary the Virgin Baldock



*“Building with Christ”*

## Rector's Blog – day 12

Dear Friends

*“Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; 35for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” 37Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? 39And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” 40And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” Matthew 25: 34 - 40*

More and more people are reporting a relative or a close friend who has developed the Corona virus. How can we visit the sick in this case? How can we welcome the stranger, or even the friend? On the basis that we cannot live this parable to the letter of the law, we need to think of ways to keep within the spirit of what it is asking us to do. This is surely to see all people, especially the more vulnerable amongst us as made in the image of God, reflecting his glory. We cannot touch but we can phone. We cannot hug but we can write a card. Sometimes a WhatsApp message in periods of real isolation can be more valuable than a much more prolonged visit in more relaxed times.

And do expect to see the face of Jesus in the person you contact. And do remember that they are highly likely to see the face of Jesus in you! Who can you contact today that would really value it?

A well known spiritual to listen to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aDAAvWbmmxw>

And here is a prayer based on the breastplate of St Patrick which reminds us that just as we can 'be' with each other, so Christ will 'be' with us.

Christ be with me, Christ within me,  
Christ behind me, Christ before me,  
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,  
Christ to comfort and restore me.  
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,  
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,  
Christ in hearts of all that love me,  
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

If you would like to join us for Zoom Evening prayer today (Friday) it is at 5pm. Here is the link.

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/950255035?pwd=ZHB4V1ZlcTF1Vm1pUGRURTlrVnNNZz09>

Meeting ID: 950 255 035

Password: 003360

**But do join us on Sunday. We have Morning Worship by Zoom at 9.30am and Messy Worship at 11am.**

They both have the same link:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/598065551?pwd=c3FxREICY0RHL2x0WVREQnR1VUhvQT09>

Meeting ID: 598 065 551

Password: 032314

Every blessing

Andrew