



St Botolph's Church, Colchester

11th December 2020

Dear Friends,

Preparing the Way

What a wonderful challenge to us all, we all need, in so many ways currently, to prepare for all that lies ahead. We may or may not be joining loved ones this Christmas, probably different to previous years. We may be awaiting that call to have our Covid-19 vaccinations. We may be wondering what is happening with our relationship with Europe. For all of these very important facets of our lives, preparation is important, how much more do we need to **Prepare the Way** in our relationship with God and the Church. We pray that 2021 will be a year that we can safely enjoy meeting together again.

By way of being prepared for the Church's future in the Deanery, we attach to this letter the transcript of Bishop Roger's address to the December meeting of the Deanery Synod.

*Modified from the pamphlet '**HOPE**' by Andy Hawthorn.*

Look at our world;

how much of the stuff do you think is going to be around this Christmas? With all this eating and drinking and spending and debt and stress and loneliness, just how much **hope** is going to be on offer?

Your generosity has enabled us to raise a grand total of £390.00 towards the Colchester CAP Christmas Hampers. Thank you.

This Sunday, 13th December our communion service will be led by Canon Paul Norrington.

Next Sunday 20th December our Christmas Celebration in words and music will commence at 10.30 am. If the weather permits, we will be able to sing a couple of carols suitably distanced in the Priory after the service.

On **Christmas Eve, at 6.00 pm.** our Christmas Communion will be led by Rev. Peter Evans.

Cannon Paul Norrington, who is vicar of Christchurch Church, has invited us to log into the on-line worship at Christchurch. A range of options are available, please have a look at colchesterchristchurch.org.uk

Castle Methodist Church have also invited us to visit their online worship at
<https://www.youtube.com/Colchestermethodists>

Lord of Light

**Light of truth, light of hope, light of life, light of trust, light of peace,
Lord of Light, shine brightly in our lives this week. Amen**

Collect for the 3rd Sunday of Advent

**God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen**

*The Churchwardens, David Poppleton & Ron Levy Telephone either 01206 570725 or 01206 574210
or email. poppletons21@gmail.com*