



# St Botolph's Church, Colchester

27<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Friends,

Advent Sunday and a new Church year are here, some of the best news for the new year is that there is light at the end of the Covid tunnel. Light is also appropriate for the season of Advent being a time of thoughtfulness and preparation for us to receive the **Light of the World** at Christmas.

Advent is a great time for special prayers. What about praying for the Nations of our world? If you choose the letters of the alphabet in order for each day, associate each letter with nations beginning with that letter, then on Advent Sunday we pray for the many beginning with 'A', there are about 11 of them, on Monday 'B' and so on.

Then on 24<sup>th</sup> December we will get to Zambia and Zimbabwe. You may find it hard to find a nation for 22<sup>nd</sup> December??

Over the last 22 years St Botolph's and Castle Methodists have traditionally renewed our Covenant on Advent Sunday, however this week we can only come to Church for private prayer. There is however some good news. Next week on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December, we will be renewing the covenant during a Communion service starting at 10.30am. which will be led by our Archdeacon Ven. Ruth Patten.

Thank you to those who have made donations towards the CAP Christmas Hampers. The recipients will be people and families who are suffering debt and have come to CAP for help, they will possibly be receiving assistance from the foodbank, and the hampers will give them a little luxury. Whilst our response is encouraging, there is still time if you wish to be associated with this gesture to local families.

St. Botolph's will again be open for your private prayers from 10.15 until 11.00am on Sunday.

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](http://colchesterchristchurch.org.uk)

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

*Lord our light,*

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

*Collect for Advent Sunday*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;  
that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead,  
we may rise to the life immortal;  
through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

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