A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians

As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3.12–17

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

The child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about Jesus. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, ‘This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.’

Luke 2.33–35
FOR OUR PRAYERS
Those who are ill or in need:
Michael Green; Jenny Smith; Sarah Pitman; Hilary Brazier; Judith Sanson; Joyce Smith; Sachin Shah.
Those who have died: Daphne Hall
Those whose anniversary of death falls this week: John Turner (1999);
Link Parish of St Francis of Assisi, Barham Green
We give thanks today for our Mothers—and indeed for all parents. We pray too for each other as we are having to keep apart at this time.

THURSDAY 26 MARCH
12 noon  Funeral of Daphne Hall in Church

SATURDAY 28 MARCH
8.30pm  Earth Hour—switch off lights for an hour if you can: see opposite

Clocks go forward one hour tonight

NEXT SUNDAY 29 MARCH 2020
Fifth Sunday of Lent

CHURCH CLOSURE—see the website for further details and for the letters from Michael and the Church of England.

MARMALADE  Marion would like to thank all those who bought marmalade last month. She has raised £200 which will go towards Mondo Foundation, Kalimpong.

GIVING ENVELOPES are available for users to collect them. If anyone else who regularly uses Gift Aid envelopes to put their collection money in would like a free set of numbered ones would they please contact Lynda Coleman.

DAPHNE HALL, the widow of Chris Hall, former organist at Christ Church, has died and her funeral is on Thursday 26 March at 12 noon at church.

WWF Earth Hour 2020 8.30 – 9.30pm on Saturday 28th March. Earth Hour is the world’s biggest switch-off event in support of nature, people and the planet. Iconic landmarks, millions of homes and businesses and political leaders across the world switch off their lights for an hour to celebrate our natural world and as a rallying call to protect it. Join in by switching off your lights, your phone and anything else you can for an hour.

Eternal Father, look with love on your people of Christ Church and pour upon us the gifts of your Spirit. Although we are apart, draw us to you and to one another, so that by our growing love and unity we may bring healing and life to all. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Loving God, source of healing and comfort, fill us with your grace, that the sick may be made whole, that those who care for us may be strengthened, that the anxious may be calmed, and those most vulnerable be protected, in the power of Spirit and in the faith of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.