As we move further into a ‘next phase’ living with the impact of the coronavirus, a certain amount of discussion is taking place about what in our lives (and our churches) will never return to the way it was before.

What the pandemic has done, especially through the period of lockdown, is to make us rethink many of the things we may have taken for granted: NHS, Care Homes, key-workers, members of our congregations with technical skills, the power of good neighbourliness, home delivery drivers, strong Wi-Fi connection, a garden or outdoor space, the countryside, birdsong, good home cooking. You can add to the list.

The pandemic has also caused us to rethink patterns of life and ask some searching questions about what really matters. Fairly close to the top of everyone’s list is ‘relationships’, whether accentuated by the painful absence of family or friends we have not been able to see in person or the deeper appreciation of someone we have been with more closely and intensely than ever before. I realise that for some the absence has been unbearably painful and for others the close proximity has been oppressive.

Nearly every organisation is now asking the question: what could and should be different with the restrictions gradually being eased. It is a good conversation to have with those you share life with. But this should also include every local church.

What do we go back to doing as we did before?

What may need to stop altogether?

What do we need to start doing differently or begin doing for the first time?

The crisis we are living through is not presenting completely new and totally unforeseen challenges

Continued on page 2
so much as it is accelerating the change that was already anticipated or under way. Most churches will have things in response to all three questions.

Some PCCs and congregations will already be having these conversations. Depending on your context and personality these things can be highly energising or fill you with anxiety – many of us will feel both!

At our Diocesan Synod gathering online in April I shared the words of a former US General, Wayne Downing, who once led Special Operations Forces. He said, “Crisis effects timing. An unexpected event can create chaos which, by definition, cannot be controlled. Yet so many of us in a chaotic situation try to gain control.

I have always felt that the way to handle this is to get some distance from the chaos, zone out for a bit and try to pick up what is going on…If there is a crisis, the chaotic situation often times offers you not only disadvantages, which is what we tend to focus on, but also tremendous advantages to do things that you couldn’t do in any other way.”

I really do believe that amidst all the challenges we are facing – supressing the virus, economic shock, emotional and mental health – there are tremendous opportunities for churches to make changes that can be transformational in the ministry we share growing disciples as we continue to reach wider, younger and deeper. There is no need to have all the answers to all the questions straight away, though equally there is no reason to hold back when the change needed is clear. Interesting, Downing also says: “I always want more information but waiting can also mean disaster. A 75% plan well executed now is always better than a 99% plan executed an hour too late.”

We must continue to attend to what God is doing, seek his power and wisdom through prayer, and learn all we can from one another. In a recent ‘virtual’ tea party with retired clergy, Bishop John Finney reminded us that although we may not know what lies ahead of us, we know who is holding us and leading us into the future, our Lord Jesus Christ who is the head of his Church. It is for this reason alone that I am confident that the churches of this diocese can rise to the challenges before us and engage in transformational change that will enable us to reach many more people of all ages and ethnicities with the gospel.

Over these next few weeks we will be rightly focused on how to begin hosting services in our church buildings safely, observing all the government and Church of England guidelines. We will also be seeking to maintain other ministry on-line for some time to come. None of this will be easy and every setting in the diocese is different. Let us move forward purposefully, yet with due care.

Please continue to be patient with one another. We will not always get things right and we will not always agree on the how and when. Bishops, archdeacons, area dean and others are here to support you. If it continues to feel rather chaotic living through these times then I direct us again to the words of a bishop in a different time of global crisis a hundred years ago.

‘There is no situation so chaotic that God cannot from that situation create something that is surpassingly good. He did it at creation. He did it at the cross. He is doing it today.’

Bishop Handley Moule of Durham

I conclude with a heartfelt thank you for all that you are doing. Also with a warm welcome to the new Bishop of Sherwood (Designate) Andy Emerton and our newly licensed Lay Workers (who will be ordained deacon in September) who begin their ministry with us this week.

With every blessing,

Bishop Paul
Andy Emerton licensed as the Bishop of Sherwood (designate)

The Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham welcomed the new Bishop of Sherwood (designate), the Revd Dr Andrew Emerton in a special, online licensing service on 1st July, as he returned to the Midlands to take up his role, having started life in Leicester and Stafford.

Bishop of Sherwood (designate), the Revd Dr Andrew Emerton shared: “I’m really excited at having the opportunity to serve right across Nottinghamshire in all its diversity. “I am passionate about developing leaders who are able to offer healthy and effective leadership for the long haul, making a real difference on the ground to the communities they serve, whether within or outside the church”

Andy introduced himself to the Diocese, via a Facebook Live event https://www.facebook.com/SouthwellandNottingham/live

Prayer for Andy Emerton on his licensing as Bishop of Sherwood (designate)

O God, the creator and sustainer of all things, In this County in which the Major Oak resides, We pray that Andy and his family will establish deep roots of friendship, know your provision in every season, abide in you and bear much fruit. We ask that through Andy’s ministry alongside us We will see new shoots of growth as people come to faith in you, Oaks of righteousness that bring hope to our communities, And leaves of healing extending to all the nations represented in our diocese, To your praise and glory.

Amen

Written by The Ven Phil Williams
Candidates who were due to be ordained deacon last weekend were welcomed and licensed online by Bishop Paul as Lay Workers on Monday 6th July, as they began this new season of their ministry before the autumn.

The following candidates were presented, by the Revd Craig Hunt, Diocesan Director or Ordinands, to be admitted and licensed as Lay Workers.

**Fran Finn** serving in the Benefice of Nottingham, St. Nicholas; **Anna Clarke** serving in the Benefice of Aspley; **Lee Gordon** serving in the Benefice of Selston with Westwood; **Esther Hutchinson** serving in the Benefice of Clifton; **Jess Lane** serving in the Benefices of Aspley and Bilborough with Strelley; **Jo Lees-Robinson** serving with Trinity Church, Nottingham; **Pippa Scott** serving in the Benefice of Mansfield, St Peter & St Paul and Mansfield, St Mark and **Tom Tuck** serving in the Benefice of Stapleford.

In a video made specially for last weekend. Bishop Paul welcomed these Lay Workers and there is the opportunity to meet them. Andy Emerton, himself newly licensed as the Bishop of Sherwood (designate), also offered a welcome and a reflection on Matthew 11:25-30, responding to the question of how we can find ‘rest for our souls’ in these challenging and uncertain times.

This Peter tide weekend is traditionally when the Bishop ordains those called to be deacons and priests in Southwell Minster, to serve across our diocese. As necessitated by Coronavirus, ordinations have now been re-scheduled and it is hoped these will take place in Michaelmas, at the end of September.

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**News from the Minster**

The Cathedral opened its door again for public worship on Sunday 5th July. There are two Sunday services presently - 10am Cathedral Eucharist and 3pm Evening Prayer (BCP). From Monday 13 July we are starting a new daily (Monday to Saturday) service of Holy Communion at 1.15pm. All services are in the nave to allow for generous social distancing and good ventilation. There is an online and phone booking system, but it is not essential for most services. Everyone will be made welcome and we look forward to seeing you. Over the summer weeks the Minster will open during the reduced hours 11am – 3pm.

The Leaves Project (supported by NLHF) is well underway. The quire roof scaffolding will be removed by the end of July. The Chapter House is closed while conservation work encompassing interpretation and the introduction of heating and lighting continues. Development of the Gardens of the Archbishop’s Palace starts in the autumn and we expect this exciting project to be completed by May 2021. Check for details for everything at the Cathedral on the website: www.southwellminster.org

The Cathedral shop has reopened (Tuesday to Saturday 11am – 3pm) and now has developed an expanded online shop. Lectionaries, candles, cards, gifts, Fairtrade produce, and an excellent selection of books, Bibles, prayer resources and much more! And the ever-popular Refectory has reopened with an extended outdoor seating area. Come over the summer for a grand day out! All details on www.southwellminster.org.uk
Prayer diary

In August we pray for. . .

Sat 01 Aug  Frances Finn. (Nottingham St Nicholas Benefice), The Revd John Blakeley (Nottingham St Nicholas, Benefice), The Revd Garreth Frank (Nottingham St Nicholas, Benefice)
Offa (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Dr Solomon Akambi; Bolivia (South America) The Rt Revd Raphael Samuel; Karimnagar (South India) The Rt Revd Reuben Mark

Sun 02 Aug  Anna Clarke (Aspley Benefice), Jess Lane (Aspley Benefice and Bilborough with Strelley Benefice), The Revd James Moring (Aspley Benefice), The Revd Peter Shaw (Aspley Benefice and Bilborough with Strelley Benefice)
Pray for the new Province of Alexandria - created from the former Diocese of Egypt with North Africa and the Horn of Africa in the Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East Evangelical Lutheran Church in Finland: Diocese of Helsinki, Bishop Teemu Laajasalo

Mon 03 Aug  Lee Gordon (Selston with Westwood Benefice)
Karnataka Central (South India) The Rt Rev Prasana Samuel ; Karnataka North (South India) The Rt Ravikumar Niranjan; Karnataka South (South India) The Rt Revd Mohan Manoraj

Tue 04 Aug  Esther Hutchinson (Clifton Team Ministry Benefice)
Ogbaru (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Dr Prosper Amah; Bondo (Kenya) The Rt Revd David Kodia
Kasai - Mbujiimayi (Congo) Vacant

Wed 05 Aug  Jo Lees-Robinson (Trinity Church, Nottingham, (Bishop’s Mission Order) ), The Revd George White (Trinity Church, Nottingham (Bishop’s Mission Order)
Ogbia (Nigeria) The Rt Revd James Oruwori; Bor (South Sudan) The Most Revd Ruben Ngong
Umzimvubu (Southern Africa) The Rt Revd Sitembele Mzamane

Thu 06 Aug  SECTOR MINISTRIES: Leisure; Center Parcs (Vacant); Notts County Football Club (Liam O’Boyle); Notts County Ladies Chaplain (Wendy Murphy), Nottingham Forest Football Club (John Parfitt); Mansfield Town Football Club (Ray Shaw)
Ogbomoso (Nigeria) Vacant; Botswana (Central Africa) The Rt Revd Metlhayotlhe Beleme Brandon (Canada) The Rt Revd William Cliff

Fri 07 Aug  Pippa Scott Mansfield St Peter & St Paul Benefice and Mansfield St Mark Benefice)
Ogoni (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Solomon Gberegbara; Brasilia (Brazil) The Rt Revd Mauricio Andrade Brazzaville (Congo) The Rt Revd Molanga Botola

Sat 08 Aug  Peter Stanley (Worksop Christ Church and Shireoaks Benefice), The Revd Alex Shiells
Worksop Christ Church and Shireoaks Benefice)
Ogori-Magongo (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Festus Davies; Brechin (Scotland) The Rt Revd Andrew Swift
Katakwa (Kenya) The Rt Revd John Omuse

GROWING DISCIPLES
Wider Younger Deeper

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham
In August we pray for...

**Sun 09 Aug**  Tom Tuck (Stapleford Benefice), The Revd Simon Fellows, (Stapleford Benefice),
Pray for the Province de L'Eglise Anglicane au Rwanda
The Most Revd Laurent Mbanda - Archbishop of L'Eglise Episcopal au Rwanda & Bishop of Shyira
*Church of Sweden: Diocese of Stockholm, Bishop Andreas Holmberg*

**Mon 10 Aug**  The Revd Tracey Byrne (Beeston Benefice)
Ohaji / Egbema (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Chidi Oparaojiaku
Brisbane (Australia) The Most Revd Phillip Aspinall (Diocesan Bishop)

**Tue 11 Aug**  The Revd Julie Cotterill (Sutton in Ashfield (St Michael & All Angels) New Cross Community Church – Anglican- Methodist- Local Ecumenical Partnership (Benefice), The Revd Steve Cotterill (Annesley with Newstead and Kirkby Woodhouse Benefice)
Ohio (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd Mark Hollingsworth
Bristol (England) The Very Revd Vivienne Faull
Katanga (Congo) The Rt Revd Bertin Subi

**Wed 12 Aug**  The Revd Ben Evans (Radcliffe on Trent and Shelford Benefice),
Oji River (Nigeria) The Most Revd Amos Madu
British Columbia (Canada) The Rt Revd Logan McMenamie

**Thu 13 Aug**  **DIOCESAN STAFF:** Staff at the Bishop of Southwell & Nottingham and the Bishop of Sherwood’s Office
Okene (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Emmanuel Onsachi; Buhiga (Burundi) The Rt Revd Evariste Nijimbere
Bujumbura (Burundi) The Rt Revd Eraste Bigirimana

**Fri 14 Aug**  **The Ben Marston (Retford St Saviour Benefice)**
Oke-Ogun (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Cornelius Adagbada; Bukavu (Congo) The Rt Revd Sylvestre Bahati

**Sat 15 Aug**  **The Revd Claire Melless (Ravenshead Benefice)**
Oke-Osun (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Abraham Akinlalu; Bukedi (Uganda) The Rt Revd Samuel Egesa
Katsina (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Jonathan Bamaiyi

**Sun 16 Aug**  **The Revd Jonathan Mole (Gamston & Bridgford Benefice),**
Pray for the Scottish Episcopal Church
The Most Revd Mark Strange - Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church & Bishop of Moray, Ross & Caithness
*Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark: Diocese of Aarhus, Bishop Henrik Wigh-Poulsen*

**Mon 17 Aug**  **The Revd Sue Pendeneque (Sherwood Benefice)**
Okigwe (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Edward Osuegbu; Okigwe North (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Godson Ukanwa; Okigwe South (Nigeria) The Rt Revd David Onuoha
Kebbi (Nigeria) The Most Revd Edmund Akanya

**Tue 18 Aug**  **The Revd Jamie Franklin (Nottingham St George with St John the Baptist Benefice)**
Okinawa (Japan) The Rt Revd David Uehara; Bukuru (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Jwan Zhumbs

**Wed 19 Aug**  **The Revd David Bean (Ordsall and Retford St Michael Benefice)**
Oklahoma (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd Edward Konieczny
Bunbury (Australia) The Rt Revd Dr Ian Coutts

**Thu 20 Aug**  **SECTOR MINISTRIES:** Chaplains in Higher Education: Nottingham University, Megan Smith; Nottingham Trent University (Richard Davey)
Okrika (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Tubokosemie Atere; Bungoma (Kenya) The Revd George Mechumo
In August we pray for . . .

**Fr 21 Aug** The Revd Jack Bull (Woodthorpe Benefice)
Oleh (Nigeria) The Rt Revd John Arukpor; Bunyoro-Kitara (Uganda) The Rt Revd Samuel Kahuma

**Sat 22 Aug** The Revd Richard Hanford (Worksop St Anne Benefice & Norton Cuckney Benefice)
Kentucky (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd Terry White
Kericho (Kenya) The Rt Revd Ernest Ng'eno
Khartoum (Sudan) The Most Revd Ezekiel Kondo (Primate)

**Sun 23 Aug** The Revd Michael Forsyth (Chilwell with Inham Nook Benefice)
Pray for the Church of the Province of South East Asia
The Most Revd Melter Tais - Archbishop of South East Asia & Bishop of Sabah
*Evangelical Lutheran Church in Finland: Diocese of Espoo, Bishop Kaisamari Hintikka*

**Mon 24 Aug** The Revd Debs Moyo (Carlton Benefice and Colwick Benefice)
Kibondo (Tanzania) The Rt Revd Sospeter Ndenza; Kigali (Rwanda) The Rt Revd Nathan Rusengo
Kigeme (Rwanda) The Rt Revd Assiel Musabyimana

**Tue 25 Aug** The Revd Simon Jones (Burton Joyce, Bulcote and Stoke Bardolph with Lowdham, Caythorpe and Gunthorpe Benefice)
Olo (South Sudan) The Rt Revd Tandema Obede; Busan (Korea) The Most Revd Onesimus Park
Kigezi (Uganda) The Rt Revd George Bagamuhunda

**Wed 26 Aug** The Revd Michael Vyse (Worksop Priory of St Mary and St Cuthbert with Carburton Benefice)
Olympia (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd Gregory Rickel
Busoga (Uganda) The Rt Revd Paul Moses Naimanye

**Thu 27 Aug** The Revd Naeem Bahadur (Hyson Green and Forest Fields Benefice), The Revd Karen Hanford (Wollaton Benefice)
Omu-Aran (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Philip Adeyemo; Butare (Rwanda) The Rt Revd Nathan Gasatura
Butere (Kenya) The Rt Revd Timothy Wambunya

**Fri 28 Aug** The Revd Becky Hancock (Bawtry with Austerfield, Misson, Everton & Mattersey Benefice)
On the Lake (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Chijioke Oti; Buye (Burundi) The Rt Revd Sixbert Macumi

**Sat 29 Aug** The Revd Michael Allen (East Leake, West Leake, Stanford-on-Soar, Rempstone and Costock Benefice)
On the Niger (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Owen Nwokolo; Byumba (Rwanda) The Rt Revd Emmanuel Ngendahayo; Kilmore, Elphin & Ardagh (Ireland) The Rt Revd Ferran Glenfield

**Sun 30 Aug** The Revd Michele Hampson (Lenton Benefice), The Revd Ant Dixon (Nottingham St Jude Benefice)
Pray for the united Church of South India
The Most Revd Dharmaraj Rasalam - Moderator of CSI & Bishop of South Kerala
*Evangelical Lutheran Church in Finland: Diocese of Turku, Archbishop Tapio Luoma, Bishop Kaarlo Kalliala*

**Mon 31 Aug** BANK HOLIDAY- we pray for all members of the Church in their vocation and ministry, that they may serve the Lord in truth and love
Kimberley & Kuruman (Southern Africa) The Rt Revd Oswald Swartz
Kindu (Congo) The Most Revd Zacharie Katanda (Primate)
Kinkiizi (Uganda) The Rt Revd Dan Zoreka
The Church in Burundi responds to COVID-19 with prayer and purpose

Over recent months we have seen nations in lockdown, hospitals around the world struggling to cope, shocking statistics of deaths, the melt down of economies, and huge numbers of people both young and old facing a very uncertain future. Throw extreme poverty into the mix and another dimension to the devastating impact of coronavirus is added.

Among the poorest countries of the world Burundi already faces huge challenges. In many areas people live with a lack of water, food and healthcare. Some remain displaced as a result of civil unrest. Many live with underlying health issues such as malnutrition, HIV and malaria and children continue to die from preventable childhood diseases. A dramatic increase in the rate of COVID-19 infection would have a devastating impact on the country.

The Province of the Anglican Church of Burundi reported recently that several dioceses towards the south of the country have already joined initiatives seeking to prevent the spread of coronavirus in the communities they serve.

In collaboration with Christian Aid Burundi training sessions about COVID-19 prevention for Church and community leaders are taking place, hand washing kits are being distributed for use in households and meeting places, and some health centres and schools have been supplied with hygiene kits to be used when people gather.

It is challenging work because many of the measures people are being asked to implement are profoundly countercultural where life revolves around large extended families and communal living.

Through a variety of media the Church is urging people to follow instructions from the government concerning COVID-19 prevention and contributing resources as they become available. Some parishes have redesigned their programmes enabling worship and activities that respect regular hand washing using clean water and soap as well as social distancing.

As in many places around the world the virus threatens to push people deeper into poverty as jobs, education, income-generating projects, and access to food are affected. The Church is particularly concerned to support vulnerable people including orphans, returnees, the elderly, widows, and people living with disabilities.

To quote Christian Aid, “Coronavirus impacts all of us. Love unites us all”. At this time love surely compels us to stand together in prayer with and for our family, friends and neighbours near and far.
Comings and goings . . . Comings and goings . . . Comings and goings

Father Andrew John Nicolls, at present Vicar of St Mary Magdalene, Sutton in Ashfield in the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham is taking up a role as full time Padre with the British Army. Father Andrew’s final day in office will be Saturday 22nd August 2020.

The Revd Peter Thomas Chantry at present Vicar of All Saints, Madeley and St Margaret’s Betley in the Diocese of Lichfield to be Vicar of St. Andrew’s Church, Skegby with All Saints’ Church, Stanton Hill and St. Katherine’s Church, Teversal. In the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. Licensing date to be announced.

The Revd Cora Lynette Varrien, at present Rector in the Idle and Sands Retford Benefice in the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham, is to resign with effect from Saturday 21 August 2020. Her last Sunday of active ministry in the Benefice will be Sunday 26 July 2020. Cora is leaving the diocese to move with her husband John as he begins his new role as Superintendent Minister of the Dorset South and West Methodist circuit. During her incumbency, Cora has helped to lead and shape the mission of the villages in the Idle and Sands Benefice, working together to lay strong foundations upon which to build. We pray for her and John that God will richly bless them in their future ministries.

The Revd Helen Fiona Chantry at present Vicar of Audlem, Wybunbury and Doddington in the Diocese of Chester to be Vicar of St Mary Magdalene and St John the Evangelist, Hucknall in the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. Subject to the usual legalities. The licensing will take place remotely at 2pm on 25 June and it will be led by Bishop Paul.

The Revd Lydia Maria Martha Corbett at present Curate at St Dionis, Parsons Green in the Diocese of London to be Mission Associate at St Leo’s, Basford in the Woven group of churches in the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. Subject to the usual completion of legalities and enhanced DBS clearance. The licensing will take place remotely at 2pm on 29 June and it will be led by Bishop Paul.

The Revd Jonathan Edward Tully Strickland at present Vicar of Bawtry with Austerfield, Misson, Everton and Mattersey Benefice is to resign with effect from 12 July 2020.

The Reverend Richard Timothy Kenneth Atkinson is at present Vicar of St Margaret’s, Aspley and Priest in Charge of All Saints, Strelley and St John the Baptist and St Martin of Tours, Bilborough. St Margaret’s Aspley is the designated resourcing church for the Nottingham North Deanery urban area in the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. The Reverend Richard Timothy Kenneth Atkinson also now Priest in Charge of St Leodegarius and St Aidan, Basford in the same Diocese. The licensing took place remotely 10am on Thursday 7 May 2020 by the Ven Phil Williams

The Revd Gillian Mary Hall previously Assistant Minister in the Benefice of Kimberley and Nuthall in the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham now Associate Minister at Clifton Team Ministry in the same Diocese. The licensing took place remotely on Tuesday 21 April.

The Revd Susan Caddy previously Rector of Ordsall & Retford St Michael in the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham is to retire with effect from 19 April 2020.

School of Discipleship presents:
GLOBAL THEOLOGY
An occasional reading group for any who want to explore theological writing from a richer range of sources.
3rd August 2020 - 11.30am (online)
then roughly 6 times a year
This is a relaxed informal discussion group to join in, please register interest (catrional@southwell.anglican.org) you'll then be provided with details of the selected book to read (please obtain your own copy) ahead of the next meeting.
Books will be suggested by group members.

Please note the deadline for the AUGUST 2020 issue of Nifty Notes is: 12TH JULY 2020