



November 2020

Dear Fellow Clergy and Parishioners of Abingdon-on-Thames,

Our archbishops and bishops have called upon us to commit ourselves to fasting and prayer through the month-long lockdown which has just begun. We should support this as best we can according to our circumstances.

With this letter is an electronic copy of the simple prayer resource they have provided; I encourage you to use some or all of it. (Hard copies are available from the Parish Office; please ring in advance to collect one when the Administrator is on site, that is, on a Monday or Wednesday.)

As to fasting, a sensible lessening of the quantity of food and drink on a given day a week is something most of us can safely embrace, and I encourage it. It can be a powerful reminder of our Lord's Good Friday sacrifice. Fridays are a good day for that; Wednesdays are a traditional fasting day too, but one should be flexible about it. Feel free to approach the clergy of the Team if you have questions about that.

We are asked to ring the church bell each evening at 6 pm as a reminder of this call to prayer, and we will aim to do that.

Let's make this month rich in unconventional ways, and, let's also hope, discover new ways to be the Body of Christ in unusual times.

You are in my prayers as each day goes by. Please keep me and my colleagues in yours.

The Revd Dr Charles Miller
Team Rector