

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

Dear Friends

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April – Service of Holy Communion at new 9.45 ‘trial’ time**

I am writing to remind you that our service in St Godwald’s this coming Sunday is at the new time of 9.45am.

You will recall that some weeks ago, I initiated a consultation with the 9am and 10.30am congregations about the possibility of merging the two into one. Unlike All Saints that has a single main congregation on a Sunday morning, St Godwald’s has two congregations of a similar size. The possibility of merging them into one has been mooted for some years; the growth of the parish and our reliance on a diminishing group of lay worship leaders to sustain two congregations has forced the issue back to the fore.

9.45am was chosen for it is the mid-point between 9am and 10.30am. The only other option is to alternate the timing between 9am and 10.30am. Whichever option we choose, some will be pleased and others disappointed or even frustrated; the joint congregation is almost certainly likely to be smaller.

I would ask please that you all give the new time a chance to work for the three months agreed by the DCC, by supporting it, whether in church or on zoom. Once this trial is ended, it may be that the DCC decide upon a second trial, alternating the time between 9am and 10.30am. If this happens, I will urge you to support that trial too. (For those unable to come to church or connect online, please let me know if you would like home communion as this can recommence now.)

Churchgoing habits are difficult to form, and easy to break; attachments to particular times and services, especially so. What we all hold in common, is a deep attachment to place. So, whether your preference is 9am or 10.30am, BCP, Common Worship, or Family Worship, please support St Godwald’s by being prepared to adapt. The church can only exist with us all working, worshipping and praying, together.

Assuring you of my love and prayers

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## Summary of Services to the end of June

Date	Sunday	Time & Church	Service
11/4	Easter 2	10.30 All Saints	Morning Worship
18/4	Easter 3	9.45 St Godwald's	Holy Communion
25/4	Easter 4 (Vocations Sunday)	10.30 All Saints	Morning Worship
2/5	Easter 5	9.45 St Godwald's	Morning Worship
9/5	Easter 6 (Rogation)	10.30 All Saints	Holy Communion
16/5	Easter 7	9.45 St Godwald's	BCP Holy Communion
23/5	Pentecost	10.30 All Saints	Morning Worship
30/5	Trinity Sunday	Team Service St John's	To be agreed
6/6	Trinity 1	9.45 St Godwald's	Morning Worship
13/6	Trinity 2	10.30 All Saints	Holy Communion
20/6	Trinity 3	9.45 St Godwald's	Holy Communion
27/6	Trinity 4	10.30 All Saints	Morning Worship