



FRIENDS OF HOLY TRINITY BLYTHBURGH

17 March 2020

Dear Friends

By March 12<sup>th</sup> I had finished writing my spring Newsletter to you all. It was very cheerful because the season was just beginning to show itself, with Daffodils and crocuses everywhere. I had outlined all the Easter services that we were looking forward to. But it is now 17<sup>th</sup> March and things look very different. As I'm sure you know, due to the Coronavirus, we along with all Church of England churches, have had to cancel services and events until further notice. It's all very sad, but it must be done.



A new photograph of one of our stained-glass angels, by Colin Huggins.

### Open for prayer

As you know, many visitors to Blythburgh church say how special the atmosphere is, and some take time to stop for a few moments to pray, to think, or to remember loved ones. So early last month we made a couple of subtle changes to the Hopton Chapel – the space on the north east corner of the church – so that it can be used as a place for quiet prayer. Everyone is welcome to use it, to light a candle or leave a prayer request on the board. Little did we know then, how much such a space would be needed in the days ahead.

In the run up to Easter, we had also planned an exhibition of 15 remarkable paintings by Mark Cazalet entitled *Stations on a Journey*. Shown 20 years ago in the church as part of the Suffolk-wide millennium exhibition, *Stations: the new sacred art*, they follow the traditional stations of the cross, but the events are located in intriguing urban settings, such as under the Westway A40 intersection, or in the Kilburn Station ticket hall. We have decided that this exhibition will still go on. The works will be hung in the church until the morning of Monday 13 April. Visitors will be able to follow the story of the passion and make use of our lovely church spaces for their own meditation and prayers.

These are very testing times. Please be assured that we value you as our friends and wish you good health and peace this Easter.

Meryl Doney, Chair of the Friends of Holy Trinity

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