

Following the announcement by The Prime Minister last night and from The Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England, the churches in the Benefice of Holy Innocents Gt Barton and St Peter's Thurston, will remain closed until further notice.

We would like to remind you that there will always be someone who can help or know someone who can help. If you have any concerns or questions you can contact us at the following email addresses.

Pat Sadler: Churchwarden, St Peter's Church: patsadler@hotmail.com

Tim Frost: Churchwarden, Holy Innocents: timfrost@yahoo.co.uk

Benefice Web Administrator: beneficepr@gmail.com

We will post all updates on our website: <https://www.greatbartonandthurston.org.uk> and our Facebook pages.

The Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England have urged everyone to follow the instructions given by the Prime Minister to stay in their homes in a national effort to limit the transmission of the coronavirus (COVID-19).

But they called on the Church to “continue to pray, to love, to care for the vulnerable”.

It follows the announcement by the Prime Minister Boris Johnson of sweeping restrictions aimed at slowing the spread of the virus.

It means all Church of England churches will close with immediate effect in line with the Government's instructions. There will also be no Church weddings or baptisms.

Funerals at the graveside or in crematoriums can still take place, but only in line with the Prime minister's Statement.

In a joint statement the bishops said: “In the light of the Government's measures, announced by the Prime Minister this evening, we urge everyone to follow the instructions given.

“We will give a fuller statement of advice as soon as possible. Let us continue to pray, to love, to care for the vulnerable, and build our communities, even while separated.”