

Church is Changing

Christian Aid Week goes Digital

Coronavirus has meant a rethink at Christian Aid Week and they have had to go virtual this year.

Gone are the red envelopes through doors, plant sales, Big Brekkies - instead the pandemic means that Christian Aid Week 2020 (10th-16th May) will be different as churches across the diocese are being invited to stand in solidarity with the world's most vulnerable people in new and innovative ways.

With daily quizzes and live-streamed worship, supporters can be involved from their own homes and could also take part in the '300,000 steps in May' challenge which will be run through Facebook, or send an electronic donation envelope - an 'e-envelope' - to friends and family.

The main page is [here](#) – and the charity is asking every church community that can to help them.

Christian Aid Week begins on Sunday and, as a diocese, we have been strong supporters.

This Sunday, our Cathedral will focus on Christian Aid with our own Diocesan Secretary David Pain - who was with the charity before joining the Diocese - giving the address.

Our local Christian Aid Churches Engagement Officer Yvonne Penn said:

“It will be a different Christian Aid Week but with all the great hallmarks that we recognise of compassion, love and vision for a more just, equitable and healthy world. Please join us if you can.”

Christian Aid Week Manager Sophie Brightwell said:

“Coronavirus is teaching us what it feels like to feel vulnerable, to fear, to be separated and experience scarcity.

“It is at times like these – testing and painful times – that we recognise we are all in this together. Coronavirus impacts everyone, but love unites us all. Christian Aid Week has always been a joyful celebration of what we can achieve together for the world's poorest people and in this time of global crisis Christian Aid's work is needed as much as ever before.”

The charity produced a series of key coronavirus health stats that show that African countries only have access to 1% of the world's financial resources for health but 24% global burden of disease.

In our link Diocese of South Sudan, there are just 24 Intensive Care beds and just 4 ventilators for over 12 million people.

To explore ideas about how to celebrate Christian Aid Week digitally, call Yvonne Penn on 07778 109480 or visit caweek.org/virtualresources.