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Dear all,

As we begin to have more face to face contact with others and as we prepare to return to worship in our church buildings this will be the last weekly letter I will write for the time being, although I intend to still write an update fortnightly.

We are starting services in our church buildings this weekend, Sunday 12th - 9.30 am in St James, Campden and 11.00 am in St Lawrence's, Mickleton. (St Eadburgha's will have a service next Sunday 19th.) If you intend to come to a Sunday service please do arrive in plenty of time as time is needed to collect people's contact details and be shown to an appropriate pew. There will be other changes within the service, in line with the national guidelines, to help ensure we are all kept safe. Sadly at present hymn singing is not permitted and communion can only be shared in one form; bread.

We recognise that not everyone will want to return to worship in the church buildings and so as the Vale and Cotswold Edge Team we will make sure there is a weekly opportunity to worship together on-line throughout the summer.

Coming out of lockdown - is another time of change following the changes we have already faced as we went into lockdown. Many people are tired, some are anxious whilst a few are enthusiastic and looking forward to new freedoms. As ever we are all different and we all feel different things. Our collective worship and individual prayers need to reflect many things; lament, thanksgiving and celebration. It is reassuring to know that God is always with us however we are feeling, whatever we are doing. It will take us time to learn

how to be the people of God in this moment – Covid-19 brings a new and unique set of challenges and opportunities. We need to be prayerful and patient we don't need to do everything immediately (we can't do everything immediately) – we must be gentle and kind with one another and with ourselves.

Every blessing
Revd Craig

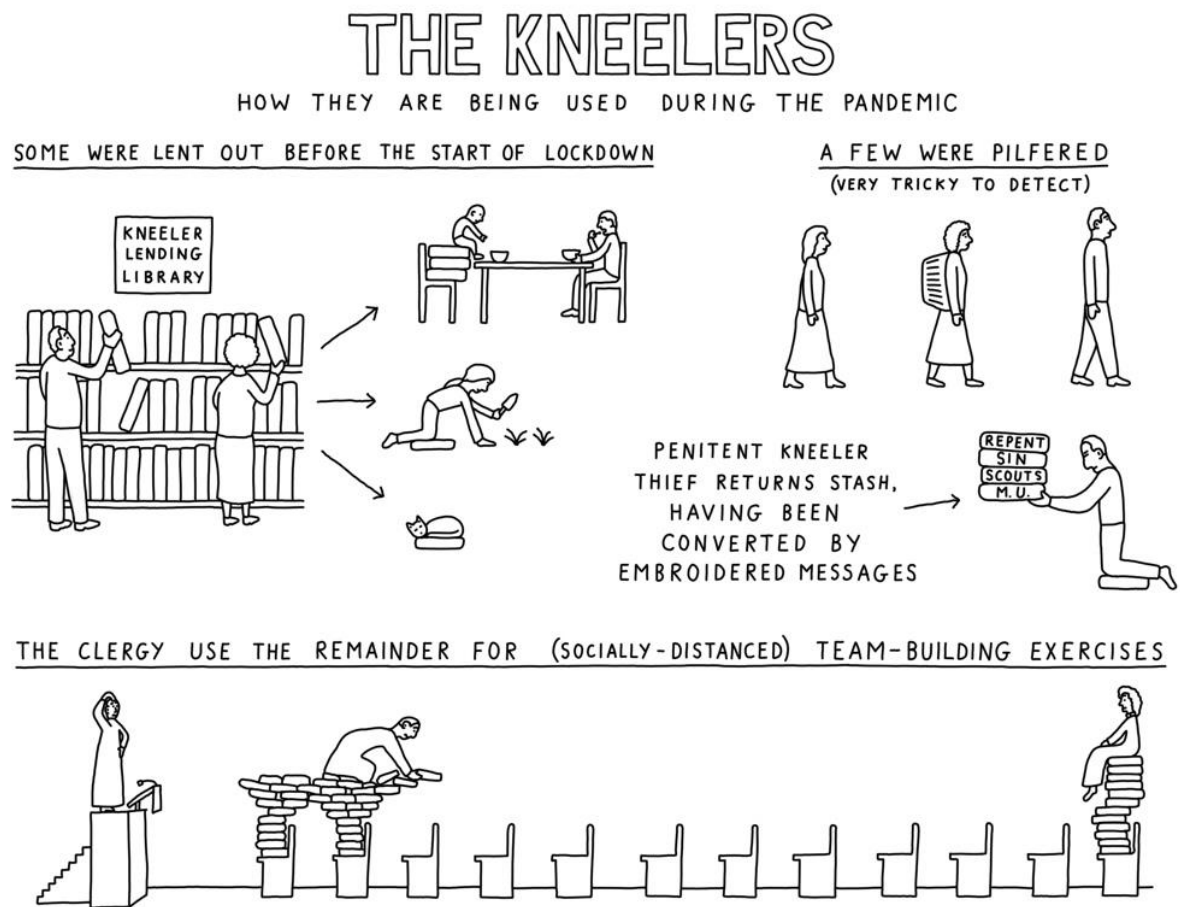
Useful links:

A reflection on racism, action and empathy

https://www.mindandsoulfoundation.org/Articles/579558/Mind_and_Soul/Articles/Racism_action_and.aspx

A reflection on managing change

https://www.mindandsoulfoundation.org/Articles/577520/Mind_and_Soul/Articles/The_Wake_Up.aspx



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