

# Broadway with Wickhamford

# The Grapevine

Issue No. 193 – April 2020 - 90p



*He is  
risen!*

# Who's Who:



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## St. Michael and All Angels' Church with St Eadburgha's Church

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Phil Whatmough (Chair) 852120  
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[www.facebook.com/stmichaelsteadburghas](https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsteadburghas)

[www.facebook.com/wickhamfordchurch](https://www.facebook.com/wickhamfordchurch)



# St. John the Baptist, Wickhamford

<b>Church Wardens</b>	Ken Maden	830510
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**Broadway Library:** open Mon 9.30-4.30, Wed & Fri 9.30-4.30 & Sat 9.30-1 01905 822722

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**Deadline for the next Grapevine is:**

**10th April 2020**

Don't Miss the

**DEADLINE!**



*NB It is a requirement of the Data protection Act 1998 that all contacts be asked to agree to the use of computers. You should write to us if you do not want to allow us to put contact details on our computers for use in church records & or publications.*

# Revd Michelle (Shellie) writes...

Hi

In light of the current circumstance with the covid\_19 outbreak and to help safeguard our community against the risk of infection, we are suspending church services until further notice in St John's, Wickhamford, St Michael and All Angels and St Eadburgha's Church, Broadway. This is with immediate effect.

As the church, we proclaim hope in the midst of trouble, peace when faced with a crisis, and faith in a time of fear. Because, in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, God has saved us from the terrors of sin and death, we share with others the good news that nothing has the power to defeat God's unbreakable love for the world. That confidence—that faith—is not only what we say; it is who we are. Our belief in the saving power of God's love is the foundation of everything we do as a congregation. It is why we come together on Sunday mornings. It is why we serve people who walk through our doors. It is why we teach children, youth, and adults about the way of Jesus. And, now as much as ever, our faith in God's saving love must be at the centre of our life together.

Being a community of confidence in uncertain times has never been easy, yet that has always been the church's gift to the world. During persecutions and plagues, blitzes and blow-ups, the church has reminded its members and the world that God's love cannot be defeated. Whether facing personal crises or societal catastrophe, people among us are desperate for the good news that, because of God's love for them, they have reason to hope. In this time of pandemic, when vulnerable individuals have withdrawn from us and daily essentials like toilet paper are gone from store shelves, we must find ways to be a sign of hope for ourselves and others around us. Even in a moment of panic, we must be a church that reminds the world that God will triumph.

In order to do that, we must adapt to the concerns that COVID-19 is presenting us. Starting now we can still pray individually as a church. There is a hard copy of a prayer booklet in our churches which remains open for private prayer. A link to it is <https://shelliem.wordpress.com/2020/03/14/prayer-booklet-for-those-self-isolating-coronavirus-covid-19/>. The church of England has a dedicated website which is updated every day <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

I've also started a church WhatsApp group so we can easily text / share with each other –if you wish to join it please send me your mobile number (*and if you aren't on WhatsApp please download the app to your phone as well. Please note other will be able to see your mobile number if you join the group*).

Easter arrangements:

Very sadly, there will be no service therefore at Easter in any of our churches on Easter Day. Dominique is going to place the cross on the village green on Good Friday (12pm-3pm) and I will be singing 'Thine be the glory' Easter Day on the village Green at 10.30am in Broadway. (If you happen to be walking in that direction at that time and wish to join in please remember about safe distances.

A group of us have set up a support network (see later article) please use this if you need help or just a chat. Stay safe and thank you to everyone we live in an amazing community that has come together to support us all at this time.

*Shellie—07780002565 / 01386 852352 / [broadwaycofe@gmail.com](mailto:broadwaycofe@gmail.com)*

## Useful Information

### **Sermon podcast: Mothering Sunday (and other Sundays)**

Jo Williamson, Assistant Curate in Broadway & Wickhamford, 22 March 2020.

<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/2020/03/12/sermon-podcast-mothering-sunday/>

### **Our diocesan website:**

<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/>

### **BBC H&W Thought for the Week** at 7.40am

(possibility of a Sunday service on the radio being looked into)

### **BBC Radio 2**

- Sundays from 6am - Reverend Kate Bottley and Jason Mohammad present uplifting stories about life, love and modern spirituality, alongside a great soundtrack for your Sunday morning.

- Each weekday morning there is Pause for Thought—[www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p015nm0y/clips](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p015nm0y/clips)

### **BBC Radio 4**

- 8.10am Sunday worship

- 9.45 Daily Service

- Thought for the day—<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00szxv6>

### **National Trust to open parklands and gardens for free during coronavirus social distancing period**

Following the increasing numbers of safety measures advised by the government to limit the spread of the new coronavirus, COVID-19, the National Trust has announced that it plans to keep as many of its parks and gardens open and free of charge.

The National Trust's houses, cafés and shops will close by Friday 20 March.

<https://www.discoverwildlife.com/news/national-trust-free-coronavirus>

### **Heart Felt Buddies.....** <https://www.facebook.com/HeartFeltTips>

Testing times ahead. Here's how your children can also help: Lets pair-up elderly people with a local buddies who's jobs over the next few months will be to write them letters, do little outside jobs, and leave them little parcels on their door steps. \*Pen-pals who do a bit more\*. I've already 'match-made' two juniors with two seniors in their village and it took just two phone calls. Think about your elderly neighbours or enquire if anyone needs help on your local Facebook page, perhaps ask in the church, put a note in the local shop or if you have a care home near you, give them a call.

Heart Felt Buddies - go forth and sprinkle some magic!

# A letter from the Bishop of Worcester



As I write this piece, the stock markets have crashed and fear is beginning to mount as the number of coronavirus cases in the UK has risen to over 300. It is difficult to predict where we'll be by the time you read this and it's important that we continue to heed official advice.

Alongside this, the Bishop of St Alban's has come up with four 'golden rules' for Christians which we won't hear from the Government. I commend them to you:

**Golden Rule One.** Each one of us can think about how we can protect and support our neighbours. So much of the public rhetoric is sowing fear about the danger of other people. So, while ensuring you take all the official precautions, offer help and reassurance to others – and don't demonise anyone or any group.

**Golden Rule Two:** Think about who may be suffering most. For those of us who are healthy there is much less to worry about, but the elderly, the housebound and those with chronic health conditions may be very anxious. Could your church do an audit of vulnerable people and share out the responsibility to phone them each day? There's nothing like a friendly voice to offer solace when someone is worried. A smile can bring cheer, even on the phone. If you visit, follow all the official precautions.

**Golden Rule Three.** Don't give into panic and start hoarding food. There is plenty to go around, so practise the Christian discipline of sharing. Ask your neighbours what they need and do your best to help them get it. If you are self-isolating you will of course need some supplies.

**Golden Rule Four.** Live today to the full. None of us ever know what the future holds. In the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 6. 25 – 34), Jesus challenged his followers to live each day fully and not be afraid. Every time we are tempted to give in to fear we need to make a conscious choice to respond in trust and openness.

To that I would add; don't forget to pray and remember, as we approach Easter, the wonderful truth that lies at the heart of our faith, that perfect love casts out fear. (1 John 4.18)

+John

# Coronavirus: Archbishops call for national day of prayer and action



In this joint article published in the Daily Mail and the Yorkshire Post today, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York call for a National Day of Prayer and Action in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

We are good in this country at holding our nerve and steadying one another. But a pandemic is something else; you can't touch the virus, see it or even

know where it is. It may be spread by those who don't even know they are infected. It is very serious for some, very mild for many.

Nevertheless, the effect of the virus could drive us apart. To some extent it must do.

When someone we care for has it they must be isolated. That is particularly so for older people and the most vulnerable, the ones by whose bed we want to sit, and hold their hand, express our love with touch. As in epidemics throughout history the effects of this fear disturb us very deeply, and dread comes upon us.

The answer to conquering this fear is love that we receive. The tears of the child wakened by a bad dream are stilled by the embrace of someone who loves them. The uncertainty of someone of great age is often quietened with a familiar voice. The words of a friend can enable us to challenge the fears of illness to reduce our sense of threat. The UK has a culture of caring, expressed through the NHS, in Social Care, and in many other ways.

All of us, now, face a common threat, COVID-19. The question is, how do we find hope in these difficult circumstances? Hope comes both from what we can do and who we are.

We know that everything possible is being done to ensure that we can meet the challenge, in the NHS and across society. The struggle will bring with it many practical difficulties, from the closing of sports grounds to meeting the needs of those in isolation. It may mean some very hard decisions have to be taken about who is treated, as in Italy where they have had to decide not to treat some patients.

We must not be suspicious or indulge in conspiracy theories. Those who are leading our country are seeking the best advice and can be trusted to do all they can. NHS staff and scientists our Government can call upon are

amongst the best anywhere in the world. They have no agenda other than the wellbeing of all.

We are capable of bearing the truth. Honesty strengthens our hopes. We need to listen to the science. Through listening we already know how to reduce the risk: washing our hands meticulously; self-isolating even if we are not ill but have come into contact with the virus; resisting the temptation to go to a doctor's surgery where we might infect others; resisting the temptation, too, to panic buy.

Above all we must look after one another, knowing that in an uncertain world with a new virus we are best protected with honesty, compassion and care. Remember the example of the Good Samaritan, the story in the Bible, which speaks about the need to care for the other and ensure we notice those who are in distress even if they are those who are often invisible to us.

We can find hope and courage in the goodly and wholesome spirit that is in so many ways common to all human beings, whether they are people of Faith or None. We must distinguish between a healthy fear - the beginning of wisdom, which prompts us to follow advice, and to care for those at risk - and unhealthy fear which is driven by pride, leading us to act, selfishly, doing harm to ourselves and others.

With the gift of truth and hope, we can care for one another lovingly, using words if not touch because of self-isolation. We can accept advice without grumbling, out of concerns for others, even if we do not see ourselves as being at risk.

We can go out of our way to be attentive to neighbours and to those who are vulnerable. We can shop for one another. We can help at a food bank. We can volunteer in community service. We can support those who struggle to feed their children when there are no free school lunches.

Finally, there is one more thing that everyone can do. Something we would expect from two Archbishops. We make no apology for saying "Pray!" Even if you scarcely can imagine how, pray! Pray for yourself, for those you love, for friends and neighbours.

Three thousand years ago a young King, of shepherd background, called David, wrote a song. It was a hit at his time and has remained so ever since. That is quite a success, even the greatest of our stars of today would feel that three thousand years at the top was quite an achievement. It's the Shepherd song, "The Lord's my Shepherd".

We sing it in our common worship, at weddings and at funerals. It starts with hope but speaks of darkness as well as life. The singer begins with joy: God, the divine Shepherd-King, leads his people to nourishment and safety but in the song the scene quickly darkens.

The path along which he goes becomes a valley of the shadow of death. But the shepherd's 'rod' and 'staff', implements that prod and guide the sheep,

provides the comfort that comes from divine guidance.

Find Psalm 23 and read it aloud. The Shepherd's song is about real life, not an idealised picture. It speaks of suffering and facing enemies.

Whether we are confident and brave, or doubt-filled and fearful, God is the source of love and hope. Why not say the Lord's prayer – "Our Father who art in heaven ...." when you wash your hands. It takes more than the recommended 20 seconds.

So, we are inviting you to join us from today, for 7 days, in praying the Lord's prayer every time you wash your hands. Yes – for seven days! And then pray throughout the day for healing for those who are sick with COVID-19; and that God will heal us from the fear which will prevent us from working together.

May the wisdom of God lead the doctors, nurses and researchers, that they may know God's protection; and that God will guide the leaders of the nations into the ways of justice and peace. And that the love of Christ will surround us and take away our anxiety and give us His peace. May He hear us and heal us.

With the hope that you will find, then act. Where someone is ill, encourage them. Where someone dies, remember that, as the foundation of our faith for over two thousand years, we have believed that God shared the pains and fears of our lives in Jesus Christ, that He faced death, but overcame it. And He is with the bereaved.

Where is our hope? It is in the end in the love and faithfulness of a God whom we may have forgotten, but whose action and character is expressed in millions of acts of love by every person in this country. This is the God who we see in Jesus Christ, who called himself the Good Shepherd. Acts of love are the normal reaction to those in need. They are a reflection of the God who is our Shepherd.

So today we, together with our fellow bishops and other church leaders, call for a National Day of Prayer and Action this coming Mothering Sunday (22nd March) - light a candle at 7pm and put it in your window, ring someone who is isolated and vulnerable; buy an extra item and place it in your local food bank, keep your night shelters open.

We have a stronghold and refuge, we do not depend on ourselves alone, for God keeps us so that as the Shepherd song ends: "surely goodness and mercy shall follow me, all the days of my life".

**To find out more about the Church of England's response to coronavirus, along with prayers and other resources, visit:**  
**[www.churchofengland.org/coronavirus](http://www.churchofengland.org/coronavirus)**

## MAKE THE MOST OF STAYING AT HOME!

If you're stuck at home – it might make you feel a bit better if you can do something positive with the time. Lots of us have hobbies we never seem to have time to do, or jobs we've been putting off ..... Perhaps this is the opportunity.

Please think about doing some knitting for a fantastic project



**THE BABY BEAR PROJECT** – which collects together blankets, baby garments and knitted teddy bears, and sends them to St Mary's hospital in Durban, South Africa. Some of the new mothers there are desperately poor, and must be in even more severe difficulties since the State of Disaster was declared in S. Africa, thanks to the virus outbreak.

During 2019, an amazing **196 sets** (each comprising a baby blanket, jumper, hat, booties, mittens and a teddy bear) were sent from the Evesham, Broadway and Wickhamford area. More items were also sent to Care UK for refugees in Greece, as well as to Cheltenham and Gloucester Hospitals.

If you're willing to have a go, give me a ring on 853061 and I'll get the simple pattern to you. It's recently been updated, so even if you've had one before, it would be worth having a new one. Haven't any wool? – no problem!

**'Sew U Knit Crafts'** in the arcade has kindly offered to deliver wool if you get in touch: (01386) 853779 [sewuknitcrafts@outlook.com](mailto:sewuknitcrafts@outlook.com)

A graphic featuring a red heart with a lit candle on top. The word "Thanks" is written in a large, elegant, cursive font in a reddish-brown color, partially overlapping the heart.

The Baby Bear Project has been running for several years and every so often we receive the most touching letters of gratitude from the recipients of the baby packs, in Durban. They really are lifesavers. It would be wonderful if we could turn the calamity we are going through into a positive outcome for babies who have absolutely nothing.

Jo Williamson (01386) 853061 – [revjowilliamson@gmail.com](mailto:revjowilliamson@gmail.com)

# A letter from the Broadway URC minister Richard Becher

## It's not about me...

I see the heart of the Easter message being revealed in all its glory as people give their life for the good of a community. It's not about little me because it's all about the bigger community.

We can all save ourselves, as Jesus was challenged to do, but looking after me and my family won't save the world. So Jesus could have saved himself, as he saved so many with a healing touch, but the fundamental message is, surely, that God's world is much bigger than me.

Oh, we can certainly see the dark side of Easter as people rush to build their stores of toilet paper, pasta, bread and anything else they might need for the future. Some kitchens can become like great storehouses and we can read stories of that in the gospels.

We can also see crowds of people waving and singing "hosanna to the Lord" one week as they recognise the power of Jesus to save them but sing from a different song sheet the next week when it becomes clear that we all have a responsibility to do it together!

If Jesus had saved himself from the cross we wouldn't have seen the great opportunity for all of us to find a new life and would still be expecting God to do everything for us! The will of God is not for us to suffer, or for Jesus to have suffered as he did, but when we live the will of God we might suffer.

What is so wonderful and revealing is that Jesus is coming alive through the lives of people who don't even know they are doing it. In fact, they don't even want to believe it, but I am seeing the image of God providing a shining light in the darkness through so many people who are laying down their lives for people they don't even know. It's all about the bigger community, not just about little old me! That, my friends, is the Easter that leads to new life for everyone.

The will of God is for justice to be done; love to be shared; peace to be given and hope to be found. That doesn't come without a cost, as we are shown through the cross and the tomb at Easter. What is so encouraging is that we can see this Easter message alive in our community today through so many people who are giving rather than taking.

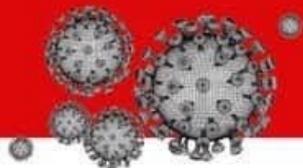
I'm not delivering an Easter message this year in the hope that people will receive it in Church. What I am doing is finding my Easter message in people who don't come to Church.

Thank you for all those people who are doing the will of God and saving community before themselves. You might not want to follow Jesus, believe in the power of the Spirit or have any trust in God, but I can see the Easter message shining through you.

Thank you for showing everyone that "it's not about little old me, but all about the bigger community."

*Richard Becher*

# Social Distancing:



## What does it mean?

It means stay away from places where people gather, avoid mass gatherings, and whenever not possible, maintains a distance of at least one metre from each other.<sup>1</sup> Together we can help to slow the infection from spreading away.

### Red Light – Avoid / Don't Do

- All gatherings of religious, commercial, official or personal nature (e.g. market/mall, cinema, meeting/conference, wedding, party/picnic, tuition, gym/yoga, dancing etc.) involving a sizeable and flowing crowd
- Social visitors or non-essential workers in your house
- Non-essential visitors in the workplace
- Non-essential travel in public transportation



### Yellow Light – Do with Caution

- Attend private gatherings limited to a few family members or known friends
- Travelling in a private transport (public transport only if it is a NECESSITY)
- Visit a local restaurant BUT choose the open-air type, sitting with at least one metre apart whenever possible (takeaway food is a better choice)
- Buying in a grocery store or supermarkets without a crowd
- Pick up medicines from the pharmacy without a crowd
- Play sports in the open air with family or a few known friends

### Green Light – Safe to Do

- Take a walk or jog in open park or stadium
- Cycling
- Play in the home garden, or go for a fun drive with family
- Read a book or listen to music in private
- Play games or watch TV/movie at home
- Home cooking and meals at home



➡ Wash your hands frequently with soaps and water, or alcohol-based hand rub.

➡ Best to do thing online whenever possible (e.g. Video chat, e-payment, internet games, or chat over a phone).

1. " World Health Organisation, March 2020."

# Broadway Coronavirus Support Network

<https://www.facebook.com/broadwaycoronasupportnetwork>



*(Updated 18/03)* To all residents in the Parish of Broadway

We are so far a very small group of villagers working together with the Parish Council as we would like to provide help to our fellow residents during the current Coronavirus pandemic.

We are in the process of setting this page and network up so please bear with us whilst we pull together the relevant parties to assist.

This FREE service is available to residents within the Parish of Broadway who are self-isolating, vulnerable or have underlying health issues that prevent them from going to public places.

Please contact us if you require assistance with local shopping, prescription collections, posting letters or anything else you are struggling with, or if you would simply like a friendly chat over the phone:

## **Contact:**

**Tel: Revd Michelle (Shellie) Ward - 07780002565.**

**E-mail: [broadwayvillagenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:broadwayvillagenetwork@gmail.com)**

(Meantime please contact us via this page and email until we have set up phone number)

One of our coordinators will then put you in touch with a helper who lives near to you.

\*PLEASE NOTE - we will also aim to provide all of the details on leaflets and posters so that those who do not use online services can easily access the same help.

Please do not feel isolated or that you shouldn't be asking for help. We are all here for each other during this difficult time! Your contact details will only be shared with your designated Broadway Helper. We won't keep records, or publicise your details or ask you for money.

This free service will be available until the British government / W.H.O. has declared that the pandemic is no longer a threat.

\*PLEASE NOTE \*\* We cannot provide medical advice / assistance or lifts to medical appointments or elsewhere. If you require this type of help please contact Cotswold Friends, a local charity:

Telephone 01608 651415 [info@cotswoldsfriends.org](mailto:info@cotswoldsfriends.org)

We will aim to work with our local stores provide delivery services. The following Broadway businesses offer local delivery, and you can place your orders over the phone and pay with your bank card: We will add to this list as we go;

So far;

**Collins of Broadway Butchers**

Call them on; 01386 852061 for any orders big or small.

**Wayside Farm Shop** can take orders, payment and deliver to door; Wayside could also do a daily 'ready meal' for people that don't want to buy all of the different ingredients.

Call them on; 01386 830 546

**Warner's Budgens** are offering a home delivery service and are able to take orders and payments over the phone. Please call them on; 01386 842870. (Please note that they will close at 1pm on Sunday for the changeover to Co-op. They are scheduled to reopen on Tuesday next week - We will keep you posted.)

**Nisa Local** are all set up for online payment and delivery. If you wish to place an order please phone 01386 859218 before 2pm.

**Sew U Knit Crafts - Susan Bennett** - open and will deliver wool, haberdashery etc if you're looking for activities to keep you busy ! 01386 853779.

**The Tea Set Broadway** are offering take away menu for delivery as well as putting together a list of everyday essentials like - bread, milk, loo roll, eggs which can be paid for in advance over the phone.

\*\* If you need a volunteer to pick up a few urgent essentials for you from the local shops please ensure you have some cash at home or a cheque book. All cash should be placed in an envelope.

We're here to help!

# Broadway Arts Festival 5-14 June 2020

Good news! Broadway Arts Festival returns this year with an extremely varied programme of events of the highest quality. There is something for everyone regardless of interest, age or artistic ability attracting celebrity speakers, nationally renowned artists, award-winning theatre productions and world-class musicians.

artBEAT is the three day opening weekend for the festival on the village green showcasing the work of some of Britain's top artists, designers and artisans. Throughout the first weekend the marquee on the village green will be brimming with printmakers, sculptors, jewellers, ceramicists, designer-makers and a host of traditional artisans demonstrating their skills & selling their work direct to the public.

Take along the family to see exceptional artists at work. Entry to the exhibitor marquee is **free**.

Lovers of music and theatre will be treated to a great selection of classical and jazz concerts, including Radio 2's Clare Teal & Trio, West End Musical evening, a Blues and classical Spanish evening as well as summer evenings on the village green with theatre productions of The Great Gatsby, A Midsummer Night's Dream and the family theatre hit "Mr Stink" by the much-loved David Walliams on the last Saturday afternoon.

There will be celebrity arts speakers such as Chris Riopelle (of The National Gallery), Lachlan Goudie (from the BBC's Big Painting Challenge) as well as Nicholas Cullinan (Director of the National Portrait Gallery).

Add to that demonstrations and exclusive workshops by a variety of nationally renowned artists and a myriad of creative experiences are on offer to allow everyone to "get creative" where talented contemporary artists, craftsmen and designers will lead workshops for painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, jewellery design, ceramics, willow, wood and metalwork.

This will be 10 days of the most diverse, creative, educational and entertaining events the festival has ever presented.

Find out more at [www.broadwayartsfestival.com](http://www.broadwayartsfestival.com)  
where tickets will go on sale on Good Friday (April 10th).

See you there!

**Thank you for joining us on 1st  
March when we celebrated  
with Margaret her Ministry as a  
Reader in our Benefice.**

*Margaret—It was a blessed day*

*When you chose*

*To follow God's path.*

*Thank you for all you gave*

*Your time, your caring,*

*Your leadership and your service.*

*May God's peace be with you as you retire  
from your calling to Reader Ministry.*



# John & Elizabeth Hincks - moving away

A big thank you to all those who have kindly sent us their best wishes prior to our move to Evesham.

By the time you read this we will have left Broadway and hopefully settled in to our retirement village at Wood Norton. We are sorry to be moving after 20 very happy years in Broadway. How time flies!

As you may know Henrietta Cooke has kindly taken on board the \*200 Club\* and John Hayes the Grapevine distribution & subscriptions. I wish them the best of luck.

We shall always look back on our time in Broadway as a very caring place with lovely people .

*John & Elizabeth*

## **Easter, our Marriage Ceremony**

*The prayers of Hippolytus (c 190 – c 236), though he lived in the third century, profoundly influenced 20<sup>th</sup> century liturgical writers. He was a priest in Rome who was deported to Sardinia during a persecution, where he died. His hymn for Easter was widely used throughout the Western Church.*

You have protected us, Jesus, from endless disaster.  
You spread Your hands over us like wings.  
You poured Your blood over the earth,  
Because You loved us.  
The anger which we deserved You turned away from us  
And restored us to friendship with God.

The heavens may have Your spirit,  
paradise Your soul,  
But the earth has Your blood.  
We celebrate the coming of your Spirit always:

The Spirit leads the mystic dance throughout the year.  
But Easter comes and goes.  
Power came from heaven to raise You from death,  
So that we and all creatures could see You.  
All living things gather round You at Easter.  
Thee is joy, honour, celebration, delight.

The darkness of death is driven away.  
Life is restored everywhere.  
The gates of heaven are thrown open.  
In You, risen Jesus, God has shown us Himself,  
So we can rise to Him as gods.  
The gates of hell are shattered.  
In you, risen Jesus, those already dead rise to life,  
Affirming the good news of eternal life.  
Now Your promise has been fulfilled.  
Now the earth is singing and dancing.  
Easter is our marriage ceremony.  
At Easter, dear Jesus, You make us Your brides...

*A Prayer of Hippolytus*

## **Archbishop of Canterbury pays tribute to the Archbishop of York**

The Archbishop of Canterbury has paid tribute to the Archbishop of York in General Synod what would have been his final Synod.

Archbishop Justin Welby praised the Archbishop of York who is currently travelling in the Pacific. He said: "He (John Sentamu) has gone to visit parts of the world which are suffering the effects of climate change right now. He has gone typically to be alongside those who are suffering: a pattern of his life throughout his ministry."

The Archbishop continued: "Speaking about Sentamu when he's not here ... means we can show our gratitude, thanks and love for him without him being able to stop us."

Recalling the Archbishop of York's work on the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry, Archbishop Justin added that "he has said that he himself was stopped at least eight times by the police".

Reflecting on the Archbishop of York's impact nationally, the Archbishop of Canterbury said: "The Church of England will miss you Sentamu and the wider country will miss you. There aren't a lot of bishops who are so well known outside the church."

### **ST. MICHAEL'S \*200\* CLUB DRAW**

#### **DRAW 26 - 15.03.20**

3<sup>RD</sup> PRIZE (£25):

WINNER: LAWRENCE LANGRIDGE  
Mulberry Cottage  
Kennel Lane  
Broadway WR12 7DJ

2<sup>ND</sup> PRIZE (£50)

WINNER: PETER HAMMOND  
36, Mills Close  
Broadway WR12 7RB

1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE (£200)

WINNER: EILEEN OVERTON  
3, Parsonage Cottages  
Snowhill Road  
Broadway WR12 7AF

# April Crossword

## Crossword Clues

### Across

1 Relating to the whole universe (6)

4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)

8 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe — — it' (John 20:25) (2,3)

9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message

(Jeremiah 36:25) (7)

10 Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)

11 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)

12 Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)

17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3-4) (5)

19 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord'

(Exodus 34:29) (7)

21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)

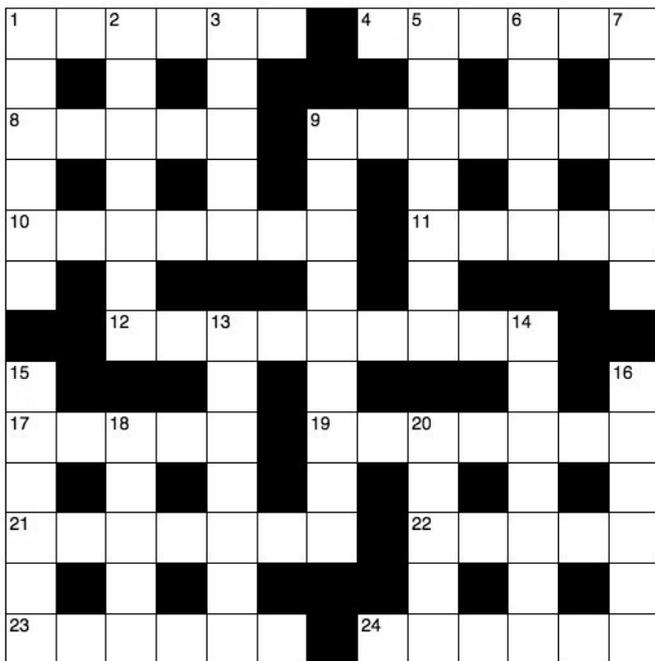
22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)

23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)

24 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)

### Down

1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)



2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)

3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)

5 For example, the Crusades (4,3)

6 11 Across is certainly this (5)

7 He reps (anag.) (6)

9 Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)

13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)

14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)

15 The human mind or soul (6)

16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)

18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)

20 Bared (anag.) (5)

# God in the Arts

by the Revd Michael Burgess.

## Murillo's 'St John the Baptist with the Lamb with the Lamb

The nursery rhymes we learnt as children often focused on lambs: Mary had a little lamb, Baa baa black sheep, Little Bo-Peep and Little Boy Blue. They come to mind in springtime when we see lambs in the field jumping for joy or bleating as they run to the ewes for warmth and safety.

Murillo, a 17th century artist from Seville, had that world of childhood in mind when he painted 'St John the Baptist with the Lamb.' He looks back to the little child of Isaiah 11 leading the animals, but also we are called to think of the adult John the Baptist, who sees Jesus walking by and exclaims, "Look, here is the Lamb of God." In the painting, St John is a child with his arms around the lamb. He stands on rocky ground with a reed cross at his feet that has the words 'Behold the Lamb of God' on the ribbon.



The painting hangs in the National Gallery, and it certainly lacks the strength and brilliance of other Spanish artists. But Murillo is telling us how the drama of salvation is played out by children and lambs. He is inviting us to look from that world of childhood to another part of Isaiah's prophecy, where he talks of the Messiah led like a lamb to the slaughter. We enter that drama of salvation in Holy Week this month. On Good Friday Jesus was led to His crucifixion, just as the lambs were being killed for the Passover.

We think of the world of Old Testament sacrifice, where the high priest on the day of Atonement would enter the Holy of Holies and sacrifice a ram. And we focus on Jesus who is for us both priest and sacrifice, and realise that there is a divine chemistry at work that leads us from Good Friday to Easter Day.

The writer of Hebrews meditates on this theme and proclaims that in Jesus we have a high priest of the good things that have come – eternal redemption. We are invited to appropriate that great gift for ourselves in this Holy Week of our salvation. So, we journey from the childhood days of Murillo's painting to Calvary and the Easter garden. And we can also journey beyond to the heavenly city, where Revelation tells us that all the nations walk by the light of that Lamb – the Lamb of God.

# God in the Sciences

by Dr. Ruth Bancewicz

## How Can a Christian be a Scientist?

I used to ask this question as a student. I wondered, who could make it in the world of science and still hold onto their faith? Soon enough I met a good number of successful scientists who were sincere Christians, some of whom were at my own university. So what do people like this make of the opportunities and challenges that a life in science holds for a Christian?



Science is an exercise in observing and measuring things in the world, and coming up with general principles about the way things are. Exploring the world is a great thing to do to express our gratitude to the Creator. There is a sense of awe and wonder that comes when we expand our minds and our horizons by discovering things about the universe can feed into our worship.

Of course, there may be things in science that some Christians don't want to get involved in because of what they believe. But there should also be ethical issues that make them want to get stuck into new research that will help people, protect creation, or tackle injustices. I am glad to see that many senior scientists do their best to find appropriate ways to make their own faith visible, so that people like my younger self can find role models and mentors.

Another helpful thing about science is that although our beliefs may at times affect what we notice about the world and how we interpret our data, they shouldn't affect the outcome of experiments themselves. This means that a scientist can be respected by her colleagues for doing good work, regardless of what she believes and what her colleagues think of that worldview.

In my work at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, and my involvement with Christians in Science, I have the privilege of meeting a great number of scientists who are also Christians. One of the most famous living biologists is Francis Collins, who was Director of the project to decode the whole of human DNA. He wrote that it is "possible for the scientist-believer to be intellectually fulfilled and spiritually alive, both worshipping God and using the tools of science to uncover some of the awesome mysteries of His creation." (Francis Collins, *The Language of God: A Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief* (Simon and Schuster, 2007)

# Symbols in our churches

## Reflected Faith: the role of the Sacristan

*The Rev Dr Jo White begins a new series on symbols in our churches. This will run for the rest of 2020.*

The traditional marks on an altar are five crosses representing either the five wounds of Christ or perhaps more matter-of-factly, Christ at the centre of what holds up the table – and indeed what holds our lives..

This month let's consider the work of the person responsible for preparing the altar for worship.

So often when we arrive in church, everything is already set up for the service and by the time we've drunk our coffee afterwards it's all cleared away – as if some altar fairies come in the dark and do it all very quietly.

Well, in fact that's exactly what happens! Except that rather than fairies this is the job of the *Sacristan*.

A busy priest with many churches may conduct several services on a Sunday and so rely on the altar to have been prepared before their arrival. There are set ways of preparing all altars so that, wherever you go to worship, the same things should be found and folded/laid in the same ways.

This not only helps in times of business, but principally it allows all who conduct or serve at the altar to engage with the words of the service, rather than get distracted by wondering 'where so and so' is today.

Some churches are more stringent than others in their preciseness, but there is a minimum level of acceptability. Otherwise the priest must spend time before the service checking everything is 'right' – or getting an inconvenient surprise when something is missing!

When the 'moment' comes in the Eucharistic prayer at the words, 'We break this bread', you should be able to hear the sharp 'snap' at the break. Making sure that the wafer is crisp enough is the responsibility of the Sacristan. The story is told about one church where the wafer tended to go a bit soft – until the Sacristan began putting it on the radiator for a few minutes beforehand, until they were 'dry enough to snap'.

Another solution, of course, would have been to find an airtight container...

*This month*

If you are able to attend a communion service on Easter Day listen out for the 'snap' and think what that sounds tells you of Christ's sacrifice and resurrection.

# Lockdown

Yes there is fear.

Yes there is isolation.

Yes there is panic buying.

Yes there is sickness.

Yes there is even death.

But,

They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise You can hear the birds again.

They say that after just a few weeks of quiet The sky is no longer thick with fumes But blue and grey and clear.

They say that in the streets of Assisi

People are singing to each other

across the empty squares,

keeping their windows open

so that those who are alone

may hear the sounds of family around them.

They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland Is offering free meals and delivery to the housebound.

Today a young woman I know

is busy spreading fliers with her number through the neighbourhood So that the elders may have someone to call on.

Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples are preparing to welcome and shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting All over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a new way

All over the world people are waking up to a new reality To how big we really are.

To how little control we really have.

To what really matters.

To Love.

So we pray and we remember that

Yes there is fear.

But there does not have to be hate.

Yes there is isolation.

But there does not have to be loneliness.

Yes there is panic buying.

But there does not have to be meanness.

Yes there is sickness.

But there does not have to be disease of the soul Yes there is even death.

But there can always be a rebirth of love.

Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.

Today, breathe.

Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic The birds are singing again The sky is clearing, Spring is coming, And we are always encompassed by Love.

Open the windows of your soul

And though you may not be able

to touch across the empty square,

Sing.

*Fr. Richard Hendrick*

# #Mental Health—Lets talk about it

## Coronavirus And Your Mental Health

By Blurt Team

[https://www.blurtitout.org/2020/03/17/coronavirus\\_mental\\_health/](https://www.blurtitout.org/2020/03/17/coronavirus_mental_health/)

We've been speaking with Chris Smith, a Cognitive Behavioural Psychotherapist with over 10 years' experience in counselling and Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), about how Covid-19, the current strain of Coronavirus, affects those of us with mental illness and what we can do to support our mental health.



We know this might be a scary time. Experiencing increased levels of anxiety is understandable, especially with the speed at which advice and reports are changing. For those of us with mental illness, the anxieties and worries can start to take over and make day to day life really difficult.

This isn't a guide on how to avoid catching Coronavirus. For those in the UK the NHS keep their website up to date with the [latest advice](#). The [Government website](#) has the latest information including their recommendations, too. If you're outside the UK please check your country's official and trusted sources.

This is a guide to how we can look after our own mental health during a scary time.

### MAINTAIN

Chris says the most important thing is to go [back to basics](#) and work on maintaining our mental health where we currently are. This may not be the time for difficult behaviour experiments, nor the time to push ourselves into positions where we feel uncomfortable. We might need to put some of the interventions we're trying out on hold and focus on not getting any worse and looking after ourselves.

Good therapy should be a collaborative process. If you have one, talk to your mental health professional(s), particularly if you feel any of your current behaviours could be dangerous.

## HOW DO WE MAINTAIN OUR MENTAL HEALTH DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC?

Chris Smith explains “If we’re anxious it’s important to remind ourselves that a big part of anxiety is about asking the ‘What If?’ questions. Our anxiety is often about us not being able to tolerate those questions.”

When we’re anxious we often overestimate the level of threat and underestimate our ability to cope.

We can help maintain our mental health by making some of those uncertainties a bit more ‘certain’. Problem solving can help us with this.

### PROBLEM SOLVING

Stay focused on current worries – let go of some of the hypothetical worries. Hypothetical worries haven’t happened yet and might never happen. We can deal with them when and if they become current and we have the ability to affect the outcome.

Distraction techniques can help us to shift our focus.

Writing our worries out can help to get them out of our heads. Seeing them can help us process them. This is particularly helpful if we’re struggling to sleep because of thoughts running through our mind.

From there we can then think of possible solutions. Write down any solutions you can think of. There are no wrong or silly answers, they can be as wild and wonderful as you like. Out of those ideas you may start to find some solutions that work for you.

Look at your worries and gauge them as short, medium, or long term. Organising them in this way allows us to look at which we need to address first. Tackle short term worries first; things that are happening in the immediate future. They take priority.

If possible, try to let go of some longer-term worries. As with hypothetical worries, if we can’t let it go, then we could write a plan. This can make the uncertainty feel a bit less scary and out of control.

We can also limit our exposure to scary news and ensure we are practising lots of extra self-care.

Chris also reminds us to think back to previous times when we’ve been worried about things. How did we get through those difficult times? Are there any skills

we could use again now?

Remember – we are far more capable than we give ourselves credit for. We have a 100% success rate for getting through previous times of crisis.

## OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE DISORDER AND CORONAVIRUS

Many people with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) have specific routines. These can be connected to hand washing, and the recent news might mean our routines spiral and get out of control.

Chris' advice was to discuss your worries with your health care professional if you have one. If you don't have a therapist, he recommends that we follow the current government guidelines. Follow the 2 Happy Birthday Rule/20 second rule when hand washing and wash your hands when you get home and into work.

Chris also reminds us "Your current rituals have kept you safe up until now – there's no need to add or take away from these currently. As we've said previously, now isn't the time to try and push yourself with big behavioural experiments unless agreed with your therapist. Now is all about maintaining our current balance".

If we excessively wash our hands they might start to chap, which can lead to open wounds. This can make us more susceptible to catching a virus, so if you're worried about chapping skin speak to your pharmacist and ask for a cream to use after hand washing to protect your hands.

When we feel things slipping try to bring ourselves back to that and the NHS advice. Also, remember the responsibility is not all on us – everyone is following these rules and it is good sound advice that is coming from the global medical community so we can be sure it is safe.

Chris added that not all OCD is about contamination or organisation, but the current Coronavirus situation means that people whose rituals and obsessions relate to contamination would be better to maintain rather than seeking to overcome. If you're undertaking treatment for other OCD related issues, then you're likely safe to carry on with treatment.

## GENERALISED ANXIETY DISORDER/GAD

We understand that the uncertainty around whether schools and workplaces will close is causing additional anxiety so we asked Chris what his recommendations would be.

Create several contingency plans connected to your areas of uncertainty. The difficulty with this situation currently is that it is ever-evolving so having more

than one plan can help you feel better prepared.

Remember the focus here is all about maintaining our current mental health. Having a plan in place, even if it later becomes unworkable, can help to reduce our anxiety levels in the moment. If the situation changes then you can revisit at that time and put new plans into place.

Speak to your medical professional if you feel you are struggling to control your anxieties.

## DEPRESSION

Many of us are worried that our depression will spiral if we have to self-isolate due to Conravirus.

It's important to let ourselves feel our emotions. Being isolated and stuck inside can cause low mood in anyone; we need to be gentle with ourselves.

Plan some meaningful activities we can do in the house. Write that book we've always planned, learn a language, listen to a long-forgotten album collection. Whatever it is, it's about giving ourselves purpose.

Stick to existing routines where possible. Go to bed and get up at your normal time. Try to avoid daytime naps if they're unhelpful. If you don't have any existing routines, it might be helpful to make one.

Where possible try not to slip into negative behaviours. We know the behaviours we tend to slip into during our lowest times. It's important we try to avoid behaviours we've moved away from during our recovery.

We can still use our gardens (if we have one). Try to get some time outside every day; sitting outside with a cuppa in the morning, watching birds on the feeders; try and make it part of your routine. If we don't have a garden, opening our window can give us a welcome breath of fresh air.

Plan calls with friends and loved ones, reach out to online support groups, and be aware of social media use during this time. It's more important than ever to focus on positive interactions and avoid things that add to our feelings of worry or sadness.

During this time we can really focus on self-care. Do something nice for yourself every day. Remember we have LOADS of self-care ideas for different scenarios.

Don't forget The Samaritans and other support organisations are still currently available.

## HEALTH ANXIETY

For those of us who experience health anxiety, a news story such as

Coronavirus can be a terrifying time. We asked Chris what we can do to lower those anxieties.

It can be easy to assume everything we come down with now, every cough, sneeze, tickle, ache and pain, is because of Coronavirus. However the symptoms laid out by the government and experts for this strain of Coronavirus are very black and white. The [NHS online 111 page](#) can guide you through a symptoms check if you want to be sure.

Identify our own triggers and acknowledge our own anxieties. From there we can take steps to avoid these triggers; it may mean limiting our social media use and muting certain pages as well as avoiding the news for a while. If suitable [explain your anxieties to loved ones](#) and colleagues and ask them not to speak to you about Coronavirus.

Make a plan of what we will do if we do become ill. Where we will stay, what we will need to have access to, who will look after any dependants we may have (children, elderly relatives, etc).

Having a plan in place can lower any anxieties we have around becoming ill ourselves.

If you do become ill follow the current [NHS advice](#).

## ACCESS TO MEDICATION AND TREATMENT DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Many of us are worried about whether we will still be able to access our [medication](#) and any support we need.

Most GPs will allow repeat prescriptions to be arranged over the phone or via an online app or website. In most cases, prescriptions can be sent directly to your preferred pharmacy. Speak to your surgery about this now so you can get it set up in case of self-isolation.

Many pharmacies offer a delivery service. Contact your pharmacy and see if this is something that can be set up.

Friends, loved ones and neighbours could also help. They could put them through your letterbox or leave on your doorstep if you're self-isolating. The NHS has [advice for people collecting prescriptions](#) on behalf of others.

If you have a private therapist the British Association For Counselling And Psychotherapy (BACP) have issued guidance for their therapists regarding Covid-19. Speak to your therapist directly for more details.

NHS services are dynamic and will evolve as the situation develops. At the time of writing most trusts are still seeing patients as normal. Some trusts are

moving towards implementing telephone appointments so you still have access during periods of isolation. Contact your own therapist or service provider for more information.

111 mental health services should remain unaffected throughout the coronavirus pandemic, as should access to the Samaritans email support and to online support organisations. If you're concerned keep a list of contact details with you.

## A FINAL WORD FROM CHRIS

Chris finished by telling us "I'm a big fan of Winnie the Pooh. I often remind myself of what Christopher Robin told Winnie the Pooh. His words were:

You are braver than you believe,  
Stronger than you seem,  
And smarter than you think"

Embrace our inner Pooh Bear and remember we've all come through tough times before and we are all still here. Sometimes we all need a reminder of that. Coronavirus can be scary. Use this time to really focus on upping our self-care and making sure we are looking after ourselves in the very best way we can.

### **William Wordsworth – the 'Church of England pantheist'**

*Tim Lenton looks back on the poet of the Lake District.*

William Wordsworth, the Romantic poet always associated with the Lake District, was born 250 years ago, on 7<sup>th</sup> April 1770. He was Poet Laureate from 1843 to 1850, though he produced no new poetry during that period.

In his youth Wordsworth travelled in France and came to share the radical politics of the French Revolution. He also fell in love with Annette Vallon, by whom he had a daughter in 1792. They were kept apart by the difficult relationship between England and France, but eventually met again, and the poet supported his daughter, though he married Mary Hutchinson, a friend of his beloved sister and muse, Dorothy. He had five children with Mary, three of whom predeceased them.

Wordsworth's political views soon softened, and he never rejected Christianity. He has been described as a "Church of England pantheist" and saw himself as a people's poet. He produced *Lyrical Ballads* in 1798 with his friend Samuel Taylor Coleridge, who inspired his last great poem, *The Prelude*.

Many Christians, especially those in the Anglo-Catholic movement, deeply admired Wordsworth. During his later years and in the next generation, he was regarded as a defender of the Faith. He himself seemed content that many found his poetry helpful in trying times.

## Wickhamford Gardening Club

Our April meeting takes place on Wednesday 22nd April 2020 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall.

Our speaker is Reg Moule, his talk entitled "An Evening with Reg Moule".

We look forward to seeing all our members together with any guests.

*Please Note: The meeting may not proceed in view of current situation but members will be contacted if any change.*



# WICKHAMFORD WI



Wickhamford WI meet in the Memorial Hall, Manor Road on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. We have a speaker followed by refreshments and often a quiz. We have numerous outings throughout the year, including a monthly lunch meeting at a local venue. We have a comprehensive programme planned for this year's monthly meetings with a variety of speakers and outside visits. Our talks for March and April will be on the subjects of 'The Long Road Home' and 'Optical Illusions'. We are a friendly group who would be pleased to welcome new members. Potential new members can attend three meetings before deciding to join. Please come along and see what we are all about. We look forward to meeting you.

Useful numbers:

President: Lyn Wellavize 01386 830108

Secretary: Barbara Tanner 01386 643334



...er... the good news is the youth-group have made a great start by pressure-washing the west window...

Help to support our church by shopping through Easyfundraising.org when you buy online:

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmichaelwithsteadburgha>

**easyfundraising**  
.org.uk



## The easy way to discover your local churches

Have you visited the website A Church Near You? It is great for searching for churches or services in your area. All you have to do is type in a postcode or a specific feature such as a choir, or disabled access. A Church Near You receives more than 13 million page-views throughout the year. Try it at: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/>



Help to support our church by shopping through Easyfundraising.org when you buy online:

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stjohnthebaptistwickhamford>



## A prayer for communities affected by flooding

For people battered by forceful storms

For communities battling rising floods

For emergency services stretched to the limit

We pray

For farmers losing straw and crops

For shopkeepers losing high street trade

For repeat victims losing strength and hope

We pray

For resilience and resolve to change

For patience with using flood plains

For commitment to protect riverbanks and coasts

We pray

In Jesus' name we pray  
Amen

*By the Revd Barbara Glasson, President of the Methodist Conference*

facebook



We have a Facebook Page

[www.facebook.com/wickhamfordchurch](http://www.facebook.com/wickhamfordchurch)

Please find us and like our page.

# St. James the Least of All

*Happily, the Church of England still retains some singular parish clergy. Take the parish of St James-the-Least in the county of C - for example. Here the elderly Anglo-Catholic vicar, Eustace, continues his correspondence to Darren, his nephew, a low-church curate recently ordained...*



## On how to run your notice board

The Rectory  
St. James the Least of All

*My dear Nephew Darren*

Your decision to place a notice board outside your church seems a good one – and its design in blue plastic with luminous red detachable letters seems entirely in keeping with the aesthetics of your building. Make sure that it is lockable, however, as an innocent notice saying ‘all are welcome’ may be modified by a devotee of anagrams to say something far less polite by the following day.

We recently replaced ours, which had disappeared shortly before last bonfire night. That the Scouts’ bonfire had a board which closely resembled our old one in its centre was, I am sure, a complete coincidence. The Venture Scouts’ collective smirk during the following week’s Parade Service did give one pause for thought, and the Cubs’ collapse into helpless laughter at the chorus ‘So light up the fire and let the flames burn’ only increased suspicion.

On reflection, you may not have been wise to use your notice board to tell everyone your holiday dates. Certainly, various local burglars were tripping over each other inside the vicarage while you were away. However, the note the last one left you, saying that next time he broke in, he would bring *you* something, since you had so little left, was quite touching.

Inevitably, now that your church has a notice board, there will be open warfare over who is allowed to display notices on it. Will the Slimmers Club be seen as biblical? Why is the Ladies Guild notice twice as large as all the others? And do remember that while everyone will want space to display their notices, no one will ever remove them once the event is over. Plaintive announcements of Christmas parties in April or of Summer Fetes in November only serve to take people down memory lane.

Here’s the best way to manage a notice board: create that panacea for all problems: a sub-committee. These poor people only ever exist in order to get the clergy out of tight corners and to make sure that matters are discussed at such inordinate length that every issue eventually dies a natural death. And if even that fails, you could have a quiet word with our Scouts before next year’s bonfire night.

Your loving uncle,  
*Eustace*

## 5 – 12 April – Passion Week

The events of Easter took place over a week, traditionally called Passion Week.

It began on Palm Sunday. After all his teaching and healing, Jesus had built a following. On the Sunday before he was to die, Jesus and his followers arrived at Jerusalem. The city was crowded. Jewish people were arriving from to celebrate Passover. This commemorates how they had escaped from slavery in Egypt nearly 1,500 year earlier.

Jesus rode into the city on a young donkey. He was greeted like a conquering hero. Cheering crowds waved palm branches in tribute. He was hailed as the Messiah who had come to re-establish a Jewish kingdom.

The next day they returned to Jerusalem. Jesus went to the temple, the epicentre of the Jewish faith, and confronted money-changers and merchants who were ripping off the people. He overturned their tables and accused them of being thieves. The religious authorities were alarmed and feared how he was stirring up the crowds.

On the Tuesday, they challenged Jesus, questioning his authority. He answered by challenging and condemning their hypocrisy. Later that day Jesus spoke to his disciples about future times. He warned them about fake religious leaders; the coming destruction of Jerusalem; wars, earthquakes and famines; and how his followers would face persecution.

By midweek the Jewish religious leaders and elders were so angry with Jesus that they began plotting to arrest and kill him. One of Jesus' disciples, Judas, went to the chief priests and agreed to betray him to them.

Jesus and the 12 disciples gathered on the Thursday evening to celebrate the Passover meal. This is known as the Last Supper. During the evening, Jesus initiated a ritual still marked by Christians – Holy Communion – which commemorates his death. Jesus broke bread and shared it and a cup of wine with his disciples.

Judas then left to meet the other plotters. Jesus continued to teach the others and then went outside into an olive grove to pray. He even prayed for all future believers. He agonised over what was to come but chose the way of obedience. The Bible book, Luke, records him praying, '*Father if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done*'. Minutes later Judas arrived with soldiers and the chief priests and Jesus was arrested.

### 9 April – Maundy Thursday: time to wash feet

Maundy Thursday is famous for two things. The first is one of the final acts that Jesus did before his death: the washing of his own disciples' feet. (see John 13) Jesus washed his disciples' feet for a purpose: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." His disciples were to love through service, not domination, of one another.

In Latin, the opening phrase of this sentence is 'mandatum novum do vobis'.

The word 'mundy' is thus a corruption of the Latin 'mandatum' (or command). The ceremony of the 'washing of the feet' of members of the congregation came to be an important part of the liturgy (regular worship) of the medieval church, symbolising the humility of the clergy, in obedience to the example of Christ.

But Thursday was also important because it was on that night that Jesus first introduced the Lord's Supper, or what we nowadays call Holy Communion.

Jesus and his close friends had met in a secret upper room to share the Passover meal together – for the last time. And there Jesus transformed the Passover into the Lord's Supper, saying, 'this is my body' and 'this is my blood' as he, the Lamb of God, prepared to die for the sins of the whole world. John's gospel makes it clear that the Last Supper took place the evening BEFORE the regular Passover meal, and that later Jesus died at the same time that the Passover lambs were killed.

## **10 April – GOOD FRIDAY: the day the Son of God died for you**

Good Friday is the day on which Jesus died on the cross. He was crucified at 9am in the morning, and died six hours later, at 3pm. It is the most solemn day in the Christian year, and is widely marked by the removal of all decorations from churches. In Lutheran churches, the day was marked by the reading of the passion narrative in a gospel, a practice which lies behind the 'passions' composed by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750). Both the St Matthew Passion and the St John Passion have their origins in this observance of Good Friday.

The custom of observing a period of three hours' devotion from 12 midday to 3 pm on Good Friday goes back to the 18th century. The 'Three Hours of the Cross' often take the form of an extended meditation on the 'Seven Last Words from the Cross', with periods of silence, prayer, or hymn-singing.

## **12 April – EASTER: the most joyful day of the year**

Easter is the most joyful day of the year for Christians. Christ has died for our sins. We are forgiven. Christ has risen! We are redeemed! We can look forward to an eternity in His joy! Hallelujah!

The Good News of Jesus Christ is a message so simple that you can explain it to someone in a few minutes. It is so profound that for the rest of their lives they will still be 'growing' in their Christian walk with God.

Why does the date move around so much? Because the date of Passover moves around, and according to the biblical account, Easter is tied to the Passover. Passover celebrates the Israelites' exodus from Egypt and it lasts for seven days, from the middle of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which equates to late March or early April.

Sir Isaac Newton was one of the first to use the Hebrew lunar calendar to come up with firm dates for Good Friday: Friday 7 April 30 AD or Friday 3 April, 33 AD, with Easter Day falling two days later. Modern scholars continue to think these the most likely.

Most people will tell you that Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which is broadly true. But the precise calculations are complicated and involve something called an 'ecclesiastical full moon', which is not the same as the moon in the sky. The earliest possible date for Easter in the West is 22 March, which last fell in 1818. The latest is 25 April, which last happened in 1943.

Why the name, 'Easter'? In almost every European language, the festival's name comes from 'Pesach', the Hebrew word for Passover. The Germanic word 'Easter', however, seems to come from Eostre, a Saxon fertility goddess mentioned by the Venerable Bede. He thought that the Saxons worshipped her in 'Eostur month', but may have confused her with the classical dawn goddesses like Eos and Aurora, whose names mean 'shining in the east'. So, Easter might have meant simply 'beginning

month' – a good time for starting up again after a long winter.

Finally, why Easter eggs? On one hand, they are an ancient symbol of birth in most European cultures. On the other hand, hens start laying regularly again each Spring. Since eggs were forbidden during Lent, it's easy to see how decorating and eating them became a practical way to celebrate Easter.

## **Easter morning: the 'Other' Mary**

As the traditional Easter story is rehearsed again this month, you may notice that there is one name that frequently occurs. It is that of the 'other' Mary – not the mother of Jesus, but Mary of Magdalene, who stood by her at the cross and became the first human being actually to meet the risen Christ.

That's quite a record for a woman who, the Gospels tell us, had been delivered by Jesus from 'seven devils' – New Testament language for some dark and horrible affliction of body, mind or spirit. As a result, her devotion to Him was total and her grief at His death overwhelming.

In church history Mary Magdalene became the 'fallen woman' a harlot who was rescued and forgiven by Jesus but there is no evidence to prove she was a 'fallen woman' but the contrast is sublime, Mary the virgin mother, the symbol of purity. Mary Magdalene, the scarlet woman who was saved and forgiven, the symbol of redemption. Surely, we all fall somewhere between those two extremes.

The dark cloud from which she was delivered may have been sexual, we are not told. What we do know is that the two Marys stood together at the cross, the Blessed Virgin and the woman rescued from who knows what darkness and despair.

The second great moment for her was as unexpected as it was momentous. She had gone with other women to the tomb of Jesus and found it empty. An angelic figure told them that Jesus was not there, He had risen – and the others drifted off. But Mary stayed, reluctant to leave it like that. She became aware of a man nearby, whom she took to be the gardener. She explained to Him that the body of 'her Lord' had been taken away and she didn't know where to find Him.

The man simply said her name 'Mary' and she instantly realised it was Jesus. She made to hug Him, but He told her not to touch Him because his resurrection was not yet complete. She was, however, to go to the male disciples and tell them she had met Him. She did – but they couldn't believe her.

Her words – 'I have seen the Lord' – echo down the centuries, the very beating heart of the Christian gospel.

## **Jesus' appearances after His Resurrection**

*The following list of witnesses may help you put all those references in order....*

Mary Magdalene	Mark 16:9-11; John 20:10-18
Other women at the tomb	Matthew 28:8-10
Peter in Jerusalem	Luke 24:34; 1 Corinthians 15:5
The two travellers on the road	Mark 16:12,13
10 disciples behind closed doors	Mark 16:14; Luke 24:36-43; John 20:19-25
11 disciples WITH Thomas	John 20:26-31; 1 Corinthians 15:5
7 disciples while fishing	John 21:1-14
11 disciples on the mountain	Matthew 28:16-20
A crowd of 500	1 Corinthians 15:6
Jesus' brother – James	1 Corinthians 15:7
Those who saw the Ascension	Luke 24:44-49; Acts 1:3-8

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Luke 22:24, John 13:3-17

Jesus and his disciples were celebrating the Passover with the special meal. The disciples were bickering again.

I'm most important because I've known him the longest

But I'm the oldest!

I've given up the most to follow him!



There was a reason why no-one wanted to be the least important - the roads were mud and everyone's feet got very dirty.

It was the job of the least important servant to wash everyone's feet...



The disciples didn't have a servant, and none of them wanted to do the feet washing...



Jesus took off his outer robe and tied a towel around his waist.



He filled a large bowl with water and started washing the disciples' feet.

Peter couldn't believe what he was seeing!



Are you really going to wash my feet?

You will understand later why I am doing this.



I can't ever let you serve me like this!

If you don't let me, you will no longer be my disciple



Then wash all of me!

If you've had a bath, then you only need your feet washing!



Once Jesus had washed all their feet, he put his robe back on and sat down.



Do you understand why, your teacher, did this? I am setting you the example of how you are to serve each other. Do it, and God will bless you.

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*Helen went to church three weeks running,  
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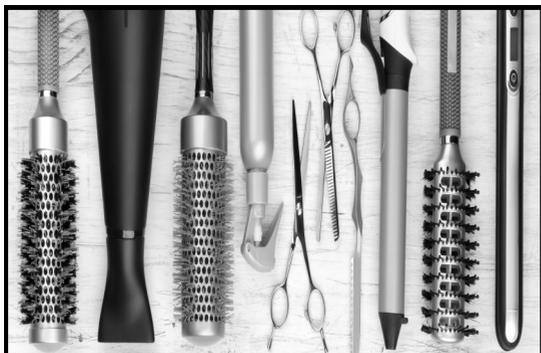
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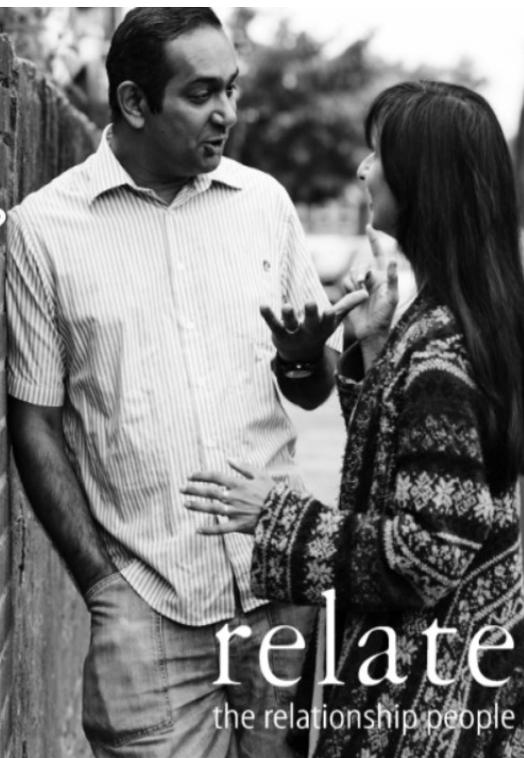
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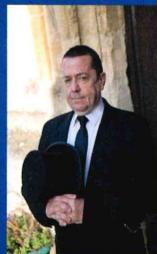
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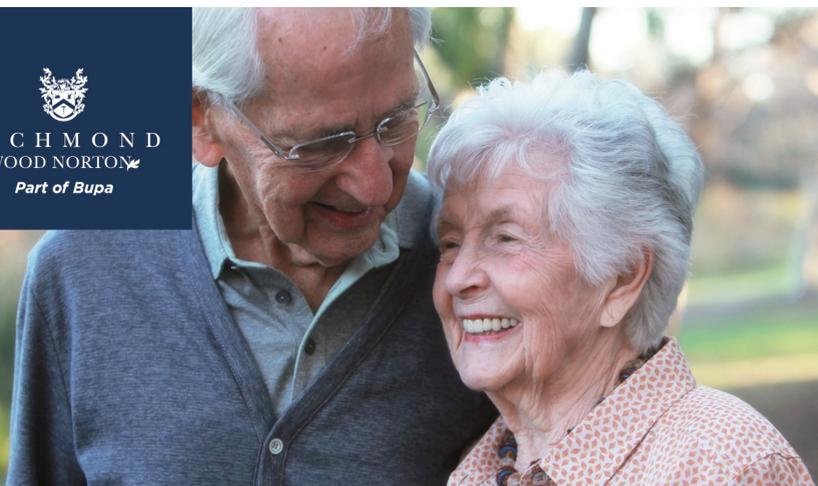
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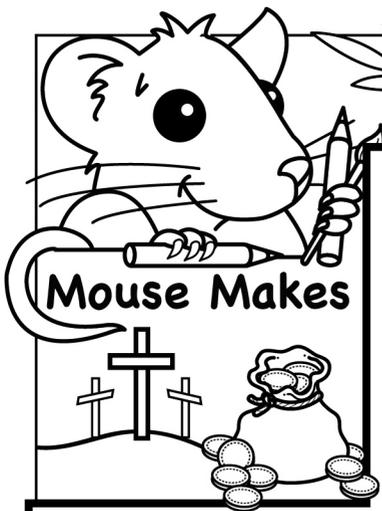
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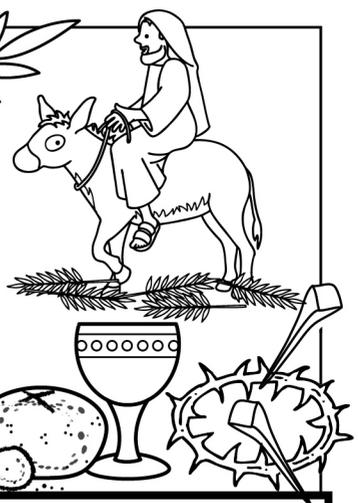


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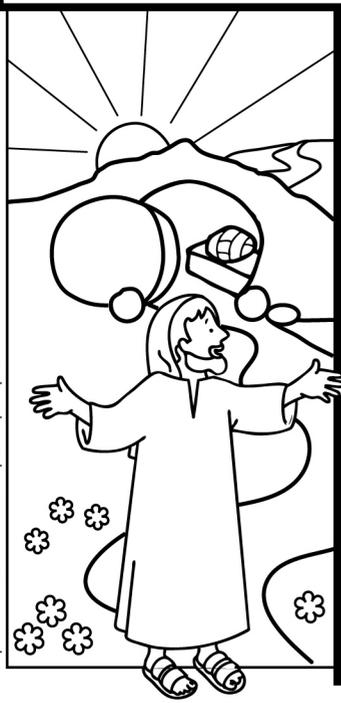
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 RPASSOVEROBEARRCHRISTEREE  
 IGNABODYKILLIAROOOLOTSUTA  
 NEATTMEALGODLYELRWILLUCRT  
 KDISCIPLESONSUSTNNMESSIAH  
 EBREADWINEDXGETHSEMANEFYE  
 DARKNESSHTLINEAHEAVENYYD



HUGDAWN  
 RTOMBMG  
 EOOTPOE  
 ECDEFRL  
 DRNM RNK  
 AOEP A I I  
 YWWLINS  
 S D S E S G S  
 E A S T E R B  
 G U A R D E U  
 S A V I O U R  
 P R A I S E Y  
 I D C U T K T  
 R I D J O Y E  
 I C O I N S L  
 T E T R E E L

- DONKEY • COLT • SAT • COATS
- ROAD • CROWD • CUT • PALMS
- BRANCHES • KING • HOSANNA
- DISCIPLES • ROOM • PASSOVER
- FEAST • EAT • DRINK • BREAD
- WINE • SON • MAN • BLOOD • CUP
- MEAL • JEWS • PLOT • KILL • COINS
- GETHSEMANE • PRAY • WILL
- BETRAY • KISS • ARREST • MESSIAH
- CHRIST • CRUCIFY • JESUS • CROWN
- THORNS • ROBE • TREE • NAILS
- CROSS • SPIRIT • DARKNESS
- TEMPLE • DEATH • LOTS • DICE
- TOMB • STONE • LINEN • BODY
- BURY • GUARD • THREE DAYS
- DAWN • MORNING • ANGEL • TELL
- HEAVEN • GOOD NEWS • LORD
- GOD • RAISED • JOY • PEACE
- PRAISE • SAVIOUR • EASTER

## Future Dates for your diary .....

Until we can gather together safely there are unfortunately no further dates for the diary.

I will be singing 'Thine be the glory' on Broadway village green on Easter Day at 10.30am.



## Registers

Funerals

Ernest Power

Ruth Jordan



# Shops offering delivery



## BROADWAY SHOPS OFFERING ONLINE PAYMENT & DELIVERY

**Collins of Broadway Butchers;** 01386 852061

**Wayside Farm Shop;** could also do a daily 'ready meal' for people that don't want to buy all of the different ingredients. **01386 830 546**

**Budgens** 01386 842870

(Please note that they will close at 1pm on Sunday for the changeover to Co-op. They are scheduled to reopen on Thursday next week but are working hard to open sooner - they will continue the home delivery under Co-op)

**Nisa local** If you wish to place an order please phone **01386 859218** before 2pm.

**Broadway Deli** - the boys at the Deli can deliver, shop, post letters help in anyway. Please call Billy, Will, George and Shane on 07483 404 497

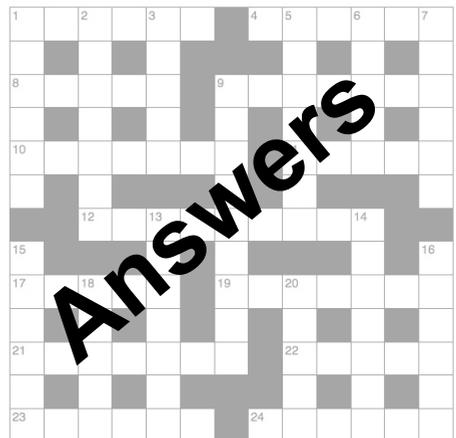
**Broadway Wine Company** - call **01386 852501**

updated 17/03/20

**April Crossword Answers**

**ACROSS:** 1, Cosmic. 4, Thomas. 8, In his. 9, Deliah. 10, Falwell. 11, Water. 12, Recovered. 17, Sidon. 19, Radiant. 21, Centaur. 22, Broil. 23, Eieven. 24, Prison.

**DOWN:** 1, Cliffs. 2, Scholar. 3, Issue. 5, Holy war. 6, Moist. 7, Sphere. 9, Deliverer. 13, Candace. 14, Deacons. 15, Psyche. 16, Stolen. 18, Dance. 20, Debar.



## From the Editor

“For more than 30 years, The Grapevine magazine has been delivered to homes in Broadway and Wickhamford.

Whether you want to be informed about the goings on in the Anglican churches, inspired by the locals, read thought-provoking articles, get stuck in to the crossword / puzzles page, get gardening tips or have a go at the recipe, we have you covered.



The local church needs your help so we can be here for you when you need us—please choose the magazine as a way of supporting your local church. Therefore if you're passionate about your local church and want to support it this is the magazine for you.

Enjoy.”

*Miss cellaneous*

*If you wish to contribute to the magazine editorial the deadline is the 10th of the previous month—email the editor: [grapevinebroadway@gmail.com](mailto:grapevinebroadway@gmail.com)*



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## Subscription

To purchase the magazine for the year costs £9.00 for 10 editions (July and August, December and January being double editions).

The distribution coordinator is John Hayes:

email: [jhayes159@btinternet.com](mailto:jhayes159@btinternet.com) or phone 01386 852296.

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By signing this form you are confirming that you are consenting to the PCC of St St Michael's with St Eadburgha's PCC, Broadway and St John's PCC, Wickhamford, holding and processing your personal data for the following purposes (please tick the boxes where you grant consent):-

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To keep me informed about news, events, activities and services at St Michael's, St Eadburgha's and St John's Churches.

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# Broadway & Wickhamford

## Ways to stay in touch

Parish Office: 01386 852352

Church WhatsApp Group

Email: [broadwaycofe@gmail.com](mailto:broadwaycofe@gmail.com)

Web: [stmichaelsbroadway.org](http://stmichaelsbroadway.org)

Broadway Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/  
stmichaelsteadburghas](http://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsteadburghas)

Broadway Twitter:

@broadwaycofe

Wickhamford Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/wickhamfordchurch](http://www.facebook.com/wickhamfordchurch)

Wickhamford Twitter:

@WickhamfordCofE

Broadway Coronavirus Support Network:

[https://www.facebook.com/  
broadwaycoronasupportnetwork](https://www.facebook.com/broadwaycoronasupportnetwork)

Contact:

Tel: Revd Michelle (Shellie) Ward -  
07780002565.

E-mail: [broadwayvillagenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:broadwayvillagenetwork@gmail.com)



**Deadline**

**for the next  
Grapevine is:**

**10th April  
2020**

DON'T MISS  
the DEADLINE