



THE KIDDERMINSTER EAST PARISH NEWSLETTER

Churches of St Cassian's, St Cecilia's,
St Chad's, St George's & St Mary's Stone

22nd March 2020

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Love to all Mothers today!

SUNDAY 22ND MARCH

MOTHERING SUNDAY

In accordance with the wishes of the Archbishops, (see below) there will be **no services** in our Churches this Sunday, nor until further notice.

Some Churches are planning to open for private prayer:

St Cassian's remains open 9:00am - 5:00pm every day.

This Sunday, 22nd March, St Chad's will be open 9:30am to 10:00am, for private prayer, as will **St George's** from 11:00am to 11.30am.

In this newsletter you will find various suggestions for you to pray and follow services from home, especially if you have access to the internet.

Please refer to the parish website www.kidderminstereast.org.uk for updates

READINGS

Exodus 2: 1 – 10
2 Corinthians 1.3 – 7
John 19: 25b – 27

COLLECT

God of love, passionate and strong,
tender and careful: watch over us and hold
us all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A message from the Archbishops on Coronavirus (COVID-19)

In a joint letter, Archbishops Justin Welby and John Sentamu said it was now necessary to **put public services on hold** until further notice. But far from having to “shut up shop”, we must face the challenge by becoming a radically different kind of church rooted in prayer and serving others. The Archbishops expressed the desire that church buildings may, where practical, remain open as places of prayer for the community, observing social distancing recommendations. *“We may not be able to pray **with** people in the ways that we are used to, but we can certainly pray **for** people. And we can certainly offer practical care and support. Then by our service, and by our love, Jesus Christ will be made known, and the hope of the gospel – a hope that can counter fear and isolation - will spread across our land.”*

More information can be obtained from: <https://www.churchofengland.org>



Thy Kingdom Come

A NATIONAL CALL TO PRAYER on 22nd March at 7:00pm

Light a Candle of Hope



A National Day of Prayer and Action has been announced by the presidents of *Churches Together in England*, regarding the Coronavirus epidemic. They wrote: *"At such a time as this, when so many are fearful and there is great uncertainty, we are reminded of our dependence on our loving Heavenly Father and the future that he holds. Therefore, at 7pm this Sunday, light a candle in the windows of your homes as a visible symbol of the light of life, Jesus Christ, our source and hope in prayer."*

Wherever you are in the world, we invite you to join with us in prayer to see an end to the Coronavirus pandemic. **We suggest that each congregation comes to prayer at the time of their usual service to join together in unity.**

Church of England Online Resources for Services and Prayer

You can follow the Church of England **Prayer for the Day** and take part in **Morning, Evening and Night services** by going to <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/>

From Sunday the **Cathedral** will live stream on their Facebook account:

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

Find other links to **live streams** across the county on the Worcester Diocese website

<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/2020/03/16/coronavirus-latest-information/>

LENT RESOURCES

Check out the Parish **Facebook** page for 40 single word themes inspired by *Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Genesis* to influence you during Lent. You are welcome to engage with photos, prayers, meditation or discussion suggestions. Search for: *Parish of Kidderminster East*

#LiveLent: Care for God's Creation

is the Church of England's Lent Campaign for 2020. This year's **#LiveLent** challenge offers 40 short reflections and suggested actions to help you, your family and your church live in greater harmony with God, neighbour and nature. You can download the app for you phone or sign up for daily emails at <https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/living-out-our-faith/lent-holy-week-and-easter/livelent-care-gods-creation>

Parish Prayerlink

You can **email your prayer requests** to:

prayerlink@kidderminstereast.org.uk

Our prayer team across the whole parish will then be happy to pray for you.

If you would like to become part of the parish e-mail prayer team, please e-mail the same address.

For anyone **not on email**, and who cannot reach the **Parish Prayerlink**, Glenn & Anne Scott are willing to take requests for prayer for specific people / situations by **phone**. They will then relay those requests on to the relevant Church / Parish Prayer Ministry / Prayerlink Teams by email. The contact number to use is 01562 822690.

(Please use email if you can)

In this fast changing situation it is best to check before trying to attend any event. Here is a list of upcoming events that are known to be cancelled.

Care & Share in Chaddesley Corbett is CANCELLED until further notice.

Young at Heart St Cecilia's Hoo Road is CANCELLED until further notice

Wyre Forest Justice & Peace Group: 'Memories of a World War 2 Evacuee'
This event is CANCELLED and will be rescheduled for next year.

The Exhibition of **Methodist Modern Art**, Bewdley Museum, **21st Mar - 19th Apr** is CANCELLED, as well as the associated services of reflection on Sunday evenings.

Diocesan Meetings & Training events have all been CANCELLED 'til the end of April.

Parish Messy Church on Saturday 4th April at St Cassian's is CANCELLED.

We have no updated information about the following events, however, it is unlikely that they will take place in the current climate.

Chrism Eucharist: Monday **6th April**, 11:00am - 2:00pm, Worcester Cathedral.

Worcester Passion Play: Friday 10th April (Good Friday). A 90 minute performance put on in partnership with Wintershall, free of charge for everyone, starting at 10:30am in Cathedral Square. More information from <http://www.onegoodfriday.com/worcester/>

Parish Coach trip to Salford Quays on Thursday **23rd April**, leaving at 9:15am from St George's and returning at about 6pm. Cost £15. For more information contact Jan on 01562 630431 or email jferg541@gmail.com

Our next **Café Chad 'Special'** is scheduled for Wednesday morning **22nd April** at St Chad's in aid of our local King of Hearts Creative Outreach charity for children on Comberton. Contact the parish office for further updates on whether this will go ahead.

We have received confirmation that the **Institution of the Revd David Hildred** as Team Rector of the Kidderminster East Team Ministry will still take place at 4:00pm on **Saturday 2nd May** at St George's Church. It is not yet clear whether this event will be a public event or a private one. It is still 6 weeks away and a lot can happen in that time. We will let you know when we hear anything else.

Requests for Prayer:

- For our Church leaders, Archbishops Justin Welby and John Sentamu, Bishop John Inge and Bishop Martin Gorick, that they may hear the Lord's voice and lead us wisely at this difficult time.
- In the light of the Coronavirus outbreak please pray for all those working in our health service and in leadership roles.
- Pray that we are all given the strength and courage to help those in need, especially those who are sick.
- The Family and Friends of Sylvia Tatlow, who died on Monday 16th March.
- Continue to pray for Revd David Hildred and his family as he prepares to join us.

*Would you like to be included in the Parish Newsletter for prayer?
Please contact the Parish Office for more details.*

DIARY

COFFEE SPOT: CAFÉ CHAD is closed until further notice

ST GEORGE'S COFFEE SHOP is closed until further notice

MEET AND EAT: in Morrisons Café, also cancelled



Contact your group for information. Most groups are not meeting

WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH

No Holy Communion @ St George's

Knit & Natter @ St George's NO INFO

Young at Heart @ St Cecilia's CANCELLED

TUESDAY 24TH MARCH

Tuesday Group 10am @ St Chad's CANCELLED

St George's Toddlers CANCELLED

Parish Afternoon Prayer @ St George's

CANCELLED

FRIDAY 27TH MARCH

Babies & Toddlers @ St Chad's CANCELLED

SUNDAY 29TH MARCH - REMEMBER: CLOCKS GO FORWARD!

READINGS: Ezekiel 37:1 - 14 Romans 8: 6 - 11 John 11:1 - 45

SUNDAY 5TH APRIL PALM SUNDAY

READINGS: Isaiah 50: 4 - 9a Philippians 2: 5 - 11 Matthew 26: 14 - 27: end

Compassion Child Sponsorship: new Co-ordinator is being sought

The parish supports 12 Children worldwide via the Compassion UK Sponsorship Scheme. After nearly 20 years of running the parish scheme I feel the time has come to hand this important work over to someone else. I can provide instruction to anyone who is interest. Contact me at the Parish Office (details below) or at St Chad's. It is a rewarding task so please give it your best consideration. Many thanks. *Karen Morton*

** STOP PRESS **

The BBC has announced it is launching a **virtual church service** on Sundays amid the coronavirus pandemic.

The virtual church service will take place on Sunday mornings across local radio in England, initially led by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby.

The BBC will also aim to broadcast a weekly Sunday morning church service on BBC One, but this will be subject to outside broadcast capacity.

CONTACT US

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Find us also on Facebook - "Parish of Kidderminster East" and on Twitter - @parishofke