



KIDDERMINSTER EAST PARISH
Five Churches One Parish One Lord

THE KIDDERMINSTER EAST PARISH NEWSLETTER

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

29th March 2020

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Our buildings are closed, our Church is open

SUNDAY 29TH MARCH

From 23rd March 2020, all Church of England churches were closed in line with the Government's instructions.

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

They also called on us, the Church, to:
"continue to pray, to love, to care for the vulnerable".

There will be no Church weddings or baptisms but funerals are permitted. Please use the parish [website](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#) accounts as a platform for prayer, updates and the sharing of Christian values.

READINGS

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

COLLECT

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Resources to help you stay in touch from home

During this time, when the Churches are closed, it is more important than ever that we stay in touch with one another and feed our spiritual life. We are still in Lent so you should continue to use the **Lent Resources** mentioned in previous newsletters. I will be writing a **Faithful Friday Blog** where I will give a few thoughts on a Bible verse each week. I will also be recording **short videos** that you can access via our Facebook page and website (under What's On → Coronavirus). I have also put together a **Service Sheet** for use as a virtual Sunday Service. Again, see the website to access this. There will be other resources including where you can find live streaming of services around the diocese. Keep checking the website, stay at home and keep well.

Revd Robert Legge, Team Vicar

For those not online, if you would like any resources posted to you, please call the parish office and leave a message with your name and address.



Parish Messy Church



Although we cannot meet together in person we can still “get together” through “live” events over the internet using Instagram or Facebook live.

We have various things planned.

Please check out the Messy Church page on our parish website www.kidderminstereast.org.uk to find our latest scheme

Review of Parish Electoral Roll

If you would like to be added to the Parish Electoral Roll, please contact your Church Electoral Roll Officer by Friday 3rd April, or if you have any queries contact the Parish Electoral Roll Officers Bob & Maddy Smith. Thank you.

St Cassian's - Anna Hanson	contact Bob & Maddy
St Chad's - Helen Perry-Smith	haperry@hotmail.co.uk
St Cecilia's - Katy Cornwell	contact Bob & Maddy
St George's - Jan Ferguson	jferg541@gmail.com or 01562 630431
St Mary's Stone - Konrad Nofer	01562 639227
Bob & Maddy Smith	bob37_smith@yahoo.co.uk or 07791 804135

Worcester Passion Play

is postponed for this year, in line with Coronavirus regulations. However, **Wintershall** (producers of the Passion Plays) WILL livestream the Production on **Good Friday** with extracts and interviews from all the cities who were due to be involved this year.

We will keep you informed about of how to log in.

‘Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I trust.”’

Psalms 91:1-2

Gift Aid Envelopes at St George's

If you are concerned about being unable to deliver you envelopes while the church is closed, please contact Robert Hudson, the church treasurer, on 01299 822434 to discuss alternative ways of giving.

Message from Archdeacon Nikki Groake

Institution of The Revd David Hildred as Team Rector of Kidderminster East Saturday 2nd May 2020

I have been in touch with David Hildred to say that this service is now unlikely to be able to go ahead as planned, which is of course very sad for us all. David will still be licensed by Bishop John, probably via Zoom, so he will be able to legally take up his post. We can arrange some sort of celebration service once life is back to normal.

Obviously, there will be other hurdles to navigate around, the practicalities of house moves under new restrictions etc., so your prayers for David would, I am sure, be appreciated.

I am continuing to hold the Kidderminster East team in my prayers through these difficult times. Every blessing. *Nikki*

Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd Robert Legge for Friday 27th March

Psalm 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

I wonder if the description of our world given in this passage feels a little like what we are going through at present? Sometimes we can think that God is only with us in the good times as we relate our good / bad feelings to God's presence or absence; "things are good therefore God is with us, things are bad therefore God has abandoned us." However, in these days, let's hold on to the truth that no matter what ups & downs we experience God never changes. His "job description" is still "refuge and strength, ever present help in trouble". That's a promise from God Himself. Hold on to it tightly in the coming days!

Parish Prayerlink

Prayer requests can be emailed to: prayerlink@kidderminstereast.org.uk. Our praying friends across the whole parish will then be happy to pray for you. If you would like to become part of PrayerLink, please e-mail the same address.

Please note that for anyone without internet access or who would prefer to pass their prayer request to the Prayer Ministry Team in their church, Glenn & Anne Scott are willing to take requests for prayer for specific people / situations by phone or email (if available). They will then relay those requests on to the relevant Church / Parish Prayer Ministry / Prayerlink Teams by email. Contact number 01562 822690. Email address: glennscott@mac.com. You can, of course, make direct contact with any member of the Prayer Ministry Teams if you have their phone or email details.

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.churchofengland.org/>

The **Cathedral** are now live streaming their Sunday Communion and other services 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/>

Please also keep an eye on Radio & TV Schedules, where some Church services are being made available.

Requests for Prayer:

- For Team Vicar, Robert, all lay readers & volunteers who help to keep the parish running, especially at this difficult time. May they be inspired by the Holy Spirit.
- 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.
- 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 PAGE

All events in the parish are suspended/cancelled until further notice.

Our coach trip to Salford Quays has been postponed.

We will let you know the new date as soon as we can.

Please remain at home, in accordance with government guidelines.

Remember to wash your hands regularly with soap and avoid spreading the virus.

If you have to go out of the house use the social distancing guidelines and

keep 2 metres (6 feet) apart from other people.

Check on family, friends and neighbours who live alone, are elderly or vulnerable, by phone if possible.

Keep yourself safe: Coronavirus COVID-19 is dangerous and can kill.

SUNDAY 5TH APRIL – PALM SUNDAY

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

THURSDAY 9TH APRIL – MAUNDY THURSDAY

READINGS: Exodus 12: 1 – 4, [5 – 10], 11 – 14 1 Corinthians 11: 23 – 26
John 13: 1 – 17, 31b - 35

FRIDAY 10TH APRIL – GOOD FRIDAY

READINGS: Isaiah 52: 13 – end of 53 Hebrews 10: 16 - 25 John 10: 1 – end of 19

SUNDAY 12TH APRIL – EASTER SUNDAY

READINGS: Acts 10: 34 – 43 Colossians 3: 1 - 4 John 20: 1 - 18

We have received the following guidance from the diocese regarding Church AGMs and the APCM:

Annual Parochial Church meetings

The deadline for holding APCMs has been extended until the end of October, with current office holders (Churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives and PCC members) remaining in office longer than they would otherwise do so.

It means Churchwardens and PCC members remain in office until the APCM, current Deanery Synod representatives remain in office until 30 November 2020 (instead of 30 June).

New dates will be arranged in due course, once things have settled down.

CONTACT US

PARISH OFFICE office@kidderminstereast.org.uk 01562 822131

www.kidderminstereast.org.uk

TEAM VICAR - Robert Legge 01562 827214 / 07854 252329

r.j.legge@kidderminstereast.org.uk

Find us also on Facebook – “Parish of Kidderminster East” and on Twitter - @parishofke

If you can think of any other ways we can support you, as a Parish, please get in touch.