



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

10th May 2020

5th Sunday of Easter

Our buildings are closed, our Church is open

SUNDAY 10th MAY

Daily Hope, a free national phone line as a simple new way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line.

The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services in mind.

A [service of Holy Communion](#) celebrated by the Revd Robert Legge is available on the Parish YouTube channel, which can be viewed at your convenience online.

The Liturgy for this service is available on the [parish website](#). A sermon for each Sunday is available by 9:30am on the [website](#) and as a post on the [Facebook page](#).

Details of online services from across the diocese can be found [here](#).

Families may also enjoy checking out the [Messy Church BRF Facebook page](#) or the [Together at Home website](#) for worship ideas.

All parishioners from across Kidderminster East are invited to join together for a Service of Morning Worship via Zoom on Sun 10th May

10:45am for coffee, and the service will start at **11:00am**.

To join the service, please send an email requesting a copy of the link & password for 10th May Morning Worship Service to Parish Communications:

parishcomms@kidderminstereast.org.uk **by 12 noon on Saturday** You will be sent the details of how to join on Saturday afternoon, along with a link to download the order of service. If possible, please have this available either as printed / online copy so that you can join in worship & prayer with worshippers from across the parish.

A children's resource pack, giving access to a YouTube story, memory verse, colouring & games **is also available** on request by email to helengrist@gmx.co.uk

Readings

Acts 7: 55 – end

1 Peter 2: 2 – 10

John 14: 1 - 14

Collect

Risen Christ, your wounds declare
your love for the world and
the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.

On **17th May**, there was to have been a visiting speaker from **Compassion UK**, who was due to come and preach at St Chad's Church. Obviously, this will not now be happening but on that Sunday we will be sharing a **recorded talk from Luke Gratton**, Head of Partnerships (Midlands, Wales & Ireland) about the work of Compassion, & the Child Sponsorship Scheme that we run within the parish. Robert's Sunday sermon will be available in the afternoon. For further details about the **Parish Child Sponsorship Scheme**, please contact Karen at the Parish Office on 01562 822131 (please leave a message and she will call back) or email office@kidderminstereast.org.uk

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.

Prayers Of Hope and "Lighting" candles

Churches Together in England (CTE) is encouraging Christians across our nations to continue uniting in prayer, **praying #PrayersOfHope in their homes at 7:00pm each Sunday evening and either display the [candle poster](#) or light a candle safely.**

Premier Christian radio: [Prayers of Hope service](#) at 7:00pm on Sundays. Listen live on DAB Digital Radio, Freeview 725 on your Smartphone or [Online](#)

Diocese of Worcester Ministry Fund

A new fund has been launched in the Diocese to help ensure we can continue to pay our clergy and support staff throughout the Coronavirus pandemic. Bishop John said: "We are clear that the commitment to the local church must come first, but having such a fund will help ease pressure at a diocesan level, particularly as many parishes are needing to reduce Parish Share contributions."

Please visit: <https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/ministry-fund/>

Parish Giving Scheme

The Diocese of Worcester have rolled out a new scheme which enables individuals to give to their church regularly by Direct Debit, with an option to increase their donation annually in line with inflation. If you usually donate to church collections via Gift Aid envelope or Standing Order, would like to start giving using this scheme, please contact your Church Treasurer or Churchwarden for further information:

Robert Hudson (St George's)	01299 822434
Clare Stockford (St Cassian's)	01562 777746
Alan Wardle (St Chad's)	01562 744374
Aley Richards (St Mary's, Stone)	01562 824119
Katy Cornwell (St Cecilia's)	01562 861023

Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd Robert Legge for Friday 8th May

Isaiah 43:1-3 *Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.*

The term "Foxhole religion" was coined during World War I describe those soldiers who became Christians in the trenches and the horror of the Western front. Today it is used as a derogatory term to describe people who only trust God in the good times. And yet these verses remind us that no matter what horrors we can go through (such as the present situation), we can trust God both in good times and in bad.

Robert would like to share this [link from Facebook](#) for a short video by Andy Bannister on "How to become a Christian" for our readers, and to be passed on to any friends and family who may be asking questions. Please also check out the other Solas-cpc (Short Answers) videos on Facebook or by going to [their website](#)

During these difficult times, we are all finding new and different ways to communicate and it is a big "learning curve" for many! **If you have skills or expertise that you would be happy to share with those across the parish** (including leading worship / bible studies etc.) via video calling, newsletter, Mailchimp or in other ways, please contact the Parish Office office@kidderminstereast.org.uk or 01562 822131.

The **Royal School of Church Music** is supporting churches and church communities of all kinds with webinars, daily Hymn for the Day, Sunday Self-Service and vocal warm-ups. [Find out more](#)

KIDDERMINSTER FOODBANK – Donations to the local foodbank have decreased at a time when there is greater need. Please continue to support them by adding some items to your shopping and leaving them in the baskets in the local supermarkets.

The sixth '**Thy Kingdom Come**' **Call to Prayer** for more people to come to know Jesus Christ will run from **Ascension Day, Thursday 21st May, to Pentecost Sunday, 31st May**, inclusive. While it will be different this year, there are many ideas & resources online as to how we can link and pray together as local groups and globally:

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>

Requests for Prayer:

- Please pray for all those who are ill or bereaved, particularly those within the Parish and those known to us personally.
- For residents and staff in the residential homes in our area, as they cope with providing continuing care & support under difficult circumstances.
- Continue to pray for the Revd David Hildred, and his wife Hilary, whose move has been delayed. Also, pray for the parishioners of Darfield.
- For Team Vicar, Robert; all lay readers; office staff & volunteers who help to keep the parish running, and for all key workers providing vital services.

*Would you like to be included in the Parish Newsletter for prayer?
Please contact the Parish Office and let us know*

Zoom Security – Within the parish, over the past few weeks, we are increasingly using Zoom to meet for services, homegroups, prayer meetings etc. Please see this [link on the parish website](#) with advice that you can download to make Zoom calls more secure. The diocese have also issued some guidance at: <https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/2020/04/06/using-zoom-safely/>

If you are setting up a Zoom call which is open for others in the parish to join, please would you **send the Zoom login details** including the password to: parishcomms@kidderminstereast.org.uk You should also ask **those who wish to participate to register their interest in that service / meeting**, via the same email address, **at least 24 hours in advance**. The meeting link, ID and Password will then be shared with all the participants via Mailchimp.

If you wish your service / meeting to be advertised parish-wide, please also send a notice for inclusion in the newsletter to: office@kidderminstereast.org.uk

DIARY PAGE

All Church of England churches remain closed in line with the Government's instructions. The Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England have, as well as urging everyone to stay in their homes, as instructed, called on us, the Church, to: *"continue to pray, to love, to care for the vulnerable"*.

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.

CHILDREN'S CORNER – There is now a [Children's Corner](#) on the parish website to encourage all age family worship, learning and fun. It includes ideas for worship activities and links to other resources including Robert's Saturday [Children's Talk video](#) once a week on the parish YouTube account.

SUNDAY 17th MAY

READINGS: Acts 17: 22 – 31 1 Peter 3: 13 - end John 14: 15 - 21

THURSDAY 21st MAY – ASCENSION DAY

READINGS: Acts 1:1-11 Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53

SUNDAY 24th MAY

READINGS: Acts 1: 6 – 14 1 Peter 4: 12 - 14; 5: 6 – 11 John 17: 1 - 11

SUNDAY 31st MAY - PENTECOST

READINGS: Acts 2: 1 – 21 1 Corinthians 12: 3b – 13 John 20: 19 – 23

CONTACT US

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