



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

17th May 2020

6th Sunday of Easter

Our buildings are closed, our Church is open

SUNDAY 17th 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.

All parishioners from across Kidderminster East are invited to join together for a Service of Morning Worship at 10:45am for 11:00am via Zoom on Sunday 17th May 2020.

To join this service, please send an email requesting copy of the link & password, to Parish Communications: parishcomms@kidderminstereast.org.uk **by 12 noon on Saturday 16th May.** 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

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](#)

Families may also enjoy checking out the [Messy Church BRF Facebook page](#) or the [Together at Home website](#) for worship ideas. Alternatively, here is a resource from Illustrated Ministries <https://illstrdm.in/EasterWeek5>

Readings

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

Collect

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples:
help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Praise God! The Revd David Hildred, our new Team Rector, and his wife, Hilary, will be moving into The Rectory on Thursday 21st May 2020!

David tells us that their removal firm contacted them 'out of the blue' earlier this week and said that they could now do the move, which is wonderful news.

Some form of service, via Zoom, for David's Licensing is planned for **6:00pm on Thursday 11th June**, which will enable his ministry in the parish to commence.

Please pray for David & Hilary, and for the practicalities of the move to fall into place, as well as for the Parishioners of Darfield at this difficult time.

COMPASSION CHILD SPONSORSHIP

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 Sunday we will be sharing a **recorded talk from Luke Gratton**, Head of Partnerships (Midlands, Wales & Ireland) about the work of Compassion, and 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) /email office@kidderminster.org.uk

On Sunday 24th May, in addition to the Sunday Morning Worship @ 11:00am, an **online weekly traditional service of Holy Communion** will be commencing, via Zoom, @ **6:30pm**.
More details to follow next week.

If you are aware of anyone in the parish, who does not have internet access, and who would like to receive newsletters in the post, please email or phone the Parish Office: office@kidderminster.org.uk or 01562 822131 and leave a message with their name & address. Also, if you know of anyone who would like to receive the newsletter via email please contact: parishcomms@kidderminster.org.uk

PARISH PRAYER

There will be a **Parish Prayer Zoom Meeting on Wednesday 20th May**, **open to all in the parish** to pray for our current situation and the work of Christ within the parish and further afield.

If you would like to login this Wednesday from 7:20pm, in order to join together in prayer from 7:30 to 8:00pm, please would you send an email to: parishcomms@kidderminster.org.uk by 6pm on Tues 19th May, and you will be sent the link & sign in details on Wednesday morning.

ASCENSION DAY SERVICE

Next week, instead of the Thursday "Contemplative Prayer" Zoom Meeting, Geoff Surridge, along with John Chesworth & Christine Hickman-Smith, will be leading a "**live**" **service for Ascension Day**, Thursday 21st May, starting at 7:00pm and lasting for around 30 – 40 minutes via Zoom.

To join this service, please send an email requesting copy of the link & password, to Parish Communications: parishcomms@kidderminster.org.uk **by 12noon on Weds 20th May**. You will be sent the details of how to join on Thursday morning, along with a link to download the order of service. If possible, please have this available either as printed / online copy.

Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd Robert Legge for Friday 15th May

Philippians 4:6 *Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

How good are you at not worrying? I will leave that question in the air!

In our verse today Paul says that Christians shouldn't be "anxious about anything." This does not imply a complete lack of concern leading to carelessness. Instead, it means that believers should not be fearful. Why not? Because Christians can speak directly with God, the maker of heaven and earth, who has all power and authority, who is in total control of the situation.

Mature prayer includes thanking God for what He has done in addition to asking for help in areas of need. This does not mean believers are going to live a worry-free life. Nor does it mean additional help won't be required. However, it does show that addressing problems in our lives should begin with prayer.

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 7pm 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](#)

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.

Judy Bassett died peacefully on Tuesday, surrounded by her family after a long battle with cancer. If anyone would like to send a card to Will and the family, please contact Elaine Voice (07747607216 or elaine.voice7@gmail.com) for the address.

THY KINGDOM COME Call to Prayer for more people to come to know Jesus Christ will run from **Ascension Day (21st May) to Pentecost (31st May)** - see separate flier.

Requests for Prayer:

- Please pray for Will, and all of Judy Bassett's family and give thanks for the safe delivery of their grand-daughter the week before she died.
- For 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.
- 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*

DIARY PAGE

Prayer and Spirituality: news from Churches Together in Worcestershire

Pray as you Stay is a daily resource, produced by the Jesuits, it has been adapted for these times & provides a gentle personal time to renew the soul. Available here <https://pray-as-you-go.org/> and also as an app on smart phones. Retreats at home and guided prayer are also available [here](#)

In the County, we are blessed to have the **Benedictine Community at Mucknell Abbey**. For this season, **virtual Stations of the Resurrection** have been produced by Brother Aidan <https://mucknellabbey.org.uk/category/poetry-prayers-meditation/>

The beautiful **Holland House**, nr Pershore is welcoming visitors online through "Comfort in Crisis" <https://www.hollandhouse.org/comfort-in-crisis-on-line-events/>.

Contemplative Evening Prayer and meditations are all part of the offering at present.

The **Arthur Rank Centre**, is an ecumenical charity that has supported the Rural Church for over 50 years. They have created a Covid response section on their website, including reflections and worship resources at this time, especially with rural Christians in mind. <https://arthurrankcentre.org.uk/together-apart/>

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.

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

SUNDAY 7TH JUNE – TRINITY SUNDAY

READINGS: Isaiah 40: 12–17, 27–end 2 Corinthians 13: 11–end Matthew 28: 16–20

CONTACT US

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