



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

14th March 2021

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Our buildings are closed but our Church is still open

SUNDAY 14th MARCH - Mothering Sunday

Churches in the parish remain closed for all services except funerals & weddings, in support of the national lockdown. You are invited, instead, to join together at one of the live Sunday online services. Details are below:

9:30am Worship for All (from St Cassian's) Online via Zoom

As it is not only Mothering Sunday but also Refreshment Sunday, you are very welcome to stay in your dressing gown or onesie for the above service. Please bring along an item or picture that you think represents mothers/mother figures and the things they do for us. To help with the prayers please bring along a plaster/bandaid.

11:00am Morning Worship Online via Zoom

6:30pm Evening Prayer Online via Zoom

To "attend" an online service, and/or receive the Order of Service, please send an email to parishcomms@kidderminstereast.org.uk by **12:00noon on Saturday 13th March** and you will receive a link to join. Those who have attended before will automatically be sent the link each week. If you have no internet, you can still join in on your phone (audio only, but not the 9:30am service, sorry), as follows:

11:00am Morning Worship

Tel: 0131 460 1196 (standard rate)

Meeting ID: 868 1273 8558

Password: 816004

iPhone users one tap mobile number:

+441314601196,,86812738558#,,,,*816004#

6:30pm Evening Prayer

Tel: 0203 051 2874 (standard rate)

Meeting ID: 441 906 9894

Password: 150572

iPhone users one tap mobile number:

+442030512874,,4419069894#,,,,*150572#

A children's resource pack is available on request from helengrist@gmx.co.uk

READINGS

Exodus 2:1 - 10, 15 - 16

2 Corinthians 1:3 - 7

Luke 2:33 - 35

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.

Easter Services and reopening of Churches

Some churches will reopen for in-person services this Easter. We will still need to follow the Covid-19 guidelines of hand sanitising, 2m distancing, no singing & dismissal row by row. Where the service is Holy Communion we will be administering a drop of wine onto the bread, or wafer, so that people can receive 'in both kinds'. We do not intend to operate a booking system for any of the services; just turn up.

Maundy Thursday: 7:00pm at St George's. Service of Holy Communion to mark the journey that Jesus makes from Palm Sunday to Good Friday.

Good Friday: 10:00am Online Service for all ages, organised by St Cassian's team.
2:00pm Online Service "Hour at the Cross" with readings, music and prayer.

Easter Sunday: 9:30am at St Cassian's, Service of Holy Communion.

11:00am at St George's, Service of Holy Communion.

11:00am Online Service with sharing of Bread & Wine and singing Easter hymns.

Further reopening of all churches in the parish will begin the following week.

Details will appear in future newsletters and on the [parish website](#).

Lent Course 2021 and other Lent Resources

This week is the penultimate session of our Lent Course, entitled ***God speaks to us in relationship***. This, and all previous sessions, are available to download via the [parish website](#) so it is possible to catch up with any you have missed. Each one has a introductory video. Robert's group will meet via Zoom on **Tuesday 16th March at 7:30pm**. Other resources are available on the [parish website](#), or contact the Office to be posted hard copies of Lent Resources: office@kidderminstereast.org.uk tel. 01562 822131.

Compassion UK via KEP update

We **thank God** for your response to His prompting following the recent presentation on the work of Compassion. We can now maintain the financial support of our 9 sponsored children - which is **great news** to share.

[Compassion UK](#) is a charity that supports disadvantaged children in developing countries through their local community churches. There are ongoing opportunities to be involved by giving, corresponding with the children, and praying.

For more information, please contact Hilary Hildred (hilary.hildred@hotmail.co.uk), Helen Grist (helengrist@gmx.co.uk) or Jennifer Tompkin (tompkinj@hotmail.com)

Parish Prayers Online via Zoom

Morning Prayer services with your clergy at **8:00am** daily except Friday and Sunday.

Contemplative Prayer: a 20 - 25 minute prayer meeting using the liturgy of the Northumbria Community. **Every Thursday** evening at **7:00pm**; All welcome.

Parish Prayer Meeting: Next meeting will be on **Wednesday 31st March**, login from 7:20pm onwards for **7:30pm** start, finishing by 8:00pm. Open to all in the parish.

To join **any** of the above Prayers please email parishcomms@kidderminstereast.org.uk requesting a copy of the link & password, **by 6pm on the day before the meeting**.



Kidderminster East Youth (KEY)

Sunday 14th March 6.00pm online via Zoom. For further info please contact Grace (07807 647279) or Richard (07843 136785)

Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd David Hildred for Friday 12th March

It's a hard task being a prophet for God. Jeremiah tells us of the struggle he has in being the lone voice of God's message of truth about the spiritual state of his people. It's only natural that he feels he might crumble under the pressure of being unpopular: the people really are intent on 'shooting the messenger'. But God offers to strengthen him, that the people would turn to Jeremiah, rather than Jeremiah trim his message to suit their ears. Do we hear an echo here of the prayer of Jesus for his disciples who are 'in the world, but not of the world' (John 17)? God's same encouragement is available for his modern-day people.

Daily Readings for week beginning **Monday 15th March:**

Mon 15th Mar Jeremiah 17:5 - 18

Tues 16th Mar Jeremiah 18:1 - 12

Wed 17th Mar Jeremiah 18:13 - end

Thurs 18th Mar Jeremiah 19:1 - 13

Fri 19th Mar *Joseph of Nazareth* Matthew 1:18 - end

Sat 20th Mar Jeremiah 20:7 - end

There will be videos from David and Robert on the parish [YouTube channel](#) each Monday and Thursday, based on the above readings. Please take a look.

Sleep Easy Event

Friday 26th March, 7pm onwards

This challenge event is asking you to spend one night sleeping somewhere other than your bed, all to raise vital funds to help us tackle the root causes of youth homelessness. It's easy to get involved! Just grab a sleeping bag and sleep somewhere other than your bed – such as your garden, lounge, hallway or other safe space. This event is supported by *The Rt Revd Dr John Sentamu*. For lots more info and to find out how to get involved please visit ymca.org.uk/sleepeasy.

Stories to Delight the Soul

Revd Eva McIntyre has recorded some of her Bible stories and will post a new one each week [on Spotify](#) in the run up to Easter. This week's offering is entitled *The Field* and is based on a short parable that Jesus told.

The Meaningful Chocolate Company's

[website](#) is the only place you can buy the full **Real Easter Egg** range this year. Made from Fairtrade chocolate, it carries the message of Easter and raises funds for charitable causes. Not available in supermarkets.

Diocesan News

To mark **International Earth Hour** switch off your lights and join Bishop Martin and others for an online vigil of prayer and silence livestreamed from Worcester Cathedral on **Saturday 27th March**, 8.30 - 9.30pm on the [Cathedral Facebook page](#).

Not just another brick in the wall! Last month an historic wall at Worcester Cathedral collapsed in the heavy rain causing damage to the nearby trees and surrounding area. The Cathedral has launched an appeal to raise funds to help rebuild it and ensure the preservation of the grounds and security of the area. Please [Donate a virtual brick!](#)

Help is still needed for our **Diocesan virtual Passion Play**. We are still looking for lots of people to be part of the "crowd". Film yourself at home shouting "Crucify him!" in front of a plain wall and send us the video, either by [email](#) or [wetransfer](#).

The **National Day of Reflection** on **23rd March** has been designated by the Church of England, in conjunction with the charity Marie Curie, as a special day to reflect on the collective loss and grief of the millions who have been bereaved since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. Visit the [Church Support Hub](#) to find out more.

Requests for Prayer.

- All those who are bereaved due to Covid-19, especially on the National Day of Reflection, 23rd March.
- For the success of the Bishop's Lent appeal for the people of Peru.
- Churchwardens, cleaners and other volunteers in our parish as they prepare to safely reopen churches for Easter and beyond.

Would you like to be included in the Parish Newsletter for prayer?

Please contact the Parish Office for more details.

Thank you to those who have volunteered to **deliver newsletters** on a Friday to individuals who cannot get to church. We could still use a few more volunteers, especially for Town Centre/Horsefair and to spread the load. Please contact the [parish office](#) if you can help.

DIARY

Homegroups meet every week during Lent. The **Bible Reading group** will continue its study of *1 Thessalonians* on Tuesday 16th March at 1.30pm. Parish services and other events are detailed below.

Thurs 18th Mar	7:00pm	Contemplative Prayer	Online via Zoom
Friday 19th Mar	7:00pm	KEP Quiz Night	Online via Zoom
Sunday 21st Mar	11:00am	Sharing Bread & Wine	Online via Zoom
	6:30pm	Evening Prayer	Online via Zoom
Thurs 25th Mar	7:00pm	Contemplative Prayer	Online via Zoom
Friday 26th Mar	7:00pm	KEP Quiz Night	Online via Zoom
Sunday 28th Mar	11.00am	Morning Worship	Online via Zoom
	6:00pm	KE Youth	Online via Zoom
	6:30pm	Sharing Bread & Wine	Online via Zoom

Other online resources are available including the [Children's corner](#), Messy Church [Facebook group](#), Robert's Saturday morning [Children's talk video](#) plus many videos on our [YouTube channel](#), posts on our [Facebook page](#) and on the [parish website](#).

The free [DailyHope](#) national phone line from the Church of England offers music, prayers, reflections and full worship services. Call 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044**.

SUNDAY 21st MARCH

READINGS: Jeremiah 31:31 - 34 Hebrews 5:5 - 10 John 12:20 - 33

SUNDAY 28th MARCH - Palm Sunday

READINGS: Isaiah 50:4 - 9a Philippians 2:5 - 11 Mark 14:1 - 15:47

CONTACT US

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