

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

28th March 2021

Palm Sunday

Welcome to our Services both Online and in Church

SUNDAY 28th MARCH - Palm Sunday

Churches in the parish remain closed on Palm Sunday in support of the continuing national lockdown. A limited re-opening will take place in Holy Week. You can find details for Holy Week elsewhere in this newsletter. On Palm Sunday you are invited to join together at one of the following live online services.



Please remember that British Summer Time starts today

11:00am Morning Worship Online via Zoom

6:30pm Service of Sharing Bread & Wine 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 27th March** and you will receive a link to join. If you have no internet, you can still join in on your phone (audio only), as follows:

11:00am Morning Worship

Tel: 0203 051 2874 (standard rate)

Meeting ID: 838 4007 5235

Password: 653277

iPhone users one tap mobile number:

+442030512874,,83840075235#,,,,*653277#

6:30pm Bread & Wine

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

Isaiah 50:4 - 9a

Philippians 2:5 - 11

Mark 14:1 - 15:47

COLLECT

True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah: grant us the faith to know you and love you, that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross, which is the path of glory.



Kidderminster East Youth (KEY)

Sunday 28th March 6.00pm online via Zoom. For further info please contact Grace (07807 647279) or Richard (07843 136785)

Services in Holy Week and reopening of Churches

Some churches will reopen for in-person services this week. 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.

7:00pm Maundy Thursday (1st April) Holy Communion at **St George's**
to mark the journey that Jesus makes from Palm Sunday to Good Friday.

10:00am Good Friday (2nd April) Worship for All **Online via Zoom**

2:00pm Good Friday 'Hour of the Cross' Online via Zoom

A service of the Lord's Passion with readings, music and prayer

St Cassian's Church will be **open for private prayer** from 11:00am to 12:30pm on **Good Friday**. Social distancing, face coverings and hand sanitising will apply.

To "attend" an online service please email to parishcomms@kidderminstereast.org.uk by 12:00noon on **Wednesday 1st April** and you will receive a link to join. If you have no internet, you can still join in on your phone (audio only), as follows:

10:00am Worship 4 All

Tel: 0203 481 5240 (standard rate)

Meeting ID: 891 4441 2087

Password: 924632

iPhone users one tap mobile number:
+442034815240,,89144412087#,,,,*924632#

2:00pm Hour at the Cross

Tel: 0203 051 2874 (standard rate)

Meeting ID: 811 7451 3349

Password: 339949

iPhone users one tap mobile number:
+442030512874,,81174513349#,,,,*339949#



Chrism Mass 2021

This year's Chrism Eucharist will be [live streamed](#) from the Cathedral on **Monday 29th March** at 11:00am. You can also watch it on the Cathedral's [Facebook page](#).

Parish Prayers Online via Zoom

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

Parish Prayer Meeting: Next meeting will be on **Wednesday 31st March**, login from 7:20pm onwards for **7:30pm** start, finishing by 8:00pm. Please come along and pray for the work of Christ in the world, the recovery of the parish as we slowly reopen after lockdown, and events further afield. Open to all in the parish.



Contemplative Prayer: a short prayer meeting **Every Thursday** evening at **7:00pm**. As it is **Maundy Thursday** this week, there will be no Contemplative Prayer as such, but there will be a service of **Quiet Prayer** which will draw on the liturgy of the **Iona Community**. The service will last about 30 minutes, and

we'll look forward to seeing you at 7:00pm if you're unable to make it to St George's for the Maundy Thursday service there. All welcome.

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**.

Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd David Hildred for Friday 26th March

As we finish this set of readings in Jeremiah God's ancient people are about to be sent into exile away from their promised land and temple – everything that reminded them who they were in God's eyes. Their exile is because of their rejection of God; but he has not rejected them. The exile will be for a fixed period (70 years) and whilst they are in Babylon God will 'watch over them', 'build them up' before he brings them back, precisely because they remain his people, and he is their God. We are meant to learn from his ancient people how to be his modern-day people: let's ensure we return each and every day to the Lord "with all our heart".

Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 29th March:

Mon 29 th Mar	Luke 22:1 - 23	Tues 30 th Mar	Luke 22:24 - 53
Wed 31 st Mar	Luke 22:54 - end		
Thurs 1 st Apr	<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	Luke 23:1 - 25	
Fri 2 nd Apr	<i>Good Friday</i>	Hebrews 10:1 - 10	
Sat 3 rd Apr	Hosea 6:1 - 6		

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.

Bible Reading Group



Our next meeting is on **Tuesday 6th April** at 11:00am for about an hour, **online via Zoom**.

We are just beginning *2 Thessalonians* so it's a good time to join us.

To do so please contact

the parish office by emailing

office@kidderminstereast.org.uk

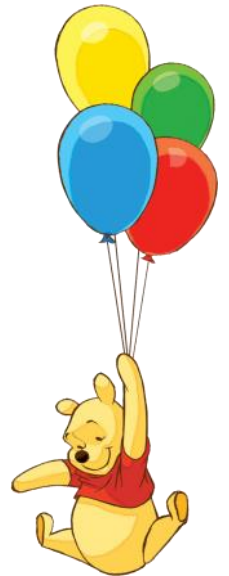
or call 01562 822131.

Hilary Hildred

KEMP HOSPICE

Virtual Balloon Race!

Join KEMP for their eco-friendly seven-day virtual balloon race where everything is real apart from the balloon! The race begins at **noon** on Easter Sunday **4th April**. Lots of prizes include £500 cash and an Apple iPad! Each balloon is only **£3.00** and raises funds for KEMP. To find out how to enter visit the [KEMP hospice website](#).



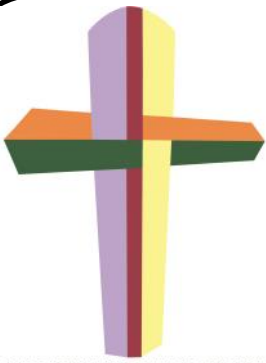
Stories to Delight the Soul



The latest short, audio story from Revd Eva McIntyre is "*Martha's Story*" and can be found on Eva's [Spotify site](#). These stories are what Robert described as "*a cup of coffee long*" and are well worth a listen. Eva will be posting more stories during **Holy Week** to cover the Passion Story from Palm Sunday to Easter Day. The full web address is:

<https://open.spotify.com/show/3ZSZTTK0HunWcDodXLbh3a>

The Friends of St Cassian's invite you to a **fund raising illustrated talk on Zoom** On **Thursday 6th May** at 7.30 pm "**Sacred Places of the World**" by Sylvia Beardshaw Illustrated with pictures taken on her travels, all around the world, looking at some of the buildings and sites associated with beliefs of the world both past and present. To book please email Sylvia on rhbsb@ukgateway.net or telephone 01562 777955 You will then be sent a link for the show and invited to make a donation.



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THE KIDDERMINSTER EAST PARISH NEWSLETTER

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

4th April 2021

Easter Sunday

Welcome to our Services both Online and in Church

SUNDAY 4th APRIL - Easter Sunday

We are pleased to announce the re-opening of churches in the parish, reflecting the easing of lockdown restrictions nationally. Please note that Covid-19 restrictions still apply both inside and outside of our buildings. Please follow all instructions from stewards. If you cannot attend one of our services in church please join together at the live online service. Details are below.

9:30am	Holy Communion	St Cassians's
11:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
11:00am	Service of Sharing Bread & Wine	Online via Zoom

If you would like an **Easter Bag of Blessings** for the online service please email the parish office: office@kidderminstereast.org.uk with your name and address and how many bags you require by **TODAY Sunday 28th March at 4:00pm.**

To "attend" an online service, and/or receive the Order of Service, please email parishcomms@kidderminstereast.org.uk by **12:00noon on Saturday 3rd April** and you will receive a link to join. If you have no internet, you can still join in on your phone (audio only), as follows:



11:00am Service of Sharing Bread & Wine

Tel: 0203 051 2874 (standard rate) **Meeting ID:** 844 2396 4780 **Password:** 582697
iPhone users one tap mobile number : +442030512874,,84423964780#,,, *582697#

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

READINGS

Acts 10:34 - 43
1 Corinthians 15:1 - 11
John 20:1 - 18

COLLECT

God of glory, by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned and the way to life
stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

An Easter Message from your Clergy

Dear all

We hope that you are keeping well during this ongoing stressful and difficult period and firstly can we thank you for the things you have been continuing to do (sometimes without the knowledge of the rest of us!) in order to keep our parish together under such difficult circumstances. Zoom services, prayer meetings, homegroups, DCCs, PCCs, as well as a myriad of other events are still happening within our parish and this is thanks to so many people pulling together and working together for God and for His glory.

May we please draw your attention to a verse from scripture? The event in question comes after Jesus has been crucified and a confused, dispirited, incomplete group of disciples have met together.

"I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. (John 21 v 3 NIV)

Apparently one of the key principles of computer technology is that if something has gone wrong or broken down, it is helpful to go back to the point at where the device last worked effectively and work on the issue from that point onwards, rebooting I believe its called!

And I think this is something like what we see in Simon Peter's comment about going back to fish (and the other disciples who were present deciding to follow his lead). They wanted to get back to "normality" once again, back to the last time they remembered anything in their lives actually making sense. In a sense they all wanted to reverse Jesus' words in **Mark 1 v 17**: *"You are currently fishing for people but from now on you will go back to fishing for fish!"*

But of course they caught nothing, and why was that? Why couldn't they find comfort and success in their old way of doing things? Why did the familiar tasks that they used to perform so efficiently not work for them anymore? Why did the "rebooting" process fail so miserably?

Because despite what Simon Peter and the other disciples were feeling, things would never be the same again. Jesus had not just been crucified but 3 days later He was raised from the dead and there would be no going back to fishing for fish. The resurrected Christ was on the scene and Simon Peter would fulfil his role as the rock on which the church would be built. Fishing for people was well and truly still on the agenda!

All of us have a natural urge to want to reboot, to get back to the way things were. We long to be able to sing in church, to hug and shake hands, to have tea, coffee and custard creams as well as good conversation and fellowship after the service, to throw face masks into the dustbin and to stay closer to everyone than 2 metres. We want to attend weddings, birthdays, to hug children and grandchildren, to go on holiday and to have our hair done! All of these things are right and proper and we pray that that they will all come to pass sooner rather than later.

And from a very personal point of view David is looking forward to the churches opening once again and there being the opportunity of drawing the congregations back together so that he can meet them! It has been a very frustrating time waiting for a "normal Sunday" in order to worship with the "usual congregation".

However we need to also remember that the last year has in no way been a question of God giving up on us or changing his plans without telling us. He has been with us continually and he looks forward to our going forward with him in the days and weeks and months that lie ahead. COVID-19 and its aftermath may be with us for quite a period of time but that does not mean that God has abandoned us.

Continued overleaf...

Easter message from your clergy, continued...

His call to us as Christians to share his love with the people around us is still very much item number one on his agenda. Of course how we do this will need to be considered and much prayer and reflection will be necessary in order to discern God's will for the way forward for us as a parish.

We also need time to reflect on what has happened to us and to acknowledge the grief, pain, loss and trauma that many of us have experienced over the past year.

And so as we celebrate Easter this year can we once again reflect on the marvellous truth revealed to the world on that first Easter day; "*He is not here, He is risen!*" If Jesus does not belong in a place of death but rather to a place of life then as His people we are the same. And so even in the difficulties that we are facing at present we can experience that resurrection life in our own lives and then spread it on to others. Easter teaches us that after the darkness of Good Friday and the cross comes the glorious light of Easter Day and new life: we are Easter people.

May we take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Easter.

Robert & David

Diocesan News

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!](#)

The **Diocesan virtual Passion Play** will be available to watch via social media sites and on the [Diocesan Website](#) on Good Friday.



[COP26](#) is the 26th **United Nations Climate Change Conference**, which is scheduled to be held in Glasgow from 1st to 12th November 2021. The latest edition of [Called to Action](#) focusses on how you can join the journey to COP26. Commit to walking the number of miles from your home to Glasgow (about 300) between now and November and join the dedicated [Facebook group](#) to encourage each others and share stories.

The **Diocesan Synod** met on Saturday 13th March, by Zoom. For those who are interested you can read a [summary of what happened](#), including a report on the Churches **net zero carbon** initiative, by using this link.

Spring Harvest at Home, 4th - 8th April, is offering a discount code, saving 10% on the regular price of £55. Use code **SH21CCL** when you book. You can download the [programme](#) and find out more at <https://springharvest.org/>

Parish Prayerlink



Prayer requests can be emailed to prayerlink@kidderminstereast.org.uk.

Our praying friends across the whole parish are happy to pray for you.

Alternately, Glenn & Anne Scott can take requests for prayer.

Phone 01562 822690 or email on glennscott@mac.com.

The relevant Prayer Ministry Team will pray for you.

Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd David Hildred for Friday 2nd April

On what we might consider the most holy of days we read in Hebrews 10 that it is “impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins”. That Old Testament system of animal sacrifice was designed to point forward to the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus, because it was insufficient of itself to get the job done. Jesus does so much more, not only taking away our sin, but in its place setting his holiness. In the same chapter we rejoice to read, “we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all”. He’s finished the job and it need never be repeated. Hallelujah!

Daily Readings for week beginning Monday 5th April:

Mon 5th Apr Mark 16:1 - 8

Wed 7th Apr Matthew 28:16 - end

Fri 9th Apr Luke 8:41 - end

Tues 6th Apr Luke 24:1 - 12

Thurs 8th Apr Luke 7:11 - 17

Sat 10th Mar John 11:17 - 44

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.

Kidderminster East Online Quiz Night



Thank you to everyone who has supported our regular Friday night Quiz during lockdown.

We will be taking a break on **Good Friday** but will be back again on **Friday 9th April** at 7:00pm for more fellowship and fun. To receive a link to join please email:

parishcomms@kidderminstereast.org.uk

Holland House

The diocesan retreat house, **Holland House**, is hoping to re-open from **17th May** with their quiet garden days starting on **20th May** and they are now taking bookings for these dates. In the meantime it continues to run various online events including online worship on **Good Friday** and **Easter Sunday** with the theme “Covid and the Cross”, a virtual coffee morning on **17th April** and a one-day online retreat on **1st May**. This centre needs your support at this time. Please take a look at their calendar at www.hollandhouse.org.
Thank you

Parishioner Michael Care has **nine hardback A4 notebooks** which are looking for a good home. Please contact the parish office if you are interested.

Newsletter Dates

The next parish newsletter will be published on **Friday 9th April** and will cover Sundays **11th** and **18th April**. Deadline for copy is midnight on Tuesday **6th April**. Thank you.

Requests for Prayer.

- Churchwardens, cleaners and other volunteers in our parish as they prepare to safely reopen churches for Easter and beyond.
- Our parish clergy, LLMs and ALMs at this busy time of the year; may they be inspired to lead us in praise and worship of the risen Lord.
- All those who live with pain and grief due to ill health, bereavement and problems of mental health; may they experience the healing power of the Lord.

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

DIARY

Homegroups meet for the last time in Lent during Holy Week. The **Bible Reading group** will next meet to study of *2 Thessalonians* on Tuesday **6th April** at 11.00am. Parish services and other events are detailed below.

Mon 29th Mar	7:00pm	St Cassian's DCC	Online via Zoom
Wed 31st Mar	7:30pm	Parish Prayer	Online via Zoom
Thurs 1st Apr	7:00pm	Service of Quiet Prayer	Online via Zoom
	7:00pm	Holy Communion	St George's
Friday 2nd Apr	10:00am	Worship 4 All (St Cassian's)	Online via Zoom
	2:00pm	Hour at the Cross	Online via Zoom
Sunday 4th Apr	9:30am	Holy Communion	St Cassian's
	11:00am	Sharing Bread & Wine	Online via Zoom
	11:00am	Holy Communion	St George's
Thurs 8th Apr	7:00pm	Contemplative Prayer	Online via Zoom
Friday 9th Apr	7:00pm	KEP Quiz Night	Online via Zoom
Sunday 11th Apr	9:30am	Worship for All	St Cassian's
	9:30am	Holy Communion	St Chad's
	11:00am	Morning Worship	Online via Zoom
	11:00am	Holy Communion	St Cecilia's
	11:00am	Holy Communion	St Mary's Stone
	11:00am	Morning Worship	St George's
	6:00pm	KE Youth	Online via Zoom
	6:30pm	Evening Prayer	St George's

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](#).

SUNDAY 11th APRIL

READINGS: Acts 4:32 - 35 1 John 1:1 - 2:2 John 20:19 - end

SUNDAY 18th APRIL

READINGS: Acts 3:12 - 19 1 John 3:1 - 7 Luke 24:36b - 48

CONTACT US

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