



**Encountering God
following Jesus
Spirit-transforming lives**

THE KIDDERMINSTER EAST PARISH NEWSLETTER

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

Sunday 19th March 2023
Mothering Sunday

A Warm Welcome to All our Services



SPECIAL FAREWELL TO ROBERT & HELEN ISSUE

SUNDAY 19th MARCH

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, Radford Avenue, Kidderminster, DY10 2ES

10:30am

United Parish Service of Holy Communion
to say farewell to Robert and Helen, followed by tea & cake

6:30pm

Evening Prayer

There are no other services in the parish today

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.

READINGS

Exodus 2:1 - 10
John 19:25 - 27

Institution of Revd Robert Legge in St Mary's, Blackpool

Robert's Institution service is on **Monday 17th April** at **7:30pm** in **St Mary's Church**, Squire Gate, Stonycroft Avenue, Blackpool, FY4 2NR. If you are intending to go, please can you give your name(s) to your church warden or, alternatively, email your name(s) to the Parish Office using office@kidderminstereast.org.uk, by **Tuesday 11th April**, so we can let St Mary's Church have an idea of the numbers of those coming from Kidderminster East. Many thanks for your help.

Helen Legge

LENT

Lent Course 2023

There are just a couple of sessions left in our Lent Course. The next

meeting will be at **St Chad's** on **Thursday 23rd March** at 7:30pm, before the final session back in **St George's** on **Thursday 30th March** at the same time



FAITH Pictures

Kidderminster East Youth (KEY)

for children and young adults in school years 4 - 13 (ages 9 - 18 yrs)

Please Note we have changed our previously advertised meeting dates. Please see below for new times and dates:



Sunday 19th March (Mothering Sunday), **NO MEETING**

Sunday 26th March, 6:00pm - 7:30pm

Sunday 2nd April, 5:30pm - 6:30pm (after Board Games Café)

Sunday 16th April, 6:00pm - 7:30pm

Sunday 30th April, 6:00pm - 7:30pm

All meetings are at **St Cecilia's Church, Hoo Road, Kidderminster, DY10 1LP**

For further information or if you would like to join KEY please contact :

Grace Kerrigan (07807 647279) or Richard Baker (07843 136785)



in Chaddesley Corbett

Monday 20th March

10:30am - 12noon

Ladies, we would love to see you for a coffee and a chat at Susie's, Hill Pool House. Call Beth (777136) or Susie (777419)



Polly's KETL Toy Library

Kidderminster Evangelical Church in Greatfield Road is setting up **Kidderminster Evangelical Toy Library**, beginning **20th March** (and 3rd Monday of each month), 10:30am - 12:30pm for parents with children aged 0-4 years. It costs £1 per child to visit it and borrow a toy for the month. Could this benefit someone you know? There are leaflets in each church with details on.

Virtual Tour of St Mary's church, Stone

St Mary's church, Stone is a beautiful building that was built in the 1830s. Many of us have driven by it on the A448.

Now, there is a great opportunity to see the inside of it with the launch of St Mary's new **virtual tour** that is available on the KEP YouTube channel <https://youtu.be/TJkATBquWGo>. So, if you've not seen inside it before or would like to know a little more about its rich history, here's your chance!



Parish Prayers Online via Zoom

Morning Prayer at 8:00am:

A great way to start the day. Please see the table opposite to determine which days there is morning prayer over the next two weeks. Prayers

are led by David. If you do not automatically receive a Zoom link please ask for one to be sent to you by emailing the address below. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Parish Prayer Meeting: Our next meeting will be **online via Zoom** on **Wednesday 12th April**, at **7:30pm** (login from 7:20pm) for 45 minutes of prayer, worship and praise, covering issues in the parish and the wider world. Please join us, you are all very welcome.

To join **any** of the online Prayers please email parishcomms@kidderminstereast.org.uk requesting a copy of the link & password, **by 6:00pm on the day before the meeting.**

Week	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
20/3	DH	DH	DH	DH	-	DH
27/3	DH	DH	DH	DH	-	-




Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd Robert Legge for Friday 17th March


Jeremiah 15 v 10-21: As I write this reflection it has just been announced that New Zealand's Prime Minister Jacinda Arden has decided to resign. In her announcement she candidly admits that she "No longer has enough in the tank" to do the job. In this passage it feels as if Jeremiah is in the same position as Jacinda Arden and that his tank is similarly empty. Often we see people in the Bible as being super heroes who never get tired or disillusioned and we forget that they are human beings with all of the weaknesses, pressures and vulnerabilities inherent in that. In this passage we discover that Jeremiah is dismayed that the people to whom he is called to preach are so negative and unresponsive to what he does and says. Jeremiah has never actively sought conflict, however his faithfulness to God's message means that conflict is what he ends up with and Jeremiah

laments his situation before God. God responds with what is in effect a "good news/bad news" reply. The bad news is that because of the sinfulness of the people and their stubbornness, conflict will be inevitable for Jeremiah, however the good news is that God will be with him in the conflict and that Jeremiah will never be left alone. That is still the situation for us today. If we are faithful to God conflict will happen and it will feel both difficult and unfair. However we must never lose sight of the promise that God will be with us and support us in all that we do in His name.

Daily Readings for week beginning Mon 20 th March	
Date	Bible passage
Mon 20 th	Matthew 1:18 - end <i>Joseph of Nazareth</i>
Tue 21 st	Jeremiah 18:1 – 12
Wed 22 nd	Jeremiah 8:13 – end
Thu 23 rd	Jeremiah 19:1 – 13
Fri 24 th	Jeremiah 19:14 – 20:6
Sat 25 th	Luke 1:26 - 38 <i>Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>



Young at Heart
Wednesdays 2:00pm - 4:00pm
at St Cecilia's Church, Hoo Road
22nd March Handbell ringers
29th March Meal Out, Booking essential
 For more information about this group contact Jean Bailey **via the parish office.**



Repair Café 

Would you contemplate having something repaired/sharpened rather than just being thrown away?
 Bring your items along to the **Repair Café** at the Youth Centre in Bromsgrove Street, Kidderminster, every **first Saturday in the month, 10:00am to 1:00pm** No fixed fee, but donations gratefully received. You might even recognise some of the people involved!

St George's Coffee Shop

open **every Friday**
 10:00am - 12:00noon

Now with Art Table

The Children's Club 2023 Activities

Join us to have fun at St Chad's Church, Burcher Green, DY10 3AY on these dates:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Friday 14 th April | 9:30am - 1:30pm |
| Friday 2 nd June | 9:30am - 1:30pm |
| Friday 28 th July | 9:30am - 1:30pm |
| Friday 1 st Sept | 9:30am - 1:30pm |

Open to children in school years 2 - 5 only.
 Booking essential (closing date **24th March**)

All events FREE

Refreshments and meals provided

Contact: katyc34@btinternet.com

tel: 01562 861023 **to book**



"Postcards from Northern Ireland"

Revd Robert Legge has created a series of 12 short spiritual reflections inspired by various locations in Northern Ireland. You can see these on our [KEP Youtube channel](#), via the KEP website page [Postcards from Northern Ireland](#) and also the [Facebook page](#). The 8th reflection, *Black Arch (Drain's Bay)*, is due to "drop" on **1st April**. All 12 of these popular short meditations will still be available through to the final episode in August, reminding us of Robert and what we are missing! Treat yourself to some quite time and take a look.



Bible Reading group

There will be **NO meeting in April** due to **Maundy Thursday**. We will be back as normal next month at 11:00am on **Thurs 4th May**. Open to all but please let us know you are coming either directly or via the Parish Office.

Valerie Bond & Hilary Hildred.

Folding palm crosses

Due to an unexpectedly early delivery of fresh palms we held the palm folding workshop on **Saturday 11th March**, therefore there will be **NO** workshop on **1st April**. Thank you.



St Chad's Spring Clean

Saturday 22nd April,

10:00am - 1:00pm



Help appreciated to "spruce up" the church, hall and gardens. List of activities should now be available from the churchwardens.

Holland House - Tuesday 4th April

Friendly lunch, followed by a talk by Alma & Robin Organ. An exploration of how a journey along a canal towpath can reflect our spiritual journey. Come on your own, bring a friend, all welcome. Arrivals from 12.30pm, fully licensed bar available. Two course lunch will be served at 1pm followed by tea/coffee and the talk. You can book [via their website](#) or call 01386 860330

St George's Pop up Café

is open on **Wednesday 5th April** and the first Wednesday of every month at St George's Church, Radford Avenue. For more details see our [Webpage link](#)

Kidderminster Choral Society

The Best of Bernstein

Saturday 25th March, 7:30pm

At St George's Church, Radford Avenue. Featuring Chichester Psalms & favourites from West Side Story etc. Tickets £14: www.kidderminsterchoralsociety.co.uk Or £16 on the door. Under 20s Free

Wyre Forest Symphony Orchestra

Spring Symphony Concert

Sunday 26th March, 7:30pm

At St George's Church, Radford Avenue. Featuring Dvorak Cello Concerto with soloist Richard Jenkinson. Tickets on the door or: www.ticketsource.co.uk Admission £10. Students & under 18s Free

The next **parish newsletter** will be published on **Friday 31st March**. It will be a **three week** newsletter covering **Sundays 1st, 8th & 15th April** due to Easter and staff holidays. Items for publication can be sent to news@kidderminstereast.org.uk to reach the office by **Wednesday 29th March** at the latest. Thank you



Encountering God
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Fifth Sunday of Lent

Times of Services at the Churches of
St Cassian's, St Cecilia's, St Chad's, St George's & St Mary's Stone

Sunday 26th March 2023

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.

READINGS

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

SUNDAY 26th MARCH

ST CASSIAN'S

9:30am	Morning Worship
6:30pm	The cross of Christ service

ST CECILIA'S

11:00am	Morning Worship
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ST CHAD'S

9:30am	Holy Communion
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ST GEORGE'S

11:00am	Holy Communion
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ST MARY'S, STONE

11:00am	Holy Communion
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Bereavement Café - *Life after Loss*

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, our bereavement café '*Life after Loss*' is here for you to meet informally with others in a similar situation, share your experiences and talk about how *life after loss* is affecting you.

We are not a counselling service but provide a listening ear over a cup of tea/coffee & cake in a warm & friendly atmosphere. Come and go as you feel you want to. We meet **monthly** at St Cecilia's Church, Hoo Road, on the last Monday of the month. Our next meeting will be on

Monday 27th March, 2:00pm - 4:00pm. For more information email Carol, Freda or Alison on lifafterlosskep@gmail.com or call the parish office on 01562 822131.



Spring Table Top Sale



There will be a **Spring Table Top Sale** on **Saturday 1st April, 10:00am - 1:00pm** at **St George's, Radford Avenue**. Cake stall, crafts, entertainment, refreshments: tea/coffee/sausage or bacon rolls. If you wish to book a table (£10:00 each) to sell items please contact Jan Ferguson 07801 118214 or Chris Griffiths: chrsgriffiths@gmail.com.

Midweek Services

St George's
Holy Communion at 10:00am
on **Wednesdays 5th & 19th April**

St Cassian's
Holy Communion at 10:00am
on **Wednesday 12th April**



Board Games Café @StCecilia's

Sunday 2nd April, 3:30 - 5:30pm.



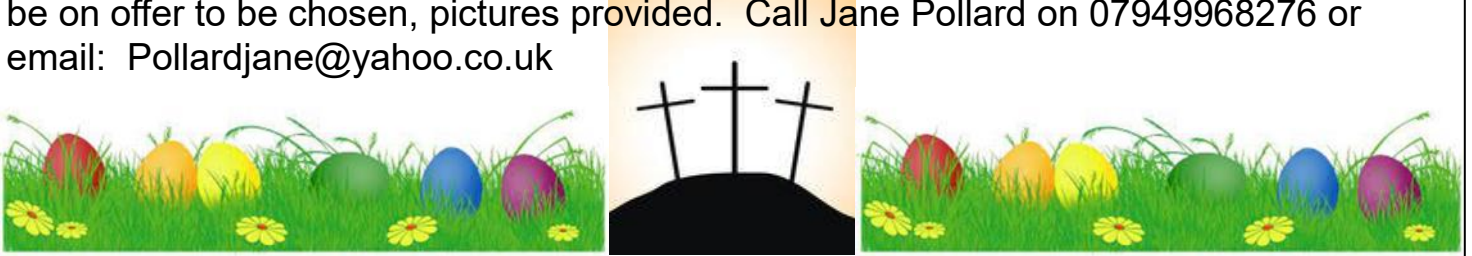
Would you like to play some board games in a safe, family friendly environment?
Come and join other like minded people @StCecilia's Church on Hoo Road.
Refreshments available for a small donation. All games FREE. Ages 0-100+.

Holy Saturday: Churches Together Easter Hunt Trail

In Brinton Park Saturday 8th April 10:30—12:00noon

Eggciting reward for all child participants (up to aged 11 years). Event also includes circus skills, face painting, refreshments and more. No need to book but come early to avoid disappointment. In the event of bad weather we will retreat to Holy Innocent's Church, Stourport Road (near the traffic lights). **THIS EVENT IS FREE.**

There is still time to volunteer: We are still short of face painters and balloon modellers, full training can be given and only a limited number of animals or faces will be on offer to be chosen, pictures provided. Call Jane Pollard on 07949968276 or email: Pollardjane@yahoo.co.uk



Churches Together in Kidderminster & Christians Against Poverty



Poverty destroys lives. It robs people of joy, hope and opportunities. Every day, CAP hears about the burdens of shame, isolation, and guilt that financial difficulty brings. CAP inspires churches to see that they can bring hope to their community by offering training to run CAP Money Courses, be a CAP Befriender or even a CAP Debt Coach.

Could this be something you could be involved in? Want to find out more?

Come to our Launch and Information event on **Sunday 26th March 2023 – 6:00pm** at **Kidderminster Baptist Church**, Franche Road, Kidderminster, DY11 5BE.

For more information contact your church leader or email Jborlase12@gmail.com

Good Friday: Churches Together Walk of Witness

Dear Friends, as we have done in recent years CTiK will again be organising a **Walk of Witness** on **Good Friday**. It was commented that last year's walk was all uphill so the suggestion has been made that we arrange a different route. A few years ago it was proposed that we start a walk of witness at our own church building and walk down to the town centre and meet outside the town hall for an act of worship. This, I am proposing we do this year, so if each church processes from their church at around 10:30am and meets outside the town hall as close to 11:00am as we can that would be great. Look forward to sharing with you on Good Friday.

God Bless *Andrew Mann-Ray*

David adds: Please meet at any one of our 3 churches in the town and process from there. Each church please take responsibility for setting off.



Faithful Friday Blog Post from Revd Robert Legge for Friday 24th March

Jeremiah 19 v 14- 20 v6: How good are you at listening to and responding to things that you don't want to hear? It is said that the truth hurts and quite often when we hear something that hits home, we tend to take it out on the person who spoke the words. A very popular phrase in our modern world is, "Don't shoot the messenger!" In our reading today the messenger isn't shot, however being beaten and put into the stocks is not a pleasant experience! So, wouldn't you think that when Jeremiah was released he might reflect upon what had just happened to him, revisit his sermon notes and do a serious bit of revision; not a bit of it! He gives Pashur the Temple official some fairly strong predictions both for the country and for himself personally. As a Vicar many things have happened to me over the years, however I have never (yet!) been beaten and put into the stocks! Having said that, I wonder if when a church leader says or preaches something that is true but inconvenient or uncomfortable how do we respond either out loud or in the silence of our own hearts? We must be prepared to listen both to the encouragement that God's word brings but also to the challenges, accepting both as coming from God for our benefit and His glory.

Daily Readings for week beginning Mon 27th March	
Date	Bible passage
Mon 27 th	Jeremiah 21:1 – 10
Tue 28 th	Jeremiah 22:1–5, 13–19
Wed 29 th	Jeremiah 22:20 – 23:8
Thu 30 th	Jeremiah 23:9 – 32
Fri 31 st	Jeremiah 24:1 – end
Sat 1 st Apr	Jeremiah 25:1 - 14

Diocesan and other News

Bishop John would like to invite anyone who gives their time to volunteer in their parish to one of two thank you events to enjoy cheese and wine & an opportunity for him to say thank you to you:

Wed 29th March, 7:00 – 9:00pm, The Guildhall, Worcester **Book:** <https://bit.ly/3RffCyP>

Thurs 30th March, 7:00 – 9:00pm, Hartlebury Castle **Book:** <https://bit.ly/3kQ3p7y>

For more info: <https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/an-invitation-from-bishop-john.php>

Worcester Passion Play - open-air performance on Friday 7th April, 10:30am in Cathedral Square, Worcester. Performed by a cast of actors from local churches, together with live animals, music and outdoor projection, and featuring Bishop John and his wife, H-J! You can watch a short promotional video by following this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKoDAwQ-Aw>.

The **March - July** edition of the **prayer diary** has now arrived at the parish office. We will distribute as soon as possible so that you can collect from your church. You can also download a copy from here: <https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/prayer-diary/>

Requests for Prayer

- For Robert and Helen as they take their leave of this community and start afresh in Blackpool; may their calling be fulfilled and full of blessings.
- For Rob, Joanne and family on the recent passing of Joanne's mum Lillian Gwilliam.
- For refugees everywhere, may they be welcomed with a generous heart.

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

DIARY

Homegroups are not meeting during Lent. Please attend the parish Lent Course.

Weekly Events

Warm Space/breakfast	Sundays	9:15am - 10:30am	St Cecilia's
Café Chad	Mondays & Weds	9:15am - 12:15pm	St Chad's
Knit & Natter/Craft	Monday at Café Chad	10:00am - 12:00noon	St Chad's
Warm Space/food	Mondays	3:00pm - 5:30pm	St Chad's
Knit & Natter	Wednesdays	2:00pm - 4:00pm	St George's
Young at Heart	Weds in term time	2:00pm - 4:00pm	St Cecilia's
Coffee Shop/Art table	Fridays	10:00am - 12:00noon	St George's
Meet and Eat	Fridays	12:00noon	Morrison Café

Other events during the next fortnight are listed below

Mon 20 th Mar	10:30am	Share & Care	Chaddesley Corbett
	7:00pm	Standing Committee	online via Zoom
Tues 21 st Mar	7:00pm	St Cecilia's DCC	St Cecilia's
Thurs 23 rd Mar	7:30pm	Parish Lent Course	St Chad's
Sunday 26 th Mar		British Summer Time Begins	

Services for today are listed elsewhere in this newsletter

	6:30pm	KE Youth	St Cecilia's
Mon 27 th Mar	2:00pm	Bereavement Café	St Cecilia's
	7:30pm	St George's DCC	St George's
	7:30pm	St Chad's DCC	St Chad's
Thurs 30 th Mar	7:30pm	Parish Lent Course	St George's
Sat 1 st April	10:00am	Spring Table Top Sale	St George's
Sunday 2 th Apr	9:30am	Holy Communion	St Cassian's
	9:30am	Worship for All	St Chad's
	11:00am	Morning Worship	St Cecilia's
	11:00am	Morning Worship	St George's
	11:00am	Holy Communion	St Mary's Stone
	3:30pm	Board Games Café	St Cecilia's
	5:30pm	KE Youth	St Cecilia's
	6:30pm	Evening Prayer	St George's

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

SUNDAY 2nd APRIL - PALM SUNDAY

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

SUNDAY 9th APRIL - EASTER SUNDAY

READINGS: Exodus 14:10 - end; 15:20 - 21 Romans 6:3 - 11 Matthew 28:1 - 10

CONTACT US

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TEAM VICAR – VACANCY

WEBSITE Errors, omissions and updates should be reported to

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