

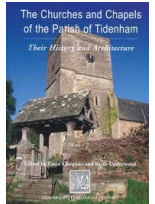


"where the river flows everything will live"

THE PARISH OF TIDENHAM (& St Briavel's and Hewelsfield & Brockweir) **WEEKLY PARISH BRIEFING SUNDAY 14 JUNE 2020**

Reopening Church Buildings?

The Government has been working with faith groups regarding reopening places of worship. From 15th June church buildings will be allowed to open for supervised individual prayer. However, this is just the 'start' of the journey for church buildings to open up safely in line with Government advice so we are in the process of formulating a response to this. We hope to open as soon as we have suitable volunteers in place. Please let Clare know if you would like a church building open and whether you would be willing and able to volunteer to make it happen. tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com



Reacting to the death of George Floyd

It has been ever so distressing to see and hear the news of the murder of George Floyd in the US, and quite something to witness the outpouring of feelings since then. We have to ask, 'why is this happening?'

Apparently, the Former Home Secretary David Blunkett, who is blind, never understood how people could be racist... as due to his blindness he doesn't see the colour of people's skin. It reminded me of Jesus quoting Isaiah when he said people 'have eyes but do not see' (Matthew 13:13). Even though David Blunkett is blind he could see a truth that skin colour is irrelevant when making judgements about a person's intrinsic value, worth and capability. Yet there are still many who, despite having physical eyes to see, are actually totally blind to this truth.



We can all struggle with truth & blindness at times. If we are honest with ourselves and with God, we all have varying degrees of prejudice in our hearts about people who are different to us. May God give us eyes to see people as he sees them. May God give us eyes to see the image and beauty of God within each human being. And may God purge the unhealthy and unholy prejudices we have inherited or built up within our hearts.

Pastoral Care



On a brighter note I have been really touched by the pastoral care people have shown in the Parishes during this Coronavirus pandemic. People have been making a real effort all round to try and ensure neighbours, friends, colleagues, and family members are okay and have the essentials they need. Those with official pastoral responsibilities have been working really hard trying to keep in touch and support people and I want to say a big big thank you to all my colleagues. A big big thank you too to those who don't have official responsibilities! There is always the potential however that someone could fall through the net of love, care and support. If you need some pastoral care or know someone who does please do let one of the team know and we will try to respond.

Most of you will know that the Tidenham Parish vision statement is 'Living Life Together in the Flow of God's Love.' Loving and supporting one another and reaching out to each other and being a welcoming inclusive and eclectic community (face to face or online) is very much a part of living this out. Yes, we will mess up badly sometimes but the calling on our lives is there, and the intention and desire is there!

Where the river flows everything will live! May we live life together in the flow of God's love.
God bless

Revd David Treharne

(Vicar of Tidenham with Beachley and Lancaut and Priest in Charge of St Briavel's with Hewelsfield & Brockweir)

Up Coming Services

PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS for Trinity 1 (14 June)



Sunday, 14 June 2020 - the First Sunday after Trinity

Available from 09.00am on the Tidenham Parish Online Church YouTube channel:

A service of Holy Communion, including music from the Taize community. Information will also appear on the Parish website (follow the 'News' tab) & Parish Facebook page.

You are then invited to gather on Zoom at 11.30am for a coffee time together. Zoom is relatively easy to get on to if you have access to the Internet. Click on this link to download and join the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83002388238?pwd=WTgzRElWdUNSaG41SjQzbHF5ZExNdz09>

If you need help to do this give one of the team a ring or email.

The Bible readings for this coming Sunday are: **Romans 5:1-8, Matthew 9:35-10:8**

The Collect: God of truth, help us to keep your law of love and to walk in ways of wisdom, that we may find true life in Jesus Christ your Son.

Post-communion: Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

Prayer



Thank you for sending in your prayer requests. Please feel free to email

tidenhamprayers@btinternet.com, please make it known whether your prayer request is

PRIVATE or okay to send out to the public.

Tidenham Parish Prayers for Sunday 14 June

Thanksgiving

For all the key workers who serve their communities, especially the emergency services and voluntary emergency responders, SARA.

For the continued community support.

That so many of us experience good health.

For the blessing of living where we do, with easy access to countryside.

That we are able to see family and friends, with a physical distance.

Intercession

Locally:

For Derek and Jean's friend, George, whose son died recently. For peace, hope and blessing for George.

For all staff and children returning to school.

For Secondary Schools where pupils begin returning on Monday.

For families who are anxious re making the decision about whether to return to school or not.

For children and young people who are moving on in Education in September, that they can be well prepared, even in these unusual times.

For all year 6 pupils who will receive a copy of 'It's Your Move' from the Parish, that they will be encouraged that we are praying for them and for Jane and Ethan as they support year 6 pupils with transition.

For all young people who should have been taking exams that they would have peace re assessment of their achievement through coursework and teachers' knowledge of the students.

For safety and protection for all families, especially those with new babies.

That as the lockdown eases we would continue to be sensible and sensitive.

That life can begin to return to normal as soon as possible.

For good physical and mental health.

For all who are mourning at this time, that God would be their source of comfort and strength.

For those who are coping with a sudden death of family member or friend.

For peace for all waiting for diagnosis or treatment, in the uncertainty of waiting, that they would know God as their sure and certain foundation and source of hope.

Nationally:

As the lockdown eases in England, for everyone to act sensibly with consideration for others.

For Welsh schools who are returning on 29th June.

For our Government and leaders, for wisdom as they make decisions.

PARISH NEWS UPDATE

Despite not being able to gather publicly while our church buildings still remain closed, our life together as a church family hasn't stopped. We continue to focus on what it means to be a Christian community while we cannot gather together for worship and with God's help are still trying to live out our vision:

"Living life together in the flow of God's love."

PARISH PRAYER

Where the river flows, everything will live.

Where the river of God's love flows, everything will live.

Where the river of God's forgiveness flows, everything will live.

Where the river of God's joy flows, everything will live.

Where the river of God's blessing flows, everything will live.

Where the river of God's people's prayer flows, everything will live.

Where the river flows, everything will live.

Children & Families - Jane Penny is producing worship resources suitable for families and children available on the Tidenham Parish Facebook page and Tidenham Parish Online Church YouTube channel. Splash Families are invited to gather via Zoom at 3pm each Sunday. Please contact Jane for the link.

Church Family Photos - Please email a picture of yourself, your family so we can compile a family 'photo album' so we can see each other even though we cannot gather. Email or telephone to Jane Penny.

Church grounds Prayer Trail - During the next week prayer ideas will be appearing in the church grounds. If your daily walk takes you to one of the churches, please use these to stimulate your communication with God. Keep an eye on the Parish Facebook page for updates.

Financial Giving in the Parish - While we are in these restricted times it has been helpful for PCC in their review of finances to have the income both from regular banking orders and generous one off donations. Six more people have started standing orders and we would encourage anyone who is still undecided to do the same. Whenever we resume our services we will be reviewing the risks involved. As you will have witnessed in many places cash is being avoided as it is potential a means of disease transfer. It is thus highly likely that the use of cash collections will not be implemented at any of our 3 churches for some time. This may be the point at which you might wish to consider how you give into the future. For discussion and advice please contact Ewen on 01291 626158. Standing order and Gift Aid forms are available to download from the website. PCC wishes to thank all who have continued to give throughout the shutdown of the church buildings.

New mental health service – Qwell, a new online digital platform, provides anyone in Gloucestershire aged 18 years and above to access self care resources, information, peer support and access to trained counsellors. It is open to anyone experiencing issues with their emotional well-being, such as stress or anxiety and there is no need to be referred. This compliments a range of existing mental health services supporting those in the county.



TV BBC 1: This Sunday 14 June 2020 -

10:45 Sunday Worship, 11:15 Sunday Morning Stories, 13:15 Songs of Praise



I wonder whether you would like to be gripped and excited by Jesus. I wonder whether you would like the Christian faith to be more accessible to men. If so, then please ring me, James Parsons, for a chat on 07970 489362. Christian Vision for Men is one organisation that aims to do this. They have a range of resources available - for more information check out their web site at CVM.org.uk. Join James and others for a live streamed CVM event on Sunday evening at 8pm (James will send you a link) contact James for more details - james.darsie@gmail.com.



Good News – please do email in with any good news at this time.

There is a word search from the link magazine available on the facebook page.

TIDENHAM PARISH ONLINE LINKS AND CONTACTS

Parish Website: This has information, documents and links to other sites. <https://www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk>

Facebook page – all welcome to join and post comments. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/114300818701466/>

YouTube channel: 'Tidenham Parish Online Church' with videos and resources to assist you in your devotions. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkRjOlVDBT9M9usfhp2722w>

Life Group meetings via Zoom – please contact relevant people if you'd like to join in

- Wednesday 10.30am. DTRevd@aol.com
- Wednesday 8pm. fiona.m.gardiner@btinternet.com
- Wednesday 8pm. janice-hamilton@outlook.com
- Thursday 1.30pm. Jane cfmtidenham@btinternet.com

Other Online local resources

Daily Prayer via Zoom with CYTUN Monday to Friday at 8.45 for 9am start <https://zoom.us/j/122778377>

Cytun Churches Together Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/206786133181081/>

Chepstow's Virtual Café Online via Zoom Every Saturday at 2pm. Find the link on CYTUN Facebook page

Tidenham Parish Council www.tidenhamparishcouncil.co.uk has useful links and information

For the latest Church of England Covid 19 guidance which covers all kinds of issues including weddings, baptisms and funerals. <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

There are also some really helpful resources for prayer and worship on the Church of England website. Click on this

link... <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer-resources>

https://www.cte.org.uk/Articles/568755/Home/Coronavirus/Coronavirus_guidance_and.aspx

Tidenham Parish Contacts

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Clare Presley (Admin)	01291 627478	tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com
St Briavels & Hewelsfield website		www.stbandhchurches.org.uk
Prayer requests	tidenhamprayers@btinternet.com (by 12pm Wednesday for following Sunday)	