



"where the river flows everything will live"

WEEKLY PARISH BRIEFING SUNDAY 14 MARCH 2021

Covid Update

In light of the recent Government Roadmap announcement, the small midweek gatherings for Holy Communion have resumed at St Luke's Church at 11am and 12noon on Wednesdays. Places are limited, masks must be worn and social distancing maintained.

If you would like to attend please email Vicar David - DTRevd@aol.com or leave a message on 01291 760034.

We hope that other 'in person' worship and private prayer opportunities in church buildings will restart around Holy Week, in line with the easing of restrictions. In the meantime Sunday worship and other provision will continue to be available 'online.'

Mothering Sunday... 14th March!



Each year on the fourth Sunday of Lent, countries around the world have traditionally celebrated Mothering Sunday. This typically involves lavishing Mums with gifts and attention and celebrating the women who have nurtured us throughout our lives. Sadly, the Pandemic will once again prevent many of us from seeing our mums in person to say 'thank you.'

The good old C of E has certain traditions that have shaped Mothering Sunday into the celebration recognised today:

The Journey to the Mother Church

In the 16th century, Mothering Sunday was less about mothers and more about church. Back then, people would make a journey to their 'mother' church once a year. This might have been their home church, their nearest cathedral or a major parish church in a bigger town. The service which took place at the 'mother' church symbolised the coming together of families. This would have represented a significant journey for many.

A day off to visit Mother

Another tradition was to allow those working in the fields on wealthy farms and estates in England to have the day off on the fourth Sunday of Lent to visit their mothers and possibly go to church too. This was a variation on the theme of visiting the 'mother' church and was a move towards a more family focussed occasion. Before the days of cars and roads, family get-togethers were far rarer, (and Facetime and Zoom was still a long way off). In some ways this tradition is still alive today as grown up children often visit their parents on Mothering Sunday.

Simnel Cake



Simnel cake has a strong affiliation to Mothering Sunday as it is usually associated with spring and Easter. It resembles a Christmas fruit cake but should be slightly lighter in texture. The other difference is the two layers of marzipan. Simnel cake should have a layer of marzipan running through the middle like a Victoria sponge and then another layer of marzipan on the top. Traditionally, you should also roll some marzipan into eleven eggs and place these on the top. The eggs are supposed to symbolise the disciples who followed Jesus – note that Judas is excluded.

Church Times Article Highlights Volunteering During Pandemic

NEARLY five million people volunteered for the first time in their lives last year, a wide-ranging report on community spirit in the UK has found. Of the estimated 12.4 million people who volunteered during the pandemic, 4.6 million people were volunteering for the first time. Of these, 770,000 were aged between 18 and 24 years old; 360,000 had a disability or long-term illness; and 740,000 lived in the poorest fifth of neighbourhoods in the UK - all groups of people who were previously less likely to volunteer, it says.

The report, *Our Chance to Reconnect*, was published on Monday by the Talk/Together project, whose steering group is chaired by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The Church Times.

NO. 1400. THE 11th. LONDON, FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1921. (Published by subscription.)
SKEPPINGTON LIST: HOLY WEEK. GOOD FRIDAY, EASTER, &c.
The 11th of March is the day on which the Church of England celebrates the Feast of the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary. It is a day of special interest to the people of the West, and is one of the most beautiful of the year. The day is celebrated in many parts of the country, and is a day of great joy and devotion. The day is also a day of prayer and fasting, and is a day of great importance to the people of the Church.

Canon Tom - A reminder that on 19 March Tom will be admitted as a novice in the Anglican Order of Cistercians, please do pray for Tom.

Clare Presley - Unfortunately Clare's hip operation has been postponed, so Clare will be back to work until a new date for her operation has been arranged.

God bless

David

Vicar of Tidenham with Beachley and Lancaut and Priest in Charge of St Briavels with Hewelsfield & Brockweir.

Lent Continues... do join in if you can



Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm - Zoom Lent Course.

40 Days of Renewal - Noticing God in Everyday Things.

Here is the Zoom link for you to join the 7.30pm Lent gathering

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84395865106?pwd=TOlxYidYajNBbmRicDBwaXl5N2Zrdz09>

Meeting ID: 843 9586 5106 Passcode: 314970

Lent Pilgrimage at Home daily booklet BOOK 2... days 21-40!

Although we are still detached from one another we are all invited to journey together this Lent. As well as the Lent course on Wednesday evenings we have a daily devotional, with Book 2 now available. Hard copies are available in the porches of the five churches (Tidenham, Tutshill, Chase, St Briavels and Hewelsfield) or you can find the daily devotion on the Parish Facebook page or you can go to Instagram @tidenhamparishlent which has additional posts giving the background to some Lenten practices.

Services in Parish of Tidenham

The Fourth Sunday of Lent – Mothering Sunday

This Sunday we will continue to provide an online act of worship from 9am Sunday morning on our YouTube Channel 'Tidenham Parish Online Church'

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkRjOlvDBT9M9usfhp2722w>

For this week's Sunday's worship, please can you bring a pebble or small round object, which will be used for the prayer time. Thank you

Zoom Coffee 11.30am-12.15pm on Sunday Mornings during Lockdown.

As well as a chance to see one another and catch up, we have a chance to share life. What has made you smile in the week, and what might you want/need prayer for in the coming week? Feel free to join us.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82631968802?pwd=N3hyak5IL3hnRXlVV3NtelVtVG0zZz09>

Meeting ID: 826 3196 8802, Passcode: 497225

The Bible readings: 1 Samuel 1:2-end & Luke 2:33-35

The 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.

Post Communion Prayer: Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Morning Prayer on zoom.

We continue our online provision of morning prayer with CYTUN, Churches Together in Chepstow, Monday to Thursday online at 9.00am <https://zoom.us/j/122778377> All are welcome to join in.

Wednesdays: 9:15am prayer for YCFM.

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78170531212?pwd=cVcrZEJmSDdKWfJyelBtencvSVlYQT09>

Meeting ID: 781 7053 1212 Passcode: 2vKKGp

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

- Sunday 7.30pm – Life Group for men! Online - James Parsons at James.darsie@gmail.com
- Tuesday 1pm - Life Group Online - Julia Parsons juliaparsons727@gmail.com
- Wednesday, 7.30pm Life Group online (**not during Lent**) fiona.m.gardiner@btinternet.com
- Wednesday 8pm – Life Group Online (**not during Lent**) janice-hamilton@outlook.com
- Thursday 1pm - Life Group Online – Jane Penny cfmtidenham@btinternet.com

Parish News and Information

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

Scarecrow Trail 2021 - The route has changed slightly this year and we need Scarecrow hosts along Coleford Road (as well as Sedbury Lane and Severn Avenue). If you are interested please contact Jane or Susan on tutshillscarecrow@yahoo.com as soon as possible.



Thank you

Sedbury Space Newsletter is now available. If you would like a copy please phone Susan on 07522 178639 or email info@sedburyspace@gmail.com.

Fairtrade Easter Eggs – We wanted to alert you that this range has moved online as supermarkets have failed to make space for the UK's only egg which shares the Easter story and support Fairtrade.

David Marshall, from The Meaningful Chocolate Company, said: "We have supplied supermarkets since 2010. Last year, with Easter at the start of lockdown, the supermarkets had a disastrous time as people stayed away from high streets. This year, supermarket buyers were told to cut brands and this has included The Real Easter Egg. So if you are one of the 80,000 people who usually buy a Real Easter Egg from Tesco, Waitrose, ASDA or Morrisons then go online and order direct."

All Real Easter Eggs come with an Easter story in the box. They provide an opportunity to share the joy of Easter with friends and family. The 2021 Original Real Easter Egg includes a new 24-page Easter story activity book. It features a rainbow design to remind us of the importance of working together, in amazing and inspiring ways, for the common good. It costs £4.50 and is delivered in multiples of six or as singles. Order your eggs now direct from www.realeasteregg.co.uk.

'The Bulletin' from the Diocese of Gloucester - keeping you up to date with news from the Diocese, please follow this link <https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/2021/the-bulletin-02-03-21/>

Daily Hope - Is a free national telephone line which offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of the phone 0800 804 8044.

Annual Revision of Church Electoral Roll - Tidenham Parish.

The existing church electoral roll is posted on all Church notice boards, along with the formal legal notice of the proposed annual revision in advance of this year's Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM /AGM) on Sunday 25 April. The PCC will revise the roll between Sunday 21 March and Sunday 4 April.

If you are not on the church electoral roll, and wish to register please contact Iain on 01291 624868 or email i.a.gardiner007@btinternet.com for an application form. These should be returned to Iain Gardiner, Church electoral roll officer by Sunday 4 April.

Financial Support

If you would like to make a gift to the Church and also consider ongoing regular financial giving into 2021. Bank details are Tidenham Parochial Church, Sort Code 30-91-89 & Account number 00304754. Standing order and Gift Aid forms are available to download from the website. PCC wishes to thank all who have continued to give generously this year.



TIDENHAM PARISH ONLINE LINKS AND CONTACTS

Parish Website: This has information, documents and links to other sites.

<https://www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk>

Facebook Page – for communicating news & info to the wider community. Please 'follow' or 'like'.

<https://facebook.com/tidenhamparishchurch>

Facebook Group - all welcome to join this private group and post comments.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/114300818701466/>

YouTube channel: 'Tidenham Parish Online Church' with videos to assist your devotions.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UcKriOlVDBT9M9usfhp2722w>

St Briavels & Hewelsfield website: www.stbandhchurches.org.uk

Revd David Treharne	01291 760034	dtrevid@aol.com
Revd Janice Hamilton	01291 626158	janice-hamilton@outlook.com
Revd Nicki Bullivant	07922 833835	benedictusnicki@gmail.com (Parish Day is Thursday)
Revd David Rees	01594 530443	david.rees17@btinternet.com
Revd Canon Dr Tom Clammer	01722 504938	tomclammer@gmail.com
Fiona Gardiner	01291 624868	fiona.m.gardiner@btinternet.com
James Parsons	07970 489362	james.darsie@gmail.com
Jane Penny	01594 563803	cfmtidenham@btinternet.com (urgent only Mon/Fri)
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