



*"where the river flows everything will live"*

## **THE PARISH OF TIDENHAM (& St Briavels and Hewelsfield & Brockweir)** **WEEKLY PARISH BRIEFING SUNDAY 17 May 2020**

### **In the middle of all that's happening God is at work!**



Church leader Pete Greig (of the 24/7 prayer movement) reports on the increase in prayer activity within the UK. A Tearfund survey indicates that some 3 million new people have turned to prayer in the UK since lockdown began. Sales of Bibles have increased and Tearfund also reports record numbers attending church online. Normally about 5-7% of the UK population attend a Sunday act of worship. Now numbers indicate it is 24%! A few months ago who would have expected The Guardian newspaper to have a headline saying "British public turn to prayer as one in four tune in to religious services."

*Vicar David (pictured left on a good day, and right after last Sunday's tech failure) ...*



### **A plea**

The Internet is proving to be a lifeline for communication and seems to be reaching new people with the Gospel. However, the increased reliance on technology can also be stressful, with last Sunday morning proving to be a very stressful peak for me when, for no apparent reason, the YouTube live streaming didn't work. This left a number of individuals not being able to access local worship on Sunday morning and wondering why their TV, computer, tablet or phone wasn't working. As you can imagine I felt really bad about this, and I'm really sorry if you were in that category!



I am therefore making an appeal to see who might be willing and able to assist with IT issues over the coming weeks and months? With restrictions to public gatherings unlikely to change anytime soon I would like us as a church to be able to provide access to worship material online. However I/we will need support with editing & producing pre-recorded videos that involve different people's contributions; assistance with the process of live streaming at home and when permitted, from the church building too. So if you have the skills and are willing to assist with one or several aspects of the above do **please** let me know asap!

### **Preparing for Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit**

Between Ascension Day (Thurs 21 May) and Pentecost (10 days later on the 31 May) we will be praying, as the disciples did, for the coming of the Holy Spirit. I invite you to join in praying at 7pm each day from Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> May until Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May on Zoom. Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83617962756?pwd=RW9qNDIYajJPbzhVZnN4cUs3OUNZQT09>

Come Holy Spirit and renew the face of the earth  
God bless

*Rev'd David Treharne*

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

## Up Coming Services

### PRAYERS AND BIBLE READINGS for the 6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY of EASTER (17 May)

There will be a reflection on the readings by Revd Janice, premiered on the YouTube channel 'Tidenham Parish Online Church' at 10.30am on Sunday 17 May. There will be an order of service available on the website (news tab) and facebook page with suggested liturgy, songs and prayers for you to craft your own service to frame the reflection. You may like to use the introductory material prior to the 10.30am start.



Following the service, at 11.15am you are invited to join Janice on zoom for an 'agape meal', sharing bread and wine together (provide your own or alternative food and drink!) This will hopefully be streamed live on youtube for those who can't access zoom. This will flow straight into our coffee time together at 11.30am 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/83672456422?pwd=T3hZZDQ5T2pleXlnbDVvSUFvYngzQT09>

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

The Bible readings for this coming Sunday are: **Acts 17:22-31 and John 14:15-21**

#### **The Collect for this Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter is:**

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father.

#### **Ascension Day: Thursday 21 May**

Ascension Day is a really important Christian feast day. It is the 40<sup>th</sup> day of Easter and recalls the moment Jesus left his disciples on earth and returned to his Father in heaven, his earthly work of salvation fully completed.



8am: Breakfast on Zoom. We usually gather for breakfast at 6am, but this year we'll gather on Zoom to share this meal together and celebrate Ascension Day. Click on this link to download and join the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89749490372?pwd=Ry9LWnMzVlgwbmtqblBlcm1mSGJ2Zz09>

There will also be a little service on the YouTube channel, 'Tidenham Parish Online Church.' Do take a look.

#### **Praying Daily between Ascension and Pentecost for the coming of the Holy Spirit**

Between Ascension Day (Thurs 21 May) and Pentecost (10 days later on 31 May) we will be praying for the coming of the Holy Spirit. I invite you to join in praying daily at 7pm from Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> May until Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May on Zoom. Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83617962756?pwd=RW9qNDIYajJPbzhVZnN4cUs3OUNZQT09>

Holy Communion for Ascension day will be streamed live to the parish Facebook page at 12 noon.

These times should also appear on Parish YouTube channel or Parish Facebook page and the resources will also be available to download on the Parish website.

### PRAYER REQUESTS FROM THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

Prayer



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

[tidenhamprayers@btinternet.com](mailto: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 17 May**

### Thanksgiving

For all the key workers who serve their communities, especially doctors, nurses, midwives and all those who work in hospitals, surgeries and other medical settings.

For the communities where we live. For the positives we see in everyday life.

That despite the circumstances we can give thanks to God for blessings in our lives.

For communication, via phone, internet and letter.

Thank God for the beauty of his creation all around us.

For the lowering in pollution levels.

### Intercession

Locally:

For all the business owners who are struggling during this time both financially and emotionally.

As some start to reopen, let's pray for them and support them by patronising them if we are able.

For all affected financially at present, especially the unemployed.

For all who are bereaved, especially Susan Riordan and family, David Rees and family, the Clammer family, family and friends of Des.

For all who are feeling isolated or lonely at present, that they would know God alongside them. (Romans 8:38-39)

For all who are sick/suffering in any way.

For our local schools, teachers, staff and pupils.

For all parents, especially those managing work, childcare and education.

For all who work or live in care homes. For their protection.

Nationally:

For our nation as the lockdown continues – with some extra 'freedoms'

For our government, that they would have wisdom in decision making

For our bishops, Rachel and Robert; our archbishops, Justin and John, that they would be guided by God over decisions concerning worship and access to church buildings

Internationally:

For the work of Christian Aid: for specific prayers:

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-04/Coronavirus%20CAW20%20prayers%20.pdf>

### **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.

### **PARISH NEWS UPDATE**

Despite not being able to gather publicly while our church buildings remain closed, our life together as a church family hasn't stopped. We now focus on what it means to be a Christian community while we cannot gather together for worship.

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen

## Church of England Statement following government guidance on Covid 19



The Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally, said: "We note from the Government's COVID-19 Recovery Strategy that churches could be open from July as part of the conditional and phased plan to begin lifting the lockdown. We look forward to the time when we are able to gather again in our church buildings.

*"We are examining what steps we will need to take to do so safely and are actively planning ahead in preparation. We strongly support the Government's approach of continuing to suppress the transmission of the virus and accordingly, we recognise that at this time public worship cannot return in the interests of public health and safety."*

**Children & Families** - Jane Penny is producing worship resources suitable for families and children which will be available via email.

### Christian Aid

This Parish has been a fantastic supporter of Christian Aid, especially during Christian Aid week which was due to take place this last week. Sadly the Coronavirus has meant that we have been unable to undertake house to house collection or fundraising in the usual way. We all know that the worldwide problems of war, drought and poverty haven't disappeared and that they will be compounded because of the Coronavirus. We also know that we are intimately connected as a whole human family. If you feel moved to do so I encourage you to make an online donation to Christian Aid to reach out to our neighbours!

<https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week>



**Other Languages** – If you can pray the Lord's Prayer in a language other than English please email Vicar David [DTRevd@aol.com](mailto:DTRevd@aol.com)



**VE Day** – 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day. Thank you Ruth for enabling us to commemorate a really important and hopeful day in our history. Catch what Ruth did online!



**TV BBC 1** – Sunday 17 May. 10.45am – Sunday Worship. 1.15pm – Songs of Praise.



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

**Wordsearch** - I know of quite a few people doing quizzes with others online. Tanya has provided a wordsearch. Take a look on the Parish Facebook page.

**Self-Isolating** - If you find yourself in the position of having to self-isolate or know of anyone else in the church family who is, please let us know by emailing - [tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com](mailto:tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com) .

**Volunteering** - As well as supporting the Chepstow Covid 19 Helping Group, we are hoping to partner Gloucester Diocese with 'Feeding the 5000'; a scheme to provide frozen home-style meals to those in

PLEASE HELP US FEED THOSE  
IN NEED DURING THE COVID-19  
CRISIS.

£25 PAYS FOR SEVEN  
DELICIOUS, HEALTHY MEALS  
FOR ONE PERSON  
DELIVERED TO THEIR DOOR.

[WWW.GLOUCESTER.ANGLICAN.ORG/FEEDING-THE-5000](http://WWW.GLOUCESTER.ANGLICAN.ORG/FEEDING-THE-5000)

FEEDING  
THE  
5,000  
DIOCESE OF  
GLOUCESTER  
THE LONG TABLE

need, either free or at very reasonable cost. Please email Clare -

[tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com](mailto:tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com) if you can help with deliveries or collection of meals from Bream, or would like to help with co-ordinating the scheme and also if you know anyone who may be able to benefit from these meals.

Contact details of the COVID-19 Helping group co-ordinators in each area are on the website [www.tidenhamparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.tidenhamparishcouncil.co.uk)

**Pastoral Care of the Church Family** – A number of people within our Parishes have had bereavement in recent weeks. You are very much in our prayers. May God be with you in a special way. DO keep in touch with and support one another through this time. A reminder that if anyone from the church rings you the CHURCH is ringing you. However, if you are aware of someone struggling please do contact a member of the Team.



**Stay safe online** – Sadly there has been an increase in attempted scamming online, including some emails going saying they are from the Vicar (but aren't). Always check what emails you open. Please don't disclose any personal or financial information, be aware of grooming, stay safe and enjoy the important online connections.



**Financial Giving** - Thank you to all those who have reviewed their giving and either started standing orders or made one-off donations. Standing order and gift aid forms are available to download from the website. Please contact Ewen or Clare for any assistance.

## **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/UChRjOlVDBT9M9usfhp2722w>

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

- Wednesday 10.30am. [DTRevd@aol.com](mailto:DTRevd@aol.com)
- Wednesday 8pm. [fiona.m.gardiner@btinternet.com](mailto:fiona.m.gardiner@btinternet.com)
- Wednesday 8pm. [janice-hamilton@outlook.com](mailto:janice-hamilton@outlook.com)
- Thursday 1.30pm. Jane [cfmtidenham@btinternet.com](mailto: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](http://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](https://www.cte.org.uk/Articles/568755/Home/Coronavirus/Coronavirus_guidance_and.aspx)

### **Tidenham Parish Contacts**

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|-----------------------------------|--------------|--|
| Revd David Treharne               | 01291 760034 | <a href="mailto:dtrevid@aol.com">dtrevid@aol.com</a>                                 |
| Revd Janice Hamilton              | 01291 626158 | <a href="mailto:janice-hamilton@outlook.com">janice-hamilton@outlook.com</a>         |
| Revd David Rees                   | 01594 530443 | <a href="mailto:david.rees17@btinternet.com">david.rees17@btinternet.com</a>         |
| Revd Canon Dr Tom Clammer         | 01722 504938 | <a href="mailto:tomclammer@gmail.com">tomclammer@gmail.com</a>                       |
| Fiona Gardiner                    | 01291 624868 | <a href="mailto:fiona.m.gardiner@btinternet.com">fiona.m.gardiner@btinternet.com</a> |
| James Parsons                     | 07970 489362 | <a href="mailto:james@esnadene.plus.com">james@esnadene.plus.com</a>                 |
| Jane Penny                        | 01594 563803 | <a href="mailto:cfmtidenham@btinternet.com">cfmtidenham@btinternet.com</a>           |
| Ethan Richards                    | 07933 249210 | <a href="mailto:tidenhamyouth@gmail.com">tidenhamyouth@gmail.com</a>                 |
| Clare Presley (Admin)             | 01291 627478 | <a href="mailto:tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com">tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com</a>       |
| St Briavels & Hewelsfield website |              | <a href="http://www.stbandhchurches.org.uk">www.stbandhchurches.org.uk</a>           |

Prayer requests [tidenhamprayers@btinternet.com](mailto:tidenhamprayers@btinternet.com) (by 12pm Wednesday for following Sunday)