



"where the river flows everything will live"

THE PARISH OF TIDENHAM (& St Briavels and Hewelsfield & Brockweir)

WEEKLY PARISH BRIEFING SUNDAY 2 AUGUST 2020



Message from Bishop Rachel

Small can be beautiful

Yesterday's gospel reading for Holy Communion was Matthew 13: 31-35 in which Jesus likens the kingdom of heaven to a mustard seed that is sown in a field and grows into an enormous tree.

It is a powerful image and led me to reflect on how these past few months have in many ways been a season of small things which have grown large. A tiny virus has grown into something huge, which has had a devastating impact across the world. Yet we have also seen small acts of love, justice and kindness which have grown into something beautiful and life-giving.

Jesus' parable speaks of something small growing into something enormous and yet it is not primarily about celebrating size, but rather celebrating what that growth enables as the birds of the air find their home in the tree's branches. When the Kingdom of God is experienced there is generous hospitality, inclusivity and belonging. Here is community.

As we move into August, Bishop Robert and I want to say thank you for all the small seeds of the Kingdom that have been planted in many different ways and places across this diocese and indeed the world, not least in relationships with our partner dioceses. We continue to pray for God to water that seed in the weeks and months ahead.

Rest and relaxation is also frequently made up of small things. This August may we take time to notice the small things of beauty and life, and take time to enjoy what we too often dismiss as insignificant. The goodness of small things can lead to new growth in our lives as we find ourselves discovering more of what it means to enter into life in all its fullness, and as we go on becoming the people God has called us to be individually and together.

This comes with continued thanks and prayers.
Bishop Rachel

Services/Gatherings:

Sunday, 2 August 2020 - the 8th Sunday after Trinity

9.30am: St Mary the Virgin Church, St Briavels - Morning Prayer



10am: St Mary & St Peter's Church, Tidenham - A simple celebration of the Eucharist
(Pre booking is required contact Clare 01291 627478, tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com)

11am: St Mary Magdalene Church Hewelsfield – Morning Worship

On Wednesday, 5 August there will be a celebration of Holy Communion with the reserved Sacrament at 10.30 am in St Briavels Church. Please advise Rev.David Rees if you are going to attend on 01594 530443 email david.rees17@btinternet.com.

Online: Tidenham Parish Online Church YouTube channel

There will be a service during which David Rees will be preaching on 'called to be free.' This will be available from 9am on Sunday morning. Details will also appear on the Parish website (the 'News' tab) & Parish Facebook page.

Zoom Coffee Time: You are invited to gather on Zoom at 11.30am for 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/89127603577?pwd=aVovU3ArTTdVRjdGbDVxekt4NTVkJ09>

Meeting ID: 891 2760 3577

Password: 262874

The Bible readings for this Sunday are: Psalm 27:1-6 & 13-14, Galatians 5:13-end, John 8:31-36

The Collect for this Sunday: Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

TV BBC 1: This Sunday 2 August 2020



9.30 Sunday Morning LIVE (just before Homes under the Hammer!!!)
13:15 Songs of Praise

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 2 August

Where The River Flows everything shall live. Ezekiel 47:9

PRAISE GOD for all the signs of His life flowing: new babies being born. Relationships being developed and restored.

PRAISE GOD that we are able to gather physically as parts of the Body of Christ.

PRAISE GOD for the Parish Life Groups and the support/connection they provide.

THANK GOD for all our families and the joy & inspiration that children bring.

THANK GOD for all the keyworkers who are still giving their time and energy to serve the community.

THANK GOD for His AMAZING LOVE for us all. John 3:16

THANK GOD for forgiveness and salvation through Jesus Christ.

THANK GOD for HOLY SPIRIT and His guidance. 2 Corinthians 1:22

Intercede:

For the lonely, that God will surround them with His eternal love.

For those who are fearful that they would know the complete love that casts out fear. 1 John 4:18

For the sick and suffering, that they will turn to God as their source of healing and strength.

For those who grieve that they will know God's comfort and support. Matthew 5:4

For our Parish Schools: Offa's Mead Academy, St Briavels, St John's on the Hill, Tutshill, Wydean... that all staff would have a good rest and be refreshed for the new term.

For all children and young people, especially those transitioning to a new place of education, for them to know God with them.

That we may all learn to become like little children, trusting our Father in heaven to provide our needs.

For our government and leaders, for Godly wisdom and clear communication.

For our church leaders, nationally and locally, for good rest over the summer.

That we will all be open to God, able to sense His guidance for our lives.

For our Parish, all who live or work here... that God's life giving Spirit will guide and lead us as we move forward in the flow of His 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.

Parish News and Information *"Living life together in the flow of God's love."*

Parish of Tidenham Survey - A big thank you for those who have completed the survey and the responses are now being collated. However, if you would still like to submit your response to the survey it's not too late but please do so by 9th August. A reminder of what the survey is about: it's to all our church family members, and those of you associated with the Parish, to get a better sense of your feelings and thoughts about the current situation with worship and church buildings. There are only ten questions, if you could spare five to ten minutes to complete it that would be really helpful. The responses are anonymous – the link for the survey is <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GHM7ZTT>

Children & Families - Jane Penny has produced worship resources suitable for families and children available on the Tidenham Parish Facebook page and Tidenham Parish Online Church YouTube channel.

Splash gathering - at 12:30pm on Sunday 2nd August in the church grounds... please contact Jane on 07856 679387 for more details.

Church Buildings Open within the Parishes...



St Luke's Church - will be open 9am-4pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday through August **unsupervised**.

If you would like to volunteer to open, close and wipe clean areas at the end of the day, please contact Clare tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com. Many thanks!

Please be aware that there may be small groups meeting occasionally in the church building during the week. If you arrive at such a time you will be able to access the choir stalls in order to pray privately.

Please note that we have been given guidance if you are in the clinical vulnerable category (e.g over 70's) we are currently unable to accept your kind offers to volunteer at this time, but a big thank you for the offers!



Tidenham Chase - St Michael & All Angels' Church will be open Saturdays only 10am-4pm for private prayer and reflection.



Hewelsfield – St Mary Magdalene Church Hewelsfield is open daily 9am-4pm for private prayer and reflection.



St Briavels - St Mary's church is open between 10am-12 noon daily for private prayer and reflection.



Church grounds Prayer Trail - Prayer Trails are now located in the grounds of all our church buildings: Tutshill, Tidenham and Chase. Copies of prayer prompts also available on Parish Facebook Page or by emailing tidenhamprayers@btinternet.com

Holy Communion at the Vicarage – Vicar David will resume the midweek services of Holy Communion in the Vicarage Garden after a break in August. Look out for details in the briefing.

Financial Giving in the Parish - For discussion and advice about electronic giving please contact Ewen on 01291 626158 or email ewen.hamilton@outlook.com. 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.



CVM (Christian Vision for Men) - Sunday evenings at 8pm



The CVM live shows have stopped for the summer but this new men's group will continue. If you would like to learn more about this group and the work of this Christian organisation please give James Parsons a call on 07970 489362 or james.darsie@gmail.com CVM's website is - <https://cvm.org.uk>



New mental health service – Qwell, provides anyone in Gloucestershire over 18 years, access to self-care resources, information, peer support and access to trained counsellors <https://www.qwell.io>

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.



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

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/UcRjOlVDBT9M9usfhp2722w>

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

- Sunday 8pm – for men! James Parsons at James.darsie@gmail.com
- 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

Revd David Treharne	01291 760034	dtrevid@aol.com
Revd Janice Hamilton	01291 626158	janice-hamilton@outlook.com
Nicki Bullivant (Curate)	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
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St Briavels & Hewelsfield website		www.stbandhchurches.org.uk
Prayer requests	tidenhamprayers@btinternet.com	(by 12pm Wednesday for following Sunday)