



*"where the river flows everything will live"*

**THE PARISH OF TIDENHAM (& St Briavels with Hewelsfield & Brockweir)**

**WEEKLY PARISH BRIEFING SUNDAY 20 DECEMBER 2020**

**Over the coming days up to and including Christmas there will be many opportunities in the Parishes to worship the Lord safely in our church buildings, outside or online! All are welcome!**

**Love!**

We have lit 3 of our Advent candles; the candle of hope, the candle of peace and the candle of joy. On the fourth Sunday of Advent we light the candle of love. God is love (1 John 4:7) and in the coming of Christ Jesus we see the coming of love into the world and into our lives to bring life, eternal life (John 3:16). Jesus shows us the way to live and the way of love. Does not the world need to find the way of love again? If so, it needs to find God... it needs to find Jesus! Here's what Christina Rossetti (1830-1894) and others write about love ...



*Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love Divine,  
Love was born at Christmas, Star and Angels gave the sign.  
Worship we the Godhead, Love Incarnate, Love Divine,  
Worship we our Jesus, But wherewith for sacred sign?  
Love shall be our token, Love be yours and love be mine,  
Love to God and all men, Love for plea and gift and sign.*

Christina Rossetti

"The birth of the baby Jesus stands as the most significant event in all history, because it has meant the pouring into a sick world of the healing medicine of love, which has transformed all manner of hearts for almost two thousand years." George Matthew Adams

"He (God) loved us not because we are lovable, but because He is love." C. S. Lewis

"The world does not understand theology or dogma, but it understands love and sympathy."  
Dwight L. Moody

"The hunger for love is much more difficult to remove than the hunger for bread." Mother Teresa

"To love someone means to see him as God intended him." Dostoevsky

"What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like." Augustine

"Though our feelings come and go, God's love for us does not." C.S. Lewis

"There is no pit so deep, that God's love is not deeper still." Corrie Ten Boom

May the love of God grow within you and me as it did in the womb of Mary.  
God bless you

**David**

Revd David Treharne

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

## Following the national lockdown public worship is taking place.



The Fourth Sunday of Advent, Sunday 20 December 2020.

**9am: Traditional 9 Lessons & Carols:** available on the Parish YouTube Channel 'Tidenham Parish Online Church.'

**9.30am: St Mary & St Peter's Church, Tidenham:** Holy Communion

**11.00am: St Luke's Church, Tutshill: Morning Worship.**

*(Pre booking is necessary please contact Clare 01291 627478 or [tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com](mailto:tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com))*

**8.30am: St Mary the Virgin Church, St Briavels: Holy Communion, Book of Common Prayer**

**9.30am: St Mary the Virgin Church, St Briavels: Family Eucharist**

**3.00pm: St Briavels Community Carol Service at 3pm outside the Pavilion**

**5.30pm: St Mary Magdalene Church Hewelsfield Carols in the Churchyard**

**The Bible readings for Advent 4:** Romans 16:25-end & Luke 1:26-38

**The Collect** Advent 4: God our redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our Saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Post Communion** prayer: Heavenly Father, who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the promised Saviour: fill us your servants with your grace, that in all things we may embrace your holy will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Morning Prayer in the Parishes.**

Mondays: St Mary & St Peter's Tidenham at 9.30am

Tuesdays: Zoom online at 9.00am <https://zoom.us/j/122778377>

Wednesdays: St Luke's at 9.00am, Followed at 9:15am by prayer for YCFM

Thursdays: St Briavels at 9.00am

Morning Prayer will not take place publicly between Christmas Day and Monday 4 January.



**Mid-Week Communion.** Holy Communion (socially distanced) will be available in St Luke's on Wednesday 23 December at 11am and 12noon. Please contact Clare to book 01291 627478 [tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com](mailto:tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com)

**Community Carols and Christmas Quiz** – Tuesday 22 December at 7pm, join in the interactive Premier on You-tube, featuring musical items and greetings from the local schools, businesses, church and community groups. Christmas Trivia rounds and a Riddle add more festive fun. Find the link on our Facebook page and website.

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

- Sunday 7.30pm – for men! Taking a break over Christmas, James Parsons at [James.darsie@gmail.com](mailto:James.darsie@gmail.com)
- Tuesday 1pm - Life Group Online - Julia Parsons [juliaparsons727@gmail.com](mailto:juliaparsons727@gmail.com)
- Wednesday 10.30am (hopefully restarting soon) [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 1pm - Life Group Online – Jane Penny [cfmtidenham@btinternet.com](mailto:cfmtidenham@btinternet.com)

### **Parish News and Information**

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

**Rotas** - We are collating a rota of people to do readings and lead prayers at both Tutshill and Tidenham Churches over the next few months. If you are interested in being involved please contact Clare. If you are unable to get to the church but would like to contribute, we might be able to arrange for someone to film you or you could send us a recording.

**Christmas Cards** – If you have Christmas cards for the church community, you can leave them on the table in the back of St Luke’s Church or pop them in the red post box. Please check the table for your own post and stay safe remembering the COVID guidelines. Any cards not collected will be recycled in the New Year.

**Food Bank Donations** - Approximately 80 gift bags have been delivered and it's a special blessing that 35 of these were for teenagers, who are traditionally a difficult group to buy for. Jesus says, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25 verse 40. Thank you for your kind donations Jane Penny & Sue Thompson. Next collection is 13 January.

**Traidcraft Prize Draw Dec 2020** - All Traidcraft orders made with Julia in autumn 2020 were entered into a prize draw for a Fairtrade hamper, and runner up prize of a mini Fairtrade hamper. The winning names were drawn out of the bag on December 5, congratulations to Jan Lock and Clare Presley. Julia presented the prizes at a distance.



**St Luke’s Church** is looking for two cleaners to help approx 1.5 hours per month, if you are interested please contact Nicholette, thank you.

**Tearfund** - Thank you to your congregation’s gift of £400. This has meant families are no longer going hungry. 2 million people left Venezuela due to the social and economic troubles, families could not feed their children. Fortunately, thanks to the generosity of churches like yours, people like Alejandra and her family now have enough to eat. Every month they receive food baskets provided by our local partner.



*‘My children now drink milk and their weight has increased. They are healthier because they have food,’ she says. ‘[Before] sometimes what we earned was enough for only one meal a day. But my son told me this morning that he was very grateful to God and to you for the help you are giving us.’*

Thank you for your congregation’s willingness to walk with us as we share the love of Jesus, in the most practical ways, with people in need around the world, Fiona Michael (*Tearfund Cymru Wales Team Leader*).

### **Financial Support**

Without our usual Sunday gatherings in our church buildings financial giving to the Parish(es) has inevitably reduced. Please can we ask that you consider making a gift to the Church this December 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.



**Charitable Donations** - Tidenham Parish Churches have generously donated to the following charities in the past on behalf of its parishioners via the church collections. Without these collections this year the PCC have directly provided bank details below of charities if you wish to make a donation. Thank you.

**Crisis**, Bank sort code: 16-00-30, Account number: 12011155

**Tearfund**, Bank sort code: 20-00-00, Account number: 53803058

**Barnabas Fund**, Bank sort code: 20-26-53, Account number: 50133299

**Embrace the Middle East**, Bank sort code: 60-11-01, Account number: 15540464

**GARAS**, Bank sort code: 40-22-09, Account number: 01771671

Further details of ways to donate, and how to make a donation by Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer, can be found on the websites of each of the charities.

## Christmas Services in the Parish of Tidenham



### Sunday 13 December

9.30am St Mary & St Peter, Tidenham

11am St Luke's, Tutshill

### Sunday 20 December

9.30am St Mary & St Peter, Tidenham

11am St Luke's, Tutshill

Online pre-recorded service of Nine Lessons and Carols

### Tuesday 22 December

7pm Online Community Carols and Christmas Quiz

### Christmas Eve

3.30pm Bobble Hats and Lanterns Crib Service outside St Luke's, Tutshill

9pm Midnight Mass, St Luke's, Tutshill

11.15pm Midnight Mass, St Mary & St Peter, Tidenham

*(We hope to livestream one of the Midnight Mass services)*

### Christmas Day

9am Online Christmas Message & Blessing from Vicar David with 'O Come All Ye Faithful' and 'We Wish You A Merry Christmas' via the Tidenham Parish Online Church YouTube channel.

9am Holy Communion, St Mary & St Peter, Tidenham

10am Carols outside St Luke's, Tutshill – singing is permitted outside

### Sunday 27 December

No service in Tidenham Parish, you are invited to join the worship at Gloucester Cathedral Gloucester -

<https://www.gloucestercathedral.org.uk/services-live-stream>

### Sunday 3 January

9.30am Epiphany Carol Service, St Mary & St Peter, Tidenham

11am Family Communion outside, St Luke's, Tutshill

### Mid-Week Holy Communion

11am & 12 noon at St Luke's, Tutshill on Wednesday 23 December

*(We hope to restart Holy Communion on Wednesday 13 January)*

**For all services in a church building please book in advance due to COVID restrictions contact Clare at [tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com](mailto:tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com) or 01291 627478**

### 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>

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Revd Nicki Bullivant	07922 833835	<a href="mailto:benedictusnicki@gmail.com">benedictusnicki@gmail.com</a> (Parish Day is Thursday)
Revd David Rees	01594 530443	<a href="mailto:david.rees17@btinternet.com">david.rees17@btinternet.com</a>
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