



"where the river flows everything will live"

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

WEEKLY PARISH BRIEFING SUNDAY 23 AUGUST 2020

In our online service this week, on the theme 'Called to be transformed', there is a beautiful rendition of a popular song that we sing at St Luke's 'Lord, I come to you'. It's been crafted by Jenny Shaw, playing at least three instruments and singing both melody & harmonies...all at once! The wonders of modern technology!!

The song is essentially a prayer seeking transformation by the power of God's love. The chorus speaks of waiting on the Lord and rising on wings like an eagle. These lyrics echo words of the prophet Isaiah 40:31

Do you not know? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not grow tired or weary; and his understanding no-one can fathom.

²⁹ He gives strength to the weary, and increases the power of the weak.

³⁰ Even youths grow faint and weary,
and the young stumble and fall;

³¹ but those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength,
they will soar on wings like eagles,
they shall run and not grow weary,
they shall walk and not be faint.



Reflecting on this image of the soaring eagle I felt it described how I'm feeling at the moment and possibly the place of our church community too. With Vicar David's call to rest, gather and pray over the summer it's as if we're riding the thermals of God's Spirit. By doing this the eagle conserves energy but it's not an idle resting. The eagle needs to keep wings outstretched and feel the currents underneath to keep balanced and in the flow of the air. It is also watchful and ready with its eagle-eyes peeled. The higher it rises the better the perspective it has of the ground below.

Similarly, during this resting period we need to remain attentive to the moves of God's Spirit so that we can remain in the 'flow of his love' and not become apathetic or earthbound. It's also a watching and listening time, so that we can seek a more Godly sense of perspective on life and so that we're ready to follow where he leads at (but not until) the right moment.

The summer is racing on and a new term will soon be beginning with schools tentatively returning to normal. Let's make the most of these remaining August days to watchfully pray, conserving energy and sensing the move of the Spirit as we wait and rise on wings like eagles.

Revd Janice Hamilton

Pioneer Curate

Services/Gatherings:

Face coverings must be worn in the church buildings (unless you are exempt), thank you.

Sunday, 23 August 2020 - the 11th Sunday after Trinity

9.30am: St Mary the Virgin Church, St Briavels



10am: St Mary & St Peter's Church, Tidenham – Holy Communion

(Pre booking is required contact Clare 01291 627478 tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com)

11am: St Mary Magdalene Church Hewelsfield

Online: Tidenham Parish Online Church YouTube channel

This week, our online service features a nostalgic moment of a video by our young people of yesteryear, a dramatised reading by the multi-generational White family, songs by Roger Martin, Jenny Shaw and a few of the St Luke's music group, some unfolding paper prayers by Jane Penny (download your own copy from Facebook) and Revd Janice doing some garden upkeep and trying to capture footage of butterflies! All these frame a message from our reader James Parsons, on the theme 'Called to be transformed'. The service will be available from 9am on our YouTube channel 'Tidenham Online Parish Church'.

Zoom Coffee Time: You are invited to gather on Zoom at 11.30am for coffee time together. The link will be published on the website by Vicar David on his return.

The Bible readings for this Sunday are: Romans 12:1-2 and Luke 19:1-10

The Collect for this Sunday: God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Post Communion prayer for this Sunday is: Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace: by our communion keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

TV BBC 1: This Sunday 23 August 2020

10.00 Sunday Morning LIVE

13:15 Songs of Praise with Kate Bottley

Daily Hope - The Church of England have announced a new free phone line for you to ring to hear comforting hymns, daily prayers and reflections 0800 804 8044

Sunday 6 September – 'Family Gathering' followed by a picnic lunch, bring your own picnic, blanket, chairs etc, 11.15am for 11.30am. Time for socially distanced outdoor worship, which is suitable for all ages and stages of life and faith everybody welcome please book your place with Jane Penny.

Prayer Gathering for Youth, Children and Families Ministry - Wednesday mornings 9:15am at St Luke's outside if the weather is dry, inside if not. Contact Jane Penny for more information.

YouTube Channel playlists

Don't forget to check out the new play-lists on our YouTube Channel.

Facebook Group and Page

Remember to 'like' the Tidenham Parish Church Facebook Page to receive notifications and do please interact with the Facebook group with comments to encourage our online community while we're still experiencing physical restrictions. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/114300818701466/>

Prayer Requests from The Church And Community

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 23 August

Called to be TRANSFORMED....

Eggs on leaf

Thank God for new beginnings: Zechariah 4:10

The new day and all the blessings he gives us to enjoy.

Thank God for new life and new babies being born.

Pray for families that have new children in them.

Pray for all those who are going to be starting a new school term soon, that they will know God with them.

For our Parish Schools: Tutshill C of E, Offa's Mead Academy, St Briavels, St John's on the Hill, Wyedean...

that all staff would have a good rest and be refreshed for the new term.



Caterpillar

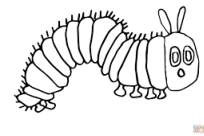
Caterpillars eat and munch, working hard to consume greenery.

Thank God for all the key workers who have worked so hard during the recent lockdown and are still working.

Pray for those who are currently unemployed, that God will strengthen them.

Colossians 3:23

Pray for all who volunteer and work without pay, especially for those who are home makers or carers.



Cocoon

The cocoon is a place of resting and waiting, but also vulnerability.

Pray for all who are waiting for a medical appointment or test results. That they would grow closer to God in this time and trust Him more and more. Psalm 37:7a

Pray for all who are suffering in any way, those who are ill, at home or in hospital.

Pray for all who are grieving that God will be their source of comfort and strength.



Butterfly

The beautiful creature bears no resemblance to the caterpillar. It is totally transformed and created with a purpose.

Spend some time with God, waiting in His presence.

How is He transforming you?

Ask God to give you patience and courage as you grow and change in the power of the Holy Spirit and His transforming love. 2 Corinthians 3: 16-18



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."

Tutshill Scarecrow Trail will take place from 19 August until 5 September. The trail will be free and follow the usual route. Paper maps and sheets are not being generally distributed. A small number will be available at Life Style Express where you are also able to make a donation. If you require further information please contact tutshillscarecrow@yahoo.com or call Jane on 01594563803. Thank you

Ride and Stride September 2020

With churches having been closed for much of this year and the subsequent loss of income, money raised through Ride and Stride is needed more than ever. However, we are also very aware of how the economic situation has impacted on individuals and the financial choices they have to make.

These are the events organised so far:

Friday 11 September - A sponsored 5.5 mile walk to start at 10am from St. Luke's Church.

Wednesday 16 September - Al fresco coffee morning, afternoon tea and plant sale in Wirewoods Crescent, Tutshill. Places will need to be booked, social distancing and hygiene precautions will take place.

For further information or to book your table or if you would like to run a different event please contact Wendy on 01291 623642, mobile 07447 311 131 or email wendy.moppett@btinternet.com.

Thank you for your support.

Village Cricket – If you are interested in playing, umpiring or scoring Tidenham Parish Churches are organising a friendly cricket match, players of any standard are welcome to join in. It will be a short match played at Francis Field, Tutshill on Sunday 30 August at approx. 2pm and should finish by 6pm.

If you are interested please contact Andrew Palmer at a.palmer@sportradar.com

Homemade Jam - Paul and Margaret have been busy making plum jam, blackberry jelly, fresh fig, apple and onion chutney. If you would like to order any please ring Margaret on 01291 629098, they can be collected from Chepstow or Paul can deliver them (within reason). Small donations for the work of our three churches can be paid using online banking. The bank details can be found on the link below and use Jam as the reference. Thank you, Margaret Coombs.

<https://www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk/files/uploads/Bank-Standing-Order-Form.pdf>

Church Buildings Open within the Parishes...



St Luke's Church - will be open 9am-4pm Tuesday-Friday through August.

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

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 yrs, access to self-care resources, information, peer support and 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.

Don't forget to a new Link Word Search can be found on the Parish Facebook Group.

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/UcKjOlVDBT9M9usfhp2722w>

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

Revd David Treharne	01291 760034	dtrevd@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
Fiona Gardiner	01291 624868	fiona.m.gardiner@btinternet.com
James Parsons	07970 489362	james.darsie@gmail.com
Jane Penny	01594 563803	cfmtidenham@btinternet.com
Ethan Richards	07933 249210	tidenhamyouth@gmail.com
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)