



Ch@t



Parish Church of St Mary, Thornbury with St Paul's The Hackett

Living God's love for all

Welcome to Ch@t (Church at Thornbury)

The newsletter of the Parish Church of St Mary, Thornbury with St Paul's at the Hackett

June & July 2020

This month—and this edition - has been totally overshadowed by the Coronavirus epidemic which is sweeping across our continent – indeed across the world. Words cannot express the sense of shock and disbelief at the severity and “suddenness” of this dreadful epidemic, which has affected the everyday life of us all. As Rev'd Joy writes, It is very likely that things will never be just the same again. Our prayers and love are with all our readers - especially those living alone - as we all try to support each other, and pray not only for ourselves but those around the earth who are suffering the effects of this pandemic and the accompanying financial crash.



Since I left for my trip to the States things have changed almost beyond recognition. Yet, I have spent these past months celebrating signs and symbols of creation flourishing, people caring for one another, and communities growing in unity.

Everything is different but it is a strange miracle that the Sundays of the year

continue to roll around. At the end of May comes Rogation (18th-20th May) and our prayers for the planting of the seed, and then Pentecost (31st) and the celebration of God's Spirit with us, and then with Environment Sunday (6th June) we step back in to Ordinary Time. A truly extraordinary ordinary time!

And our season for change is not over. As we look forward with hope to the time when our doors might open, many of us are prepared for things to look very different from what we were used to.

It is very likely that things will never be the same again. Which might just fill us with nerves...

But 'ordinary time' is a time for new growth and fresh transformation. It starts with the planting of the seeds, and the breath of God's Spirit, before we set off as a community in to new things – new things full of hope!

So although I still can't leave you with a long list of things to come to and to see, together I pray that we would continue to grow in the season to come; to grow new relationships, to build new connections, to flourish in new kinds of faithful worship and exciting faith day by day. I pray that in this new kind of ordinary time we would continue to learn what it means to be the extraordinary people of God.

Rev'd Joy



THREE IN ONE

Trinity Sunday 7th June



Petertide Sunday 28th June

Ordinations - See back page

School and Children's News



Hopscotch!!!



Hopscotch is for babies and little ones under school-age and their parents and carers. 9am at

St Mary's every Thursday in Term-time.



This is just to say we are thinking and praying for you all in these strange times. I have added some happy photos until we can all meet again.

We are thinking about Pentecost at the moment and perhaps a grown up would read you this story about Jesus and the gift He left us all.

"Jesus friends were sad because Jesus had said goodbye to them and gone to be with God in heaven. Jesus has promised to send someone to help them but they didn't know who it would be or when they would come. All of Jesus' friends were together in a big room, upstairs in a house. They were talking about Jesus. Suddenly all the people in the room heard a loud noise. Phwooo! It sounded like a strong gust of wind. Phwooo! The windy noise swept through the house - phwooo! - and up the stairs - phwooo! and blew open the door of the room where they were sitting - phwooo! The wind became stronger - phwooo - phwooo! It blew on their faces and lifted their hair, and flapped their clothes.

The friends of Jesus began to feel stronger too. They smiled and hugged each other. Jesus had sent his Holy Spirit to them. Everything was going to be all right. They wanted to sing and dance. They were laughing and clapping and dancing with joy.

A big crowd of people were outside the house, wondering what was going on. Peter saw all the people and said I'm going to tell them about Jesus. So he ran downstairs and outside and he told the people how much Jesus loved them - and that they could be friends of Jesus too. Peter and his friends told everyone about Jesus. They weren't afraid any more. God had sent his Holy Spirit to be with them and help them, just as Jesus had promised. *Hilary Craig*



Apps and Websites for families at home and looking for help with each day. Janet Raven is videoing a simple collective worship time at 2pm for children to join in with at home. Find her on Facebook! As part of the Church of England's #faithathome movement, I-Sing pop have also brought out new online resources with episodes to join in with singing and learning together at 11.30 each Friday on YouTube.

St Mary's School News

Despite the unusual times and challenges we have been facing, St Mary's has continued to stay open for key workers children. We have had a rota for staff to be in and we have had to look at different approaches to teaching and learning, including an online platform called Seesaw which allows teachers to support children with more individualised programmes of learning, and opened up a two way communication with parents. In addition to this, class pages on the school website have guided weekly learning.

Our parents have been brilliant in supporting their children, not easy trying to balance home learning with all of the demands of their own work and different pressures faced by everyone. I would like to say a huge thank you to them all.

As well as all of that we completed a recruitment programme by appointing a new deputy head teacher who will be starting in September. In a significant first for the school this was all done through an online platform. We are both very excited by the new appointment, and sad at losing Mr Pike as he takes up his first headship in Wiltshire.

The head teachers in Thornbury have been in contact in a weekly meeting through zoom to make sure all schools, children and staff are supported through this period. Also to support each other with ideas to use in school, planning and generally trying to make sense of the situation we all face. They have all been very supportive, which reflects why Thornbury is such a rich area for education.

As we move forward I wish to thank all of the governors and staff who have been working so hard behind the scenes to make sure the school is ready for re-opening (when it comes) - and well done to all the children and the magnificent work they have been doing!

K Joyce, Head teacher



The UK Blessing *At this unique and challenging time in the United Kingdom over 65 churches and movements, representing hundreds of others, have come together online to sing a blessing over our land. Standing together as one, our desire is that this song will fill you with hope and encourage you.* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUTl3mNj5U>



Rev'd Canon Jan's Notes from Llandaff



News from Llandaff

Canon Jan writes about "Before lockdown"

As I write the Cathedral is locked, like all our churches, and our only activity is online and on the phone. None of us have ever known this and it's quite hard to adjust to it. I feel as if the 'pause' button has been pressed – very frustrating after 9 or 10 months in post when everything was really getting going! Let me tell you though about some of the projects which I was working on before the lockdown, and which I hope we will be able to pick up later on.

Our school visits were developing well with lots of bookings coming in, and children really enjoying their time with us. One theme is a 'pilgrim journey' for juniors, when we dress them as pilgrims and give them a 'passport' to collect stickers at each station like on a pilgrimage to Santiago. The route round the Cathedral takes them from birth (at the font) to death and thinking about life after death (at the garden of remembrance), and in the process they learn to think of life as a pilgrimage, with God walking beside them to guide and help them. At the end of a school visit I always teach them the Kids Praise 'Amen' – from a whisper to as loud as possible – which invariably goes down well. They clearly didn't expect to be encouraged to make such a

loud noise in the Cathedral! We set up a 'Community Engagement' group of volunteers and were on the brink of opening a café for homeless people as a joint project with a church in the city centre, St John's. This has had to be postponed but will go ahead just as soon as possible.

Like you we are involved in the Eco Church project; we have changed most of our light bulbs to LEDs, and we were about to consult with the local Wildlife Trust to see how best to make our churchyard land more wildlife friendly. The church primary school and Sunday School children will help with this, planting seeds for bee friendly plants and making bird feeders, etc.

I had 25 children preparing for confirmation before schools were closed – my classroom skills came in useful with a group that size! – hopefully we will be able to resume in the autumn term. We had also just launched young altar servers, with the year 6 Sunday School children taking turns to be acolytes in the procession at the 9am Parish Eucharist. Several of them really loved doing this and were keen to train to be on the regular team. I hope this enthusiasm will survive the break! I lead a weekly Bible study for adults which is well supported by a keen group.

I run the baptisms, support the various volunteer teams, and of course take my turn in leading services and preaching. With four Eucharists every Sunday morning, Choral Evensong six times a week in term time ('said' in the holidays) and a daily Eucharist, there is plenty to do. As well as all this I am a governor at the church primary school and also at an independent school nearby; I lead school worship regularly, I'm on the Church in Wales Doctrine Commission, though that has not yet met!! Then there are the meetings of Chapter, Greater Chapter, the Friends of the Cathedral Council, PCC, staff meetings...Whew, how does it all fit in! But somehow it does, and I like to be busy...

Sadly we have had to cancel most of the events planned for the Cathedral 900th celebrations which includes a 'Family Fun Day' that I was coordinating with a volunteer group, but we plan to move this on a year and try to run the programme in 2021 instead.

During the lockdown I have been coordinating a team of volunteers to support others with shopping etc, as well as posting the daily 'Thought for the day' which some of you have seen and staying in touch with many people by phone. Meetings are on 'Zoom' or conference call.

I enjoy hearing news from Thornbury, Oldbury and Shepperdine, and you can always pick up news from us on the Cathedral website at <https://www.llandaffcathedral.org.uk> and the Facebook and Twitter accounts too.

With my love and prayers, Canon Jan

Eco Church - Environment Sunday 7th June

We celebrate Environment Sunday on 7 June
(Sunday nearest the UN's World Environment Day 5 June)



You may like to find out more about the Eco Church Scheme that Thornbury and Oldbury Churches are working on. See ARocha Eco Church website or on our own diocesan pages <https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/2020/resources-for-eco-church/> ARocha's other initiative "Wild Christian" is aimed at families working at home. Their latest newsletter <https://mailchi.mp/arocho/wildchristian-apr2019-1344951> talks about getting to know wildflowers and Bees, an online course and opportunity to contribute to real-life research.

Staying at home has focused my mind on food and its impact on the environment. We continue to buy local by having a weekly delivery from a family run shop.

Where does our food come from? Does it rely on being transported around the world by passenger plane? What is the impact of Covid 19 on our Fairtrade producers who depend on us buying their produce? How often should I be "exercising" digging/planting at my Allotment if I drive there? Certainly more food is growing in my garden this year. If you are inspired to do more for the environment this June then the Environment Champions warmly welcome you to join their team.

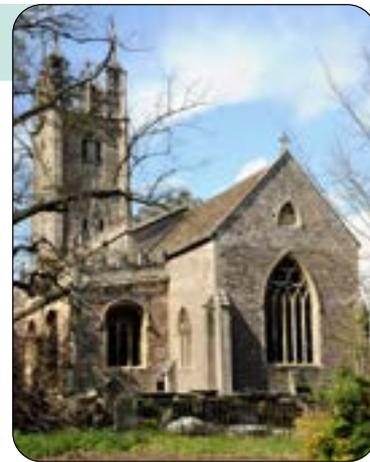
Please contact Marian Stephens **412165** or Guy Rawlinson.
Marian Stephens

Churchwarden Notes - Fabric and church opening

The purpose of this up-date is to explain what has been going on and also what we might look forward to when **the lockdown** is eased. During these past weeks, there have been regular "Zoom" meetings between our clergy members and churchwardens. The pastoral care and support of our wider town community is continuing, particularly in funeral ministry, so do please pray for Rev'd Joy working with families through this difficult and sad period in their lives.

Fabric matters:

- The new audio-visual systems have been installed in St Paul's and the Church Hall.
- The application for a Faculty has been submitted for the audio-visual for St Mary's. Before any authorisation is given by the DAC there will need to be a site meeting, which, obviously, has to wait for the lockdown to be relaxed.
- The Stonemasons have managed to almost complete a very nice job of relaying the path to St Mary's. Once we are able to use the church again, we will be entering by the South Door. The manufacturer of the glass doors will soon take final measurements, so that he can then begin manufacture.
- The Faculty application for taking St Mary's tower clock off site for repair and electrification has finished its public notification period and has been sent to the Registrar for his approval, and for the faculty to be granted.



Dates:

- We are not yet able to fix a date for the postponed APCM .
- Nor are we able to consider reinstating the interview date for our new vicar.

Coronavirus— Church opening:

At last Friday's Zoom meeting we discussed how we might be able to organise our first opportunity for worshipping in church, whether towards the end of May or into early June. At the time of writing there is no news of when this might be, nor do we have any idea of how many people might wish to attend or whether especially older people may still feel they need to self-isolate. It was agreed that the first service (and ongoing for sometime probably) will take place in St Mary's as the larger church. To effectively keep to social distancing, Robin calculates that

about 40 "units" (a family, a couple or a single person) can be accommodated. Once that probable number has been reached, no one else would be able to attend. Oldbury and Shepperdine may well be able to hold a separate service at St Arilda's depending upon numbers and the ability to safely accommodate those attending, in the same way as at St Mary's.

(ED Many thanks to churchwardens Robin Gupta, Mike Dennett and Jenny Ovens)

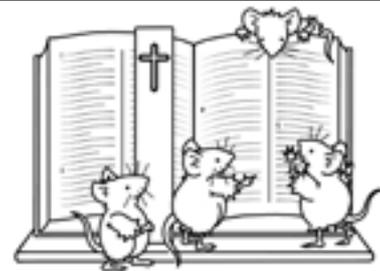


Today, 28 April 2020, MU Members Received this letter from the Worldwide President of Mothers' Union Explaining that the MU faces a £1 million shortfall in income due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

As well as the cancellation of summer fundraising events, the conference centre at Mary Sumner house, which brings in many thousands of pounds a year, is empty and silent. Somehow they have to plug the gap that Covid-19 has made. (Members are asked to make a donation, but only if they feel they can). Sheran Harper says, towards the end of her letter, "In challenging times like these, I draw on my faith for strength, and I encourage you also to remain full of Hope, Confidence, Strength and Love, and remember not to be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go". That is a great message for us all - not only MU Members but everyone else as well!

At the moment, even though our meetings have been postponed we can continue with prayers of support for MU, for one another and the whole community of Thornbury.

Jenny Oven



Who's Who - Last Page Answers

Rev'd Craig Bishop (top left)

Rev'd Bruce Goodwin (top right)

(Bottom left to right)

Rev'd (now Rt Rev'd) Andrew Swift

Rev'd Tom Keates

The late **Rev'd Suzanne Leighton**

(whose son Jonathan was first youth correspondent for Chat!)

Rev'd Matt Cottrell

Rev'd Joy Ludlow

(And a couple of Bishops!)



Living in Strange times

Rev'd Chris Verey writes

I am sure we are all finding different paths to navigate the strange times we are living in. A bit of me resented the attitude of Government and Church that since I am 74

I should hide away. But another, possibly larger, part of me has welcomed the opportunity it has given. Val and I moved house a year ago and inherited a largish garden that had been ignored for several years. We came up with a design and had the groundwork done in March.

Then the hard work started – preparing heavy, rubble strewn soil for planting. With no “church” responsibilities I have spent my days in the garden, accompanied by a very friendly robin. Sadly we are unable to get all the plants, shrubs and trees we want pending re-opening of garden centres. But we have planted much – including vegetables.

Gardens are wonderful places in which to be with God. Indeed our foundation myths place our first encounter in a garden, Eden. Jesus faces the greatest challenge in his ministry

when he prays to the Father in Gethsemane. The new creation begins in a garden, when Mary Magdalene encounters the risen Christ and mistakes him for the gardener. Down the ages images of the final “New Heaven and New Earth” are often portrayed as a garden. Much as I find spiritual refreshment in liturgy, the past few weeks have given me the opportunity to stand back and feel the force of the words at John 4.21-24.

More than that, the experience of this pandemic has shown the power of God as love in the response of so many to the suffering. Hope and resurrection are there displayed more truthfully than in any number of words. I look forward to the day when we can meet as a community – in particular I miss the young people in Hopscotch and in the school. But am uplifted by the friendly wave and smile I get from small children who recognise me on my daily permitted exercise! Stay safe.

Chris Verey

Coronavirus cases are rising in the poorest Continent!



Christian Aid has warned that time is running out to prevent coronavirus overwhelming health systems across Africa! Coronavirus infections are rising sharply across the continent, and African countries lack the specialist equipment or staff to cope with a pandemic! There are calls for the cancellation of Debt Repayments from African countries this year, to free up the money to be spent on saving lives instead!

WHO says there are less than **2,000** ventilators and **5,000** intensive care unit beds across the entire Africa region. The Worlds poorest countries cannot be expected to pay debts to wealthy creditors in the midst of the biggest global health challenge in a generation, and the worst economic downturn since the 1930s



At this moment, cancelling the debt is a matter of life and death.

Coronavirus - What we should do in this crisis

Crises bring out the best in people. What has become immediately apparent over the last few weeks is that the reserves of kindness, generosity and love for each other are often far deeper than we could have imagined.

One of the challenges of this specific crisis is how inactive and intangible our help and selflessness must be. We can't lean in, lend a hand and be present in the ways we would normally try to. Distance is a form of kindness and yet feels very unnatural. We have huge admiration for those in the NHS or other critical services who are on the physical frontline treating patients and at greater risk of exposure to the virus, but for most of us there is a sense of helplessness as the most beneficial thing we can do is wash our hands and sit on the sofa.



And we must pray. Pray for medical professionals, and government decision makers. Pray for those who are already isolated and concerned about cutting off vital connections. Pray for people who are at greater risk of more significant consequences of becoming infected. Pray for miracles.

And pray for the witness of the church of Jesus Christ.

This is from the EA website at:
<https://www.eauk.org>



From Parish Pump

"Simon, my vicar, was completely unfazed by the closure of his church in March. The very next week he'd set up 'Zoom' and many of us have been weekly attendees of his 'virtual church' for weeks now.

One recent Sunday morning when I said to my wife, "let's go and worship at St Sofa's". That inspired her and so the first verse of this poem is hers, not mine!



St Sofa's - Zoom

We worship at St Sofa's now
Since Covid came to stay
We don't dress up or do our hair
But still we come to pray!

Our Vicar is a clever chap
A Zoom with his IT
And so we sit down ev'ry week
And meet up virtually!

Our Parish Church stands empty
With praise she does not ring;
But still her people gather round
To pray, and praise, and sing!

The virus is a nasty thing
Yet it has helped us see
The church is NOT a building
But folk like you and me!

By Nigel and Carol Beeton

Lockdown lingo Oxford Dictionary please take note!

- **Coronadose:** An overdose of bad news from consuming too much media during a time of crisis. Can result in a panicdemic.
- **Coronacoaster:** The ups and downs of your mood during the pandemic. You're loving lockdown one minute but suddenly weepy with anxiety the next. It truly is "an emotional coronacoaster".
- **Quarantinis:** Experimental cocktails mixed from whatever random ingredients you have left in the house. The boozy equivalent of a store cupboard supper. Southern Comfort and Ribena quarantini with a glacé cherry garnish, anyone? These are sipped at "locktail hour", i.e. wine o'clock during lockdown, which seems to be creeping earlier with each passing week.
- **Le Creuset wrist:** It's the new "avocado hand" - an aching arm after taking one's best saucepan outside to bang during the weekly 'Clap For Carers.' It might be heavy but you're keen to impress the neighbours with your high-quality kitchenware.
- **Coronials:** As opposed to millennials, this refers to the future generation of babies conceived or born during coronavirus quarantine. They might also become known as "Generation C" or, more spookily, "Children of the Quarn".
- **Furlough Merlot:** Wine consumed in an attempt to relieve the frustration of not working. Also known as "boredeaux" or "cabernet tedium".
- **Covid-10:** The 10lbs in weight that we're all gaining from comfort-eating and comfort-drinking. Also known as "fattening the curve".
- **The elephant in the Zoom:** The glaring issue during a video conferencing call that nobody feels able to mention. e.g. one participant has dramatically put on weight, suddenly sprouted terrible facial hair or has a worryingly messy house visible in the background.
- **Covidiot:** One who ignores public health advice or behaves with reckless disregard for the safety of others can be said to display "covidiocy" or be "covidiotic". Also called a "lockclown"
- **Antisocial distancing:** Using health precautions as an excuse for snubbing neighbours and generally ignoring people you find irritating.
- **Coughin' dodger:** Someone so alarmed by an innocuous splutter or throat-clear that they back away in terror.
- **Mask-ara:** Extra make-up applied to "make one's eyes pop" before venturing out in public wearing a face mask.

From the WWW Passed on by Mike Elcock



Getting started with Zoom

You will need a computer/laptop/tablet or smart phone that has a working video camera and microphone and is connected to the internet.

You'll receive an email invitation when you're invited to a Zoom meeting. Find and click the invitation email in your mailbox. Click the invitation link in the email. If you have already downloaded Zoom to your computer, this will automatically connect you to the meeting. (That's it!)

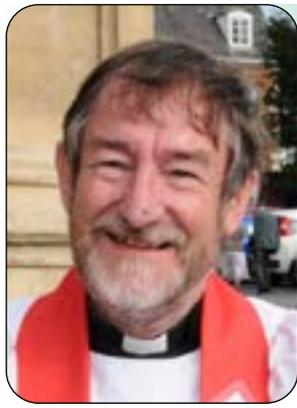
If this is your first time using Zoom, you will need to download the necessary software to your computer. Click Download below "Zoom Client for Meetings". Open the install file in your web browser or Downloads folder.

You may also join a meeting without clicking on the invitation link. Going to <https://www.join.zoom.us> on any browser - then click on JOIN MEETING and entering the Meeting ID and password provided in the email invitation.

If you have problems please contact Fiona Mitchell and I will try to help you. 419776



Coronavirus Impact



Rev'd Tom writes

This Sunday morning once again, I said the Eucharist with Ann at home, and we received the sacrament on behalf of ourselves and all in our benefice.

There has been some discussion in the Church Times about performing this communal act on behalf of others. I quote from the letter of Andrew Lightbrown. "Times like these cause us to reflect on our beliefs.....I have come to the conclusion that it is vital for the spiritual welfare of all in the community that the sacrament of the Eucharist continues to be celebrated".

I share this view and like him I am careful with the words spoken before the consecrated bread and wine are taken to make the point explicitly that as a priest

I am receiving communion for the "priesthood of all believers".

Today we hear the story of Jesus revealing himself to the pair of disciples on the Emmaus road, through the breaking of the bread, which was to be part of their own evening meal in their own home, just as Ann and I shared the sacrament in our home on behalf of you all, with our normal "daily bread". I pray that you may all feel blessed in knowing that the sacrament is being observed on your behalf, and that like those two on the Emmaus Road you will feel you want to share your experience of meeting with Jesus, just as Rev'd Joy said in her reflection for today. Rev Tom.

Keep in touch with Rev'd Tom on Facebook



Over 6,000 calls in first 48 hours!

Daily Hope

A free phone line offering hymns, prayers, and reflections 24 hours a day during the coronavirus, received more than 6,000 calls in the first 48 hours.

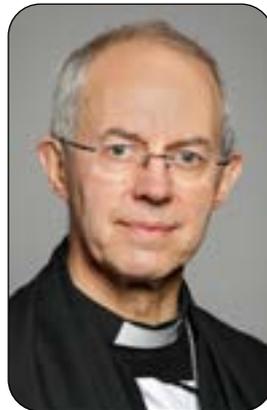
The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, recently launched 'Daily Hope' as a simple new way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes, during the lockdown period. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on

0800 804 8044 – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services in mind.

The service is supported by the Church of England nationally. Within 48 hours the line had received more than 6,000 calls from across the country, with many being referred by friends, or family members.

Callers to the line hear a short greeting from the Archbishop before being able to choose from a range of options, including hymns, prayers, reflections and advice on COVID-19.

Options available include materials also made available digitally by the Church of England's Communications team such as **Prayer During the Day and Night Prayer**, updated daily, from Common Worship, and a recording of the Church of England **weekly national online service**.



Book review:

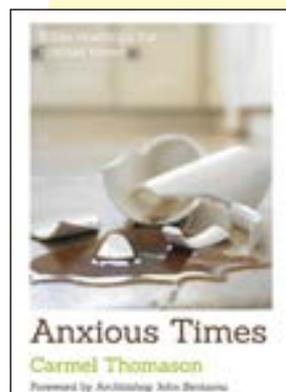
Anxious Times

Positive help for those facing Uncertainty

By Carmel Thomason, BRF, £4.99

A book of 24 undated reflections drawing on a range of relevant Bible passages to offer genuine hope and encouragement in anxious times.

Encompassing the very human emotions of fear and anxiety, the reflections encourage us to draw comfort and strength from God's Word, even in those times when He seems silent to us. This book acknowledges that trust and hope in God's goodness doesn't always come easily, but when embraced we gain the strength to face our fear with courage and confidence.



The Thornbury Food Bank has faced challenging times during the Coronavirus crisis. The main Baptist Church has been transformed into a Food Bank. Sadly many of the volunteers have had to stand down and go into isolation but these have been replaced by new volunteers. An interim arrangement saw clients coming into the garden to receive parcels (prepared in Church since the Yate Warehouse closed due to volunteer stand-down). However, the Food bank has now gone over to a delivery-only service with a team of volunteer drivers observing protocols laid down by The Trussell Trust to ensure social distancing.



The crisis has led to a marked increase in Food Bank use: in the three weeks before the lockdown they fed 23 adults and 4 children; since lockdown in three weeks they have fed 82 adults and 47 children. They see themselves as Blessed to be able to help those in real need at this time.

Ed. Compiled from notes by Mair Vaughan and Bronny Bennett passed to us by Mike Keavey



Colour in the rainbow and put it in your window to say thank you

Letter from Bufumbo and Mbale - John Faith Magolo

Dear Fiona and Kenneth,

We are all fine in spite the challenge of covid19 that has ravaged the world. Uganda like the UK is in the lockdown with with strict guidelines for everyone to stay home, since 20th of March 2020 till now. The measures included the closure of schools, places of worship, all business except food markets, and suspension of both private and public transport (bodabodas inclusive) and a curfew between 7.00pm to 6.30 am. This will last until the 23rd of this month when the government shall inform the nation of either to extend the lockdown or to loosen some areas.

Well as these measures have fundamentally minimized the spread of covid19 within the country it has exposed the citizens especially the majority poor to unspeakable life threatening dangers like starvation since their means of survival is hand to mouth on a daily basis. Uganda has not registered any deaths due to covid19, many lives have been lost due to the lock down. During this period, many mothers due to deliver have lost their lives along with the new life that was meant to be brought into the world due lack of transport to a medical facility. I have on many occasions called upon by the people in Bufumbo and others areas where I'm known to give a hand especially on the side of transport. In the manner in which the events where unfolding, I had to register my vehicle with the covid19 task force as a service vehicle and I was given special permission to travel within Mbale district to help those cases that I assessed that I could make a difference. Two nasty incidences have however happened in regard to this adventure. I went to offer assistance to a woman in labour at Wanale subcounty (on the mountain that is in the background of Mbale town), the mission that I successfully carried until I handed her over to the Mbale hospital medical staff. Unfortunately due to prolonged labour, the baby died. A similar incident happened for a woman from Bumadada who passed on together with the unborn baby shortly after arriving at Health Center 1V- Bufumbo Heath center. The lockdown is indeed causing all sorts of challenges. While others are similar in nature to all humanity in the circumstances, others are unique according to locality.

Bufumbo is fine except quiet in the cirmstances. The vicar and his team of 8 lay leaders are fine as I'm in constant contact with them as their member of Synod. James and Jane are fine too. The best you can do is what you are already doing-praying for us. Given my special permit to move, I'm able to physically keep in touch with them all.

Amidst lockdown, good has come out for the Magolo household as it is the first time to have the whole household at home at Easter and this time of the year. We are truly enjoying fellowship as a family and our Sunday services have exhibited great musical talents in the family. All factors remaining constant, Deborah is joining University this September for Medicine. She got very good grades and we hope the government will take her on for a scholarship. Blessed is sitting for S.4 this year, Destiny is in S.1 and Delight is in Primary 5.

Pass on our love and greetings to all our friends in Thornbury and assure them of our prayers.

John and Annet.



June Mission: Church Army

The Hands and Feet of God

We Love Because He First Loved Us

1 John 4:19



Church Army has been a mission focused community within the Church of England since 1882. Their aim is for everyone, everywhere, to encounter God's love, and be empowered to transform their communities through faith shared in words and action – by being the hands and feet of God. They train people to be 'evangelists' to live out their faith in the most deprived communities in the UK.

They started in the slums of London and are not letting a global pandemic get in the way of continuing to support the poorest and most marginalised in our country. They have always found 'fresh expressions' to share faith and now are finding new and creative ways to continue to help people in this time of crisis.

They are using the Centres of Mission they created amongst the most 'hard to reach' communities as foodbanks and food kitchens, delivering hot 'takeaway' meals to the elderly and vulnerable. Their hostels also continue to support those in greatest need.

All charities are finding fundraising tough at the moment. Church Army is facing a potential deficit of nearly £80,000 per month. Volunteers have found creative ways to fundraise, for example, by taking part in the '2.6 Challenge'. Alan, a 70 year old with multiple sclerosis completed 26 lengths of his road in his wheelchair; Hannah made 26 fabric bags; and Will completed the 'Taco Man' challenge (26 press ups, 26 sit ups, 26 keepy-ups and 2.6 Tacos). We can also help by praying and keeping safe. Find out more at www.churcharmy.org.uk.

Christine Dadd Chair, Missions: Global and Local Concern

Music to raise spirits in Lockdown

Gaelic Blessing

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_8MKEpXqGko

Ave Maria: *Luis de Victoria*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LdlvpuR1rpE>

O Quam Gloriosum: *Luis de Victoria*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=feAT-Kxw5rc>

If Ye Love Me: *Thomas Tallis*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eqt005j1dB0>

Let the bright Seraphim: *Handel*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SUOTq_xGWpE

Shine Jesus Shine

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7OlwSQmyCg4>

Here am I Lord

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zBg-yDhM2KY>

Stanford Te Deum in B flat

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y6OjdGWKoM0>

Gloria—Missa Solemnis: *Beethoven*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tL5aYToWWp8>

Look at the World: *John Rutter*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nDa-Mab4SoU>

The Trumpet Shall Sound - Messiah

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_rQYv8EsGSQ

Greater love hath no man: *Ireland*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sBMJKo7PIKA>

In Christ Alone

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wNRFumI2ch0>

It is well with my soul

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tyPEohF6qq8>

Church Choir Choices

When I was at school, I sang a couple of pieces that kicked started my love for choral music. In 2010 I sang the world premiere of John Tavener's 'Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis' written for double choir with children's voices at the Royal Albert Hall. I think that this is a stunning piece of music but unfortunately, there are currently no recordings available online. The other pieces that really moved me were 'Totus Tuus' by *Gorecki*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UwKImMw3vQI>

and 'God so loved the world' by *Stainer*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f455-TFvcE0>

both of which I sang with my school choir. Also, last year I was lucky enough to sing at the BBC proms where I came across 'The Bells' by *Rachmaninoff*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fvy0nN5t0Po>

although it is not an anthem I think it is certainly worth a listen.

Rosie Evans

The piano music is from the film *The Apartment* starring Shirley Maclaine and Jack Lemmon. Helen introduced me to this very good film. The music was played by Graham van der Lely when Helen walked down the aisle.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aM2f03DxIZQ>

The music at the end was played by Nigel Davies and was *Widor's Toccata*, which is for both of us our favourite organ music.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DKejYzB3ak>

Mike Elcock

When I start working at my drawing board this is the first piece on my playlist. Calming and the video is worth a watch. *Antonio Vivaldi* "Vedro con mio diletto" from *Il Giustino* by Jakub Józef Orliński (*counter-tenor*)

<https://youtu.be/yF4YXv6ZluE>

Fiona Mitchell



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All services and events in Benefice previously advertised for June have been cancelled during the Coronavirus Lockdown. The Sundays are June 7th (Trinity and Environment), June 14th, June 21st and June 28th (Petertide). For updates on the Service schedule see our Facebook page

However, resources, services and reflections from the past weeks are available on our Benefice Facebook page and the parish website, for use in our own homes

Looking Back at Petertide

(in the unlocked days of Ch@t)

Petertide is kept on the Sunday closest to St Peter's day, 29th June. This year that Sunday is on 28th June. It is traditionally the time of Ordination (Priests on Saturday and Deacons on Sunday). We look back at the ordination

of clergy who have either undertaken Curacies or found their vocation in our Benefice of Thornbury and Oldbury with Shepperdine



Happy memories of them all, but can you name them?

(Answers page 4)



Watch the Birdie - Meg Adnams writes from Oldbury

Many interesting activities that family and friends are undertaking during "lockdown" are flooding into my inbox. Anything from Art classes to "Batman". One suggestion I have taken up from links sent by a friend in the New Forest is birdwatching opportunities by web-cam.

I thought this would calm my underlying Covid19 anxieties because Nature is carrying on her own sweet way this Spring regardless of our pandemic. However there are heart-stopping moments! The young heron on the top of a tall Scots Pine has been tottering round the nest and nearby branches while his parents have flown off, perhaps to get more food. He looks ready to learn to fly but will he fall off instead? The female osprey has laid one beautiful egg but the male is not around – possibly a delayed migration? She leaves it to get her own food. Has she left it too long to incubate so it will

never hatch or is it even a phantom pregnancy? Experts leave comments. I never knew there was so much to it! At least the barn owls sitting on their 5 eggs can be relied upon to snooze during the day! (These can all be found on various sites on Youtube.)

I haven't been reading the papers much as it is so depressing. However the "Times Diary" on April 29th, written by Patrick Kidd, caught my eye. Apparently he had recently written an item about pigeons in church. This led to a response from Paul Stocker – a story about 3 Vicars discussing this shared problem. "We tried poison but people don't like dead pigeons falling from the rafters during Mass" says one. "I tried shooting them but it damaged the roof" says the second. We had this problem but no more says the third. "I just catch them, christen and confirm them and we never see them again!"



Ed thank you once again to Meg for allowing us to use her excellent article

If Ch@t magazine is delivered to your home, and you no longer wish to receive it, please contact the church office to let us know: **01454 281900, or thornburyparish@btconnect.com.**

Ch@t

The Editorial Committee of Ch@T is: Angela Swan (Editor)
Distribution: Diane Moyse,
Artwork and layout: Fiona Mitchell
Photography: Timothy Swan, Printed by Oldbury Deckers