



OLD HILLS MALVERN HEADLINES

Keeping You in touch with Your Churches during the Coronavirus

Edition 5 Easter 3 Friday 24th April 2020 for Sunday 26th April 2020

CHURCH STATUS All Churches **CLOSED** for all Public Worship except Graveside Funerals

SUNDAY WORSHIP Zoom Service - see email for link and password.

See also the Easter Praise liturgy on the parish website

Prayers

(Remember the Deanery and Parishes' Noon Day Prayer – available on line

For the families of Edwin Lane (Guarlford), Ursula Twinberrow (Powick), Agnes Collins (Powick) and Susan Jury (Callow End) and Noel Grinnall (Guarlford) - their funerals have taken place in the past few days or are in the planning. We pray for our communities and congregations and all those that care for us in these times.

A Prayer for the outbreak

God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness, be their light; through him who suffered alone on the Cross, but re-ins with you in Glory, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Headlines for this week.

Back to work this week. Catching up on phone calls and briefing the PCCs on some matters to keep them engaged. The Diocese has also written out about its financial situation and there will be further calls to support the churches and ministry coming up soon. More importantly, we continue to reach out and be with families at their greatest time of need – at the funerals of their loved ones.

Church News

Rosemary Wells, our Licensed Lay Minister and Reader in the benefice has decided to resign. It was intended that she would step down at Advent, but she has decided, with the uncertainty surrounding COVID19 and the ongoing closure of the churches for worship, to step down from her ministry now. There will be an opportunity to give thanks for her ministry with our four churches at a better time, but I am hoping that you will join in and extend your best wishes, thanks and prayers to Rosemary and her husband Dave.

Bible readings for Sunday 26th April 2020

Acts 2:14a 36-41

Psalms 116 1-7

1 Peter 1:17-23

Gospel - Luke 24:13-35

Intercessions are on line under On Line Resources www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk

Collect

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God - now and forever. Amen



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Zoom Hints and Tips - We are going to have another go at a Zoom facilitated service on Sunday. Note- the clock starts ticking on our service allowance when the first person enters the service. Some of your eager types were on line just after 10am so I was getting nudges from Zoom to finish before I even started. Try logging on no earlier than 1020am for our 1030am service, please.

Parishes' Resources on the website - A Funeral Reflection for all mourning at home unable to be present at graveside services due to COVID19 restrictions or any other reason.

The May 2020 Powick Parish Magazine (on line version)

An exclusive! **A Word from Martin, Bishop of Dudley:**

I was so much looking forward to being with you on Sunday to celebrate Communion with you and to dedicate the works undertaken on St James Church in Callow End. My family and I have often camped near your church so I can imagine where you are at least! You are all in my prayers today and look forward to being with you properly whenever that becomes possible, and meanwhile send you every blessing.

Classroom News - this week, from Powick Primary School

A message from Mrs Stevens, Headteacher: I hope you are keeping safe and well. We are all well here. Spirits are high amongst the staff and we are caring for up to 10 key worker children each day. Parent feedback on home learning has been positive and this week our staff stepped up and made 'the toilet roll challenge' video which was sent to all parents. The children loved it! Look out for our 'Keep Smiling Powick' rainbow banner which will soon be up on the field gate.

News from Severn Heights Care Home - a message from Sue Jones, the Home Manager

All the residents and staff are keeping well and safe. No staff need to "live in" as they are all local. Residents are keeping in touch with relatives by phone and video call. The coronavirus is being kept at bay with no cases in the home at present. We are excited about the prospect of opening our new 18 dementia friendly care beds in the fullness of time in a purpose-built unit now joined to the main house.

Powick Parish News

May's edition of the Powick Parish Newsletter will yet again only be available for collection from the Powick's Murco Petrol Station, Callow End Stores, the red phone boxes in Callow End (Bow Hill / school) Powick (near Red Lion/ opposite The Cross House and near Chinese Restaurant /Skoda dealership and the vicarage drop box). No magazines will be distributed. The print run has been significantly scaled back this month. It is also available on the parish website to view.

Upton Baptist Food Parcels to Guarlford

Just prior to the Easter Weekend, we received a number of food parcels for Guarlford. With our good pastoral links in the community, Barbara Hill managed to get the supplies out. Although further supplies have not so far materialised, we are on the list, Meanwhile, we are grateful to Aimee, the Baptist Minister, for thinking about Guarlford and helping is in this way.



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Wedding news

Congratulations to Alice and Robert- our first wedding booking for Madresfield for the year 2022. Yes, 2022. Lock down is having some positive affects as couples begin to look forward. We are still thinking of those couples for this year that are still having to consider their options or those that are deferring their church weddings for this year into next. Note- social distancing and maybe other "post CV " restrictions might apply for obvious reasons. But, still, something to be thankful for.

New Feature! Bible Quiz: Jesus Appears to Two Disciples

Test your bible knowledge with this quiz on this week's Gospel – answers will be on the parish website home page on Sunday.

1) On the Sunday Jesus rose from the dead, two of His disciples were walking along the road when suddenly Jesus was there walking with them. Where were the disciples going?

- a. Bethlehem
- b. Damascus
- c. Emmaus
- d. Jerusalem

2) What was unusual about this meeting?

- a. The disciples could hear Jesus, but couldn't see anything.
- b. The disciples could hear Jesus, but could see only a bright light.
- c. The disciples did not recognize Jesus at first.
- d. Jesus had the appearance of a ghost.

3) What did Jesus and the disciples talk about while they were walking?

- a. Jesus' crucifixion
- b. The kingdom of God
- c. Jesus' transfiguration
- d. The Passover feast



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4) At the end of the journey, the two disciples begged Jesus to stay with them, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So, Jesus stayed and shared a meal with them. What unusual thing happened at the meal?

- a. Jesus broke bread and it became enough to feed all of them.
- b. A bright light filled the room.
- c. Moses and Elijah appeared there also.
- d. Jesus disappeared from their sight.

Not the End Times.....

Vicar spotted on low mileage mountain bike in the King's End Lane area of Powick by "surprised" parishioners. Rumour has it that it's the *Father Brown* influence that causing him to see the parish from a two-wheeled perspective.

A FaceBook Campaign has been launched to reinstate the **church bell** at Guarlford, apparently. The Vicar has already received a £100 pledge by cheque and a promise of a considerable bequest (in time!). The last bell was stolen by all accounts from its position in a tree opposite the porch. There is a poem about the Guarlford Bell on the Madresfield and Guarlford Memories page on FaceBook. How exciting!

Postscript

The Vicarage now has its own **rainbow** to reflect the local, society and national mood, and to look forward. This was created by a former parishioner (an acclaimed artist) who has gifted it to Rev Gary. Notice how our churches are silhouetted into the design, even the vicarage is included. It's on display at the Vicarage, and when the time is right, will feature in our church services.

