



## OLD HILLS MALVERN HEADLINES

### Keeping You in touch with Your Churches during the Coronavirus

Hello – and welcome to this week's Bank Holiday Headlines. With VE Day upon us, these Headlines are issued a little earlier than usual so you can enjoy the extra time (!). This week, I have reports in from our schools and our Children and Youth workers on the *Lord's Alive initiative*. Our weekly prayer comes from Stanbrook Abbey (North Yorkshire). It's also the start of Christian Aid week so I hope you can donate to this very worthy cause. No envelopes this year – virtual ones instead. Whatever you are doing, please take care keep strong and have faith. Blessings - Rev Gary

#### **Edition 7 Easter 4 Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May for Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

**CHURCH STATUS** All Churches **CLOSED** for all Public Worship except Graveside Funerals (see note below)

**SUNDAY WORSHIP** Zoom Service - see email from me (not Zoom) for link and password.

**A Service to Mark VE Day at 1030am Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2020 via Zoom**

See also the **Easter Praise liturgy** on the parish website or **Spiritual Communion** if you cannot access the Zoom Service

#### **Prayers**

**(Remember the Deanery and Parishes' Noon Day Prayer – available online)**

*Almighty Father, God of all consolation, look upon us and all of humanity in this time of illness and anxiety. We confide to you all who are afflicted by COVID-19: those suffering from the disease, the dying, those who have died, the anxious, all who have lost loved ones or their livelihood. Grant healing to the sick, comfort those who mourn. Give strength and courage to all who are fighting the disease at the front line and in medical research as well as those working in essential services.*

*May we be kept safe and well. May we be blessed with serenity, compassion and deep trust in the Resurrection of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ through whom we make our prayer; he who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen. -*

From Sister Laurentina , from Stanbrook Abbey, now near Thirsk, North Yorks.

**NOTE - See next week's Headlines for a message from Stanbrook Abbey, North Yorkshire.**

#### **Zoom Service update**

19 people joined in without any difficulty or delay last Sunday for the BCP Communion Service. Invites for the service with come from Rev Gary's Email - NOT A ZOOM EMAIL. Check for messages from me and look for the link for the Zoom meeting which will be contained within the body of the email.

A NEW weekly Prayer group will start on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 8.30pm, weekly thereafter. Again, look for the invite from an email I sent last Sunday morning.

If you would like to read a lesson within a Zoom service, **please contact me.**



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**Bible readings for Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2020 - 1030am - VE Day Service**

**INVITE FOR THE SUNDAY ZOOM SERVICE WAS IN THE EMAIL THAT SENT YOU THIS NEWSLETTER**

Our main act of worship via Zoom will be a **service of commemoration for VE DAY** These are the readings that I will be using:

**Micah 4.1-4** and **Luke 15.18-24** (pre printed in the order of service on the website and covering email

**Intercessions for the week ahead** are on line under On Line Resources [www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk](http://www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk)

Service for VE day attached to the covering Email

### **Resources for VE Day and Christian Aid Week.**

A service for VE day can be found on the On Line Worship pages of the website, with intercessions and short homily/sermon. The intercessions are based on the Christian Aid set for this year.

### **New Resources - Weeks 3 and 4 of the St Paul Bible Study**

A new series of tools to help with our faith - this week a description of Lectio Divina – including a personal reflection on its use and application from Julia Davies (a must read from our own Julia(n) of Callow End).

Coming soon - Praying - to whet your appetite, see the first part of **Praying the Lord's Prayer through the week ahead** at the end of this week's *Headlines*.

New Colouring Resources and a Word search will be upload on to the Kids section of the On Line Worship Page - for all of us to use. Try the sample one, later in *Headlines* . No quiz this week.

### **Church News**

Bishop John has issued **updated guidance on the access to churches** across the diocese. The key message is still, the churches are closed for public worship and all services are suspended with the exception of graveside funerals. In response to Bishop John's guidance, I will be visiting each church over the course of each week for private prayer and devotions. One church will be visited for a Communion service which I will preside on my own and without prior notification each Sunday either before or after the Zoom worship.

There is a lot of speculation out there in the media about what the "post lockdown" period could look like for society let alone churches. It is indeed speculation not decision. My stance is to await categorical advice and guidance (if not instruction) from the Church after it has considered Government advice.

### **Christian Aid week - 10<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

Love never fails. Coronavirus impacts all of us. But love unites us all. As this virus spreads across the world, love rises up in response. We are helping each other and are shown incredible kindness to your neighbours, many of whom we might not have really known a few weeks before. Now is the time to reach out to our neighbours both near and far.



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Your love protects. From storms, from drought, and now from coronavirus. Your love protects our global neighbours battling the spread of this illness. Your love protects. With soap, clean water and medical supplies.

<http://donate.christianaid.org.uk/> or telephone donation via 0207 523 2493

#### If you are missing the Christian Aid Red Envelope - Send an e-Envelope

Help us raise vital funds for Christian Aid Week by simply sending your friends and family a personalised message in an e-Envelope. Follow the link below to those you know and love. Encourage those that you are in touch with, churchgoers or not, to donate and join the fight against poverty and injustice around the world. Click on the link below for a donation e-envelope (on line versions of Headlines only!)

[Send an e-Envelope](#)

#### Night Prayer via Zoom

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 8.30pm - Night Prayer by Zoom - following the liturgy on the website plus an opportunity for praying together. Invites previously supplied. This will happen each Thursday night for 30minutes**

#### Children & Family report from Vicky and Kay

Over the last six weeks we have been busy adapting to 'social distancing' ministry with the families in the Benefice. After a successful Lord's Alive service on 8<sup>th</sup> March at St James Church before lockdown and with the weekly visits to all three schools suspended, we decided that we need to continue our contact with children and their families. It is important that the children know that we are here and that we are visible to them at this extraordinary time, showing God's teaching and love through stories, activities and prayer. With help from Theo and George on recording and editing, we have done two videos so far which have gone out on Facebook - the first included a Bible reading, prayer and craft activities and the second had Vicky 'chatting'. We have been blown away at the response with over **1,190 people reached, 760 views** and telephone calls and texts saying how well the videos have been received. This is a new way of communicating and can show the power of social media at its best.

We shall continue producing a video in the style of *Lord's Alive* over the next few months, releasing it on or around the dates previously publicised for the Lord's Alive services in church.

The next one is due to be released in time for Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May and we have an input from a couple of our teenagers in the Lord's Alive team, which is very exciting. If you would like to be involved in anyway please let us know as we continue to support the children in our community.



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#### News from our Schools

##### **Powick Proud - a message from Mrs Stevens. Headteacher of Powick CoE Primary School**

The children at Powick CE Primary School continue to make us 'Powick Proud' everyday throughout the school closure. Our children at home are engaging so well on our learning platform 'Class Dojo' where teachers set daily Maths, English and topic related activities. Our children have been posting photographs of their completed work which shows that they have taken such pride even in these difficult times. Some of our children have also been engaging with fundraising efforts for the NHS.

All of our children have shown resilience, independence and perseverance and we are impressed with them all. Over the last couple of weeks, some of our teachers have been posting video messages to keep in touch and read stories, and this week our headteacher posted a 'virtual assembly' focusing on our half termly value of 'perseverance'.

In school, our key worker children and staff have worked extremely hard and have contributed to some super pieces of artwork to thank the key workers in our community, such as a flag on the school gates, an NHS rainbow wall and a heart display in the entrance to school.

Above all, we thank all of our families for their continued support in these unprecedented times. We know it is not easy working from home whilst also taking on a new role as a teacher too! Keep smiling Powick and we hope to see all of you very soon!

##### **Life in Lock Down at Madresfield CoE Primary. A Message from Mrs Greenwood, Headteacher**

As we travel through the 7<sup>th</sup> week of the school being shut, we have all settled into very different routines. Many of us are working hard whilst others are bored, frustrated and longing to get back to working with the children. The constant legal changes to policy have required a huge increase in office-based administration for Heads. Selecting the pertinent details from a daily deluge and disseminating to staff is a real challenge. WCC alone produce a daily briefing, which is published every night. Like so many other documents it covers a wide range of sectors, the skill is finding important bits of information that require action to be taken.

School remains 'open'. All our eligible 'vulnerable' pupils have elected to remain safe at home. Twice a week contact is made with these families, we want to keep in touch and reassure them that there is support if it is required. Madresfield has two families where both parents are classed as critical care workers. As a school we have opened for these families as and when required. We considered joining with other schools to make a hub, but all staff felt that they wanted to remain together at our school and that going to a familiar place with people they know was better for the children and staff. Rightly or wrongly, we felt it was important to keep the possible transmission of the virus to as small a community as possible.

The past weeks has seen all staff make progress up a huge IT learning curve. The deputy, Mr Speakman, supported by our IT company have dragged all in to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We now Zoom, WhatsApp, and Microsoft Teams with ease. Staff meetings are now a regular feature for both teaching staff and TAs. Teaching staff, supported by their TAs, have provided a wide range of activities and learning opportunities for the children. New class emails have enabled teachers and pupils to communicate safely and provided a conduit through which work can be shared.

School is undergoing many changes in September. Just before Lock Down, Mrs Waits was appointed the new Head of School starting in September and in the last two weeks, Mrs Sue Parker has been appointed the new Executive Head. This time of year is always busy, securing staff to teach and support in all areas of



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the school, setting the school budgets and re-negotiating contracts. If there is a silver lining to this terrible virus, it has been the opportunity for both Mrs Waits and Mr Speakman, as they are not teaching in the classroom, to be fully involved in all strategic decisions to secure a smooth transition in September.

There are several concerns amongst parents and staff about retuning to school. Another worry for many parents is around their children transitioning from one educational establishment to another, and from one class to another, particularly when the new class teachers are unknown. We share their concerns particularly if schools, or certain year groups, do not return until September. We wait to hear what plans the Government have for schools.

#### A short message from Mrs Wilkinson at Callow End CoE Primary School

All is going well at Callow End. We have 4 - 10 children in school each day and our staff are coming in on a rota to cover. All the other pupils are being given work to do at home and can communicate with us through email and Tapestry. We will have 15 Y6 pupils leaving us this year.

#### *Classified Ads.....*

Lyttelton Well Bookshop - Although we can't serve you in person, we are still here and taking orders by **Phone** 01684 573702 & **email** [bookshop@lytteltonwell.co.uk](mailto:bookshop@lytteltonwell.co.uk)

To receive our newsletter directly, please email us at the above address.

Also, you can visit our website at <http://www.lytteltonwell.co.uk/bookshop>

to view our current Bookshop Newsletters for a small sample of what's available. If what you're looking for is not listed or not in stock, we'll happily order it in for you. Orders will be posted via Royal Mail at cost.

Please support us during this challenging time. Thank you. John Berry - Bookshop Manager

#### *Consumer News.....*

My car is doing five weeks to the gallon - how is your car doing?

#### *Not the End Times...*

With grateful thanks to Thea for kindly putting a chair on her drive on the Old Malvern Road after hearing how the Vicar struggles with his low mileage mountain bike on the trip back up from church....

Latest internet sensation alert - Diocesan Vicars doing the loo roll challenge. Watch this space.

#### *Next Time.....*

Milk Floats, Bovine Beauties and Nurseries - an insight into the lockdown by Alice Bennett , more from Stanbrook Abbey, North Yorkshire and may be Stanbrook Abbey Hotel Callow End. What about Weddings - what is happening to our weddings this year?

Take care, Rev Gary



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**Coffee Time and Prayer Time Page Supplement!**

**Bank Holiday**

**Prayer Resources - Praying the Lord's Prayer through the week.**

Launching the second in the series of Supporting our Faith resources, use the following to pray through the Lord's Prayer over the course of the coming week. Let me know how you get on with it.

**Monday: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name**

*Pray for your family, those who are important to you. Pray also for your Christian family, and especially those who may have a special need. Remember those who do not have a family or anyone to care for them. Ask God to help you or others to seek them out and show them God's love. Thank God for his sustaining presence and mighty power. Thank him for the love and mercy he shows to you. And give him praise that in him all things are possible.*

**Tuesday: your kingdom come, your will be done, your will be done, on earth as in heaven**

*Thank God for his creation. Wonder at the delicate balance that exists in our world, and ask God to help you to be a faithful and attentive steward of all he has given to you. Acknowledge before God that this world is not perfect, often because of humankind's exploitation of it. Ask God to help you to bring that creation back to the perfection he intended it to be. Pray especially for leaders of nations, that they will strive for justice, peace and well-being for all people and all creation. Remember those working in conservation and those generations helping to improve people's lives. Ask God what you can do to bring about the kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.*

**Wednesday: Give us today our daily bread**

*Thank God for the food on your table, remembering that we should only ask for what we need today, not tomorrow. Pray that people will not be greedy, and that all will share the plenty they have with others. Remember the feeding of the five thousand – there was enough for everyone and food was left over – we only have to share. Remember those who must go without food, pray that ways may be found to feed them, and for organisations both local and national who bring aid to the hungry.*

**Thursday: Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us**

*Acknowledge before God that you are broken, and often get things wrong or say the wrong thing. Remember Jesus' new commandment – to love one another as he loves us. Ask God for forgiveness for the things you do wrong, and ask for the grace to forgive others when we feel wronged by them. Bring before God those difficult situations in the world and in your life where we find it hard to forgive knowing that God is working in all these situations trying to bring good out of bad.*

**Friday: Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil**

*Ask God to help you when you are tempted to do or say the wrong thing. Pray that God will help you not be greedy or selfish or self-serving. Remember the words from the Sermon on the Mount – "blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth" and "blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God". Pray that you may be protected from the evil things of this world, and at all times help others to turn away from evil and turn to Christ. Remember Jesus' words, not to put God to the test and to worship him only.*



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**Saturday:** For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever

*Thank God that ultimately all power belongs to him, rest in the knowledge that God is in and around all things bringing the world to perfection despite us. Praise God that he is everlasting, the Alpha and Omega – the beginning and the end, and we are always held in his everlasting arms. Surrender your joys, sorrows, your life to the one who is omnipotent and all powerful, yet tender and loving as a parent to a child. Pray that it will always be this way.*

**Sunday:** Amen.

*Gather all you have prayed together as your say with your Christian family, The Lord's Prayer.*

**Not a Quiz - try my word search..... More will be put on worship resources in time**

G E N T I L E B I B L E D  
O B A A B R T J E M D I I  
D P I I E S I M N I P B N  
T E M P T A T I O N J A H  
H R P S H L H R P I E P O  
E S R A L V E A N S R T L  
F E A C E A H C A T U I Y  
A C Y R H T O L Z R S S S  
T U E I E I L E A Y A E P  
H T I F M O Y J R H L N I  
E E S I N N A J E W E H R  
R W E C L F A I T H M L I  
B S J E S U S C H R I S T



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**BAPTISE**

**BETHLEHEM**

**BIBLE**

**FAITH**

**GENTILE**

**GOD THE FATHER**

**Holy**

**HOLY SPIRIT**

**JESUS**

**CHRIST**

**JERUSALEM**

**JEW**

**MINISTRY**

**MIRACLE**

**NAZARETH**

**PERSECUTE**

**PRAY**

**SACRIFICE**

**SALVATION**

**SIN**

**TEMPTATION**

**TITHE**