



OLD HILLS MALVERN HEADLINES



11th and 18th July 2021

Keeping you in touch with your churches across Powick, Callow End, Guarlford and Madresfield with Newland

SERVICES FOR THE COMING PERIOD

Sunday 11th July

Trinity 6

9.30am Holy Communion at Callow End

11.00am Holy Communion at Madresfield

5.30pm Evening Prayer (by Zoom)

Readings:

2 Samuel 6: 1-5, 12b-19

Ephesians 1: 3-14

Mark 6: 14-29

Collect:

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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 for ever. **Amen.**

Sunday 18th July

Trinity 7

8.00am BCP Holy Communion at Powick

9.30am BCP Holy Communion at Guarlford

11.00am Forgiven, Loved and Free at Powick -
a service for Sea Sunday

5.30pm BCP Evening Prayer (by Zoom)

Readings:

2 Samuel 7: 1-14a

Ephesians 2: 11-end

Mark 6: 30-34, 53-end

Collect:

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; 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 for ever. **Amen.**

Thursday Night Prayers at 8.30pm by Zoom

VICAR'S BLOG

As I write this the Euro 2020 football is drawing to a close. I'm optimistically predicting an England victory, but I am no footie expert. Meanwhile, the Tokyo Olympics still look set to go ahead. Competitors will be training hard; indeed, some may have spent years of dedication and determination to build towards this event.

Maybe you're not quite an Olympic athlete but many may be glad, with the phased lifting of pandemic restrictions, to be able to return to the gym or the swimming pool. Although not in lycra, I am now classed as a gym regular at Clarence Park (no chuckles) and I have been pondering the importance of physical v spiritual training. Some of my efforts have got me on the TV recently too. I have been drawn to 1 Timothy, chapter 4. There Paul declares, "*Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come*" (v7-8). As a young man, Timothy knew the importance of taking exercise. He also knew that training was essential for athletes intending to compete. But Paul wants to stress how even more important is training for godliness. Paul literally writes, "*exercise yourself unto godliness*". It has value not simply for life in this world, but for eternal life in God's perfect new world.

Rather than being the equivalent of a couch-potato slumped in front of the television, Timothy is urged to be diligent in becoming more loving, more godly, gentler, purer, and so on. We need to take personal responsibility for our spiritual prowess. We need to work hard at growing our relationship with God and developing godly attitudes.

We might not lift the Euro trophy, or get the gold medal, but we will all benefit from better godly living. Just keep up with the sit ups or "reps" during the Euro Cup Final whilst reciting Psalm 121....

Rev Gary

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For more information, please see our website: www.oldhillsmalvern.co.uk

If you would like to be included in the email circulation list for this newsletter, please contact Liz Edwards, the Parish Administrator on oldhillsmalvern@gmail.com



SCAN ME

TELEPHONE ACCESS FOR ZOOM BASED SERVICES

After a successful trial, a new audio version of Zoom can be used by parishioners to engage with our Zoom based worship services. You will need to have the Meeting ID and passcode that can be given to you upon request. All you have to do is ring one of the following UK numbers, enter these codes and await connection. It is hoped that this additional functionality will broaden the appeal of Zoom based worship, especially for those without a computer or a stable internet access.

The following Zoom Code can be used for ALL services and Meetings across the parishes for the rest of the year.

Meeting ID: 828 8235 3178

Passcode: 761469

Dial by your location

+44 203 051 2874 United Kingdom

+44 203 481 5237 United Kingdom

+44 203 481 5240 United Kingdom

+44 203 901 7895 United Kingdom

+44 131 460 1196 United Kingdom



Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kWBLVBFtg>

SERVICES FOR JULY/AUGUST

Sunday 25th July

10.30am Patronal Festival at Callow End and dedication and blessing of the building with Bishop Martin

Sunday 1st August

11.00am Holy Communion at Powick
No Evening Prayer

Sunday 8th August

11.00am Forgiven Loved and Free at Powick
No Evening Prayer

Sunday 15th August

11.00am Holy Communion at Madresfield
No Evening Prayer

Sunday 22nd August

9.30am Holy Communion at Callow End
No Evening Prayer

Sunday 29th August

5.00pm Songs of Praise at Callow End Playing Fields
No Evening Prayer

Bishop Martin's Visit to St James' Callow End

I am delighted to advise that the Bishop of Dudley will be visiting St James' Church on the occasion of its patronal festival and to dedicate and give thanks for the works undertaken and proposed for the church in the village. Additionally, two candidates have come forward and are being prepared by Julia and myself for Confirmation. The service will take place on

Sunday 25th July

which might propose some issues given the potential for changes or indeed ceasing of the pandemic measures the week before. If changes are required, after the Government's announcement for the 19th July, an update will be issued. Until then, please pray for a successful visit to the Church in Callow End by Bishop Martin, and in particular, pray for Amy and Sheila, our Confirmation Candidates.

RETURNING TO THE NEW NORMAL

Press coverage of the Prime Minister's views on the easing of further restrictions has fuelled all sorts of views and opinions on how such changes will be implemented in life in general as well as in Church. I am awaiting clear guidance from the Church of England and running such advice by via our Wardens before deciding what to do.

It is looking possible that social distancing restrictions and therefore our reduced seating capacities may be lifted. Mandatory collection of track and trace or use of the QR code seems likely to cease. Face coverings could also be worn by personal choice rather than mandatory in enclosed spaces. That said ventilation is an issue in our buildings. Still no word about the resumption of singing, other than by choirs. I will keep you posted on what and how the changes will be brought into play before 19th July. The challenge is to now live with Covid - even with still rising infections locally but giving thanks for the continued roll out of the vaccinations. Rev Gary



Deanery News

Summer 2021

The Second Edition of Deanery News is now available to read on the website – under the Vicar's Blog tab.

Any news? Use this space for anything YOU want to say



Copies of Headlines will be available for reading in church.