

Dear All

Welcome to Keeping In Touch (KIT)14. We hope you have enjoyed some visits from loved ones now that some of the restrictions have been lifted. If you are in a 'bubble' we hope that you are floating along nicely! *(I had a little more time today so I've spoiled you with a bit of colour!!)*

The big news is that we are able to offer **limited opening of St Mary's for individual private prayer**. We are opening twice a week:

Saturday 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Wednesday 10.00am – 12.00

As we have to adhere to current government guidance there is limited access to the pews to ensure social distancing and you will find some of them have been blocked off. If you do visit, please use the hand sanitiser on arrival (you may want to bring your own) and only use the seating that is indicated. There will also be a maximum number of people that can be in the building at any one time (9/10) so if the allocated seating is full you may have to wait!



In the week that saw the passing of Dame Vera Lynn, it seems apt to quote her most famous song 'We'll Meet again'opening for individual private prayer is a small step on that journey.

This week is named the **Second Sunday after Trinity**. Within the Church year we are now in what is called 'Ordinary Time', meaning ordered or numbered time (from the ordinal numerals which are used to count the weeks). There are two segments of this in the Church year and the one from Pentecost to the First Sunday of Advent is the longest, in fact it is the largest season of the Liturgical year. Sundays and weeks are numbered continuously from the beginning of Ordinary Time and this Ordinary Time will finish on 21st November.

The Church calendar is made up of seasons that follow the life of Jesus. One of four colours – purple, green, gold (or white) and red – referred to as 'liturgical colours', are used for altar linen, clergy robes to reflect the season. The Church year begins in late November or early December with Advent, a time of preparation for Jesus' birth. The liturgical colour for Advent is purple, a colour of royalty as we are preparing to welcome the coming of a king. Purple is used again in Lent because it also symbolises suffering and pain. At Christmas and Easter the colour changes to white or gold, both bright optimistic colours for festivals, times for joy and celebration. Red as the colour of fire is used to celebrate Pentecost and saints' days. In the two Ordinary Times green cloths are used to symbolise all living things, renewal and promise of new life. Our altar cloths have been changed to green and will remain in place until Advent.

SERVICES FOR SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

This week's **Sunday Service** on BBC **Radio 4** is entitled 'Images of Fatherhood'.

"Ben Lindsay, Guvna B and Lord Hastings explore what it means to be a 'father' and share their experience of fatherhood. Although the biblical language of God as Father can be difficult for some, the idea it presents of a God with an unconditional love for all his children is a powerful one. How do we raise children in light of the murder of George Floyd in America and the subsequent protests and discussions about racism? Ben Lindsay, a Pastor in London, who also runs a charity which works to prevent knife crime will lead the service, and will lead a dialogue around what fatherhood is and hopes for the next generation, especially around fighting against injustice and racism . Guvna B, an award winning grime artist will reflect on losing his father two years ago and becoming a father himself, and Lord Hastings will share his experience of becoming a father figure to young men in prison through his prison ministry".

It features a recording of the London Gospel Choir singing 'We shall Overcome'. You might enjoy this clip of them singing 'Joyful, Joyful'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UnBZ4DNkjSg>

And this one of 'Oh Happy Day'

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

I dare you to listen to either without at least tapping your foot!

There will be the usual **live service** on the **Church of England's website** and on their Facebook page at **9.00am** <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>.

This week the live streamed service from **Chichester Cathedral** is led by the Chaplain of the Cathedral, The **Reverend Canon Bruce Ruddock**. You can access this service live by clicking on the link and it will take you to the page with instructions on how to view. You can also view it later www.chichestercathedral.org.uk/services/live-services

Sunday Worship on **BBC1** is being shown this week at **1145** (note the change of time). A service for Father's Day from Holy Trinity Platt Church in Manchester led by the Rector, Rev Dr Paul Mathole. With songs and hymns recorded by Songs of Praise in 2017.

The theme for **Songs of Praise** this week is of course Father's Day and looks back on stories of inspirational dads and father figures. It begins with the story of a London dad whose gift of a kidney saved his son's life, and how their faith not only sustained them but inspired them to raise awareness about organ donation.

There is also a reshewing of an interview with Baroness Doreen Lawrence. "*In one of the most memorable Songs of Praise moments.....Doreen spoke about her long fight for justice for her son Stephen, how it impacted her faith and about the hymn that has brought her comfort*". It will be broadcast at **1.15** on **BBC1**.

This week's **Choral Evensong service** on **BBC Radio 3** at **3.00pm** comes from the chapel of Trinity College, Cambridge.

OH WORSHIP THE LORD

If we had been able to have a service this week, the second hymn would have been '*Oh Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness*' (you can listen to it using the link in the **pewslip** – thankyou Stephen).

This hymn was written by John Samuel Bewley Monsell. He was born in Londonderry in 1811, and was educated at Trinity College in Dublin. His father was the Archdeacon of Derry. John Bewley was ordained Deacon in 1834 and married his wife Anne in 1835. He served as a chaplain and rector of several churches in Ireland before transferring to England in 1853. He became rector of Egham in Surrey and was then rector of St. Nicholas Church in Guildford from 1870.

John and Anne's eldest son, Thomas, died on the way to the Crimean War in 1855, aged 18, in a shipwreck off Italy. They also lost their daughter Elizabeth who died in Torquay at the age of 28 in 1861. They were grandparents to the artist Elinor Darwin who before her marriage was one of the illustrators that worked with W.B. Yeats. He admired her woodcuts and asked her to create a logo for the Abbey Theatre, also known as the National Theatre of Ireland.

John was responsible for the building or rebuilding of three of his churches, including St Nicholas in Guildford. Sadly, in 1875 while inspecting the rebuilding of the roof of St Nicholas he fell off and subsequently died from an infected wound. He was a prolific hymnist and wrote over 300, including '*Fight the Good Fight*' which is based on the King James Bible's version of Paul's First Epistle to Timothy, Chapter 6, verse 12: "*Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.*"

Incidentally, the word hymn comes from the Greek *hymnos*. They were originally songs written in honour of the gods, leading figures and heroes. The Christian Church adopted their structure many centuries later, notably in the 6th century by Saint Benedict who founded the Benedictine order. Benedict turned Latin texts into plainsong/chant hymns. During the Reformation there was a wish to move away from something that only monks could perform to something everyone could understand and sing. Versions of the psalms with rhyme, rhythm and a verse structure began to be produced making them easier for everyone to join in. As the Reformation coincided with the introduction of printing this gave churchgoers even more access.

Isaac Watts began the reform of congregational singing in England but it was of course the Wesley brothers who brought about the main change. They insisted that hymns, both words and music, should be written to stir the congregation and reinforce religious emotions, making them the central feature of Methodist worship. Forward thinking clergy in the Church of England recognised the need for a musical revival in their own churches but they met resistance from those still wedded to the metrical psalm. The matter came to a head in Sheffield in 1819 when Rev. Thomas Cotterill imposed Methodist-style hymns on his congregation. They rebelled and took him to the Diocesan Consistory Court. The case was heard by the Chancellor of the Diocese of York who, in true Anglican compromise, concluded that both hymns and metrical psalms were illegal in Anglican liturgy but because their use was widespread he didn't feel able to enforce his decision! This opened the floodgates for all manner of hymns and was the start of what we know today. The publication of *Hymns Ancient and Modern* in 1861 was an amazing success, with sales reaching 500,000 a year – at a time when many people could not read or write! By 1912 it had sold a staggering 60 million copies and is still in print.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

As you will know Andy and Carole Holmes grew a large number of plants for our sadly cancelled plant sale. Last week they were offering them in exchange for a donation to the church. This raised well over £100 in donations so a huge thank you to them and to those who received the plants!

A QUESTION OF MONEY

Last week I offered to provide bank details of the church account to anyone who wanted to make a donation for their plants in that way. Several people also asked for them to make a donation to the church. Our income has of course taken a real hit with the cancellation of services and subsequent loss of collections, donations and fundraising events. Many of you will know of our perilous financial position (as treasurer I am always reminding people!!) and we are very grateful to those who currently give monthly via the Parish Giving Scheme. If you normally give via the collection or support us in other ways and would like to make a donation here are the details:

PCC of Chidham

Sort code: 60-05-24

Acct No: 96179236

NatWest Bank

Ref: KIT

I promise not to mention money again in KIT (this is only the first time in 14 weeks!!!).

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Chichester Cathedral is open daily for **individual private prayer** between 12.00 – 4.00pm. Entry will be by the West Door only apart from use of the Cathedral's accessible entrance. Visitors will be limited to a maximum of 60 at one time.

The Cathedral's on-site toilets will remain closed as will the café and shop.

RETURNING LIBRARY BOOKS

If you have a library book that needs returning, West Sussex libraries has arranged for them to be returned to the door of **any** library as follows:

Sat 20th June 1000 – 1200

Tue 23rd June 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Thur 25th June 1000 – 1200

You can return any book even if it was borrowed from a different library. If you can't make any of these slots don't worry as there will be no charge on any books that have not been returned. Outside of these times if you have something you are keen to return you can put it through the letterbox if it is large enough!

Libraries will remain closed until at least 4th July.

SCAM WARNING

Be aware of fake calls claiming to be from the NHS. The NHS Track and Trace service will **never:**

Ask for payment, your bank details or any passwords or PINs.

Ask you to dial a premium rate number to speak to them (those starting 09 or 087)

Ask for social media identities or log in details

Ask you to download any software to your PC or handover control of your PC, tablet or smartphone

Ask you to access any website that does not belong to the government or NHS

If you have any concerns you should contact Citizens Advice Scams Action Helpline on 0808 250 5050 and report it.

Please pass this information to elderly friends and relatives.

THE LIGHTHEARTED BIT!

I hope you enjoyed last week's flower quiz, the answers are attached.

Warning - Stereotyping Alert! This week in honour of Father's Day we have a Car Quiz. Do you recognise the car badges/logos?

HEDGEHOGS RULE!

We found a hedgehog in the garden last week so I thought you might like to know some fun facts about them:

Their spines are approx. 1 inch long and adult males have roughly 5000.

In China they are considered sacred. Celtic Myth accused them of being witches in disguise.

Babies are known as hoglets and leave the nest after only 3 weeks to seek independence.

About 1000 blond hedgehogs live on Alderney. They are known as 'Alderney Spike Girls'. They have no fleas and their origin is a complete mystery.

It was once believed that they rolled onto apples to carry them back to their burrows

Their hearts beat 190 times per minute, slowing to 20 during hibernation.

They are related to shrews and moles.

The Romans observed 3rd February as Hedgehog Day.

In Medieval times farmers believed that they stole milk from cows at night. By 1566 the Elizabethan parliament decided to put a threepence bounty on the head of any hedgehog that could be caught and killed. Some parish churches even introduced their own bounty!

HEADS, SHOULDERS, KNEES AND TOES.....

It is quite amazing just how many parts of the body belonging to famous people in history somehow became separated from the body itself and turned up, many years or even centuries later.

When **King Charles I** was beheaded in 1649 he was buried at Windsor Castle in the same vault as Henry VIII. The coffin was opened in 1813 and Sir Henry Hallford, the royal surgeon, performed an autopsy on the body. He secretly stole Charles' fourth cervical vertebra and for the next 30 years he loved to shock his friends at dinner parties by using it as a salt holder. On hearing of this, Queen Victoria demanded that the bone be returned to Charles' coffin immediately. It was!

After **Sir Thomas More** was executed his head was taken from the scaffold and parboiled to be displayed stuck on a pole on Westminster bridge. His devoted daughter, Margaret Roper, bribed the bridge keeper to knock it down and she smuggled it home and preserved it in spices. Sadly, she was betrayed by spies and imprisoned for a short time. She died in 1544 and Sir Thomas' head was buried with her. In 1824 her vault was opened and More's head was put on public view in St Dunstan's church in Canterbury for many years.

When **Anne Boleyn** was beheaded in 1536 her heart was stolen and secretly hidden in a church near Thetford. It was rediscovered 300 years later in 1836 and was re-buried under the church organ where it remains still.

After his execution **Sir Walter Raleigh's** body was buried but his embalmed head was kept by his wife, Elizabeth Throgmorton. She kept it by her side in a red leather bag for the last 29 years of her life. Their son then took care of it until his death in 1666. He was buried in his father's grave with the head but in 1680 he was exhumed and reburied in West Horsley in Surrey. Walter's head went with him.

Ben Johnson, the English dramatist, was famously buried in Westminster Abbey standing up, but during a later internment in 1849 his grave was disturbed. The Dean of Westminster, the Very Reverend William Buckland, stole Johnson's heel bone but it later disappeared. It was not found again until 1938 when the bone mysteriously reappeared in an old furniture shop.

During the French Revolution the tomb of **Louis XIV** was wrecked and plundered. His heart was stolen and sold to Lord Harcourt who later sold it to the Dean of Westminster, William Buckland again. One night at dinner the Dean, who liked to experiment with food, ate the embalmed heart! (*more about this next week as William Buckland was a very interesting character!*)

Be sure to keep body and soul/sole together this week!

And **finally**, our prayers:

Lord, you call each of us by name,

you send us out to work alongside and support one another.

We pray for all those who come alongside and support those who are sick, those who are lonely, those who are grieving and those struggling with mental health issues.

We especially pray that all might know God's presence wherever they are.

Where we can't be physically present, may you be strongly present spiritually as you come alongside us.

Amen

Gracious Lord, we pray for your Church and ask you to flood it with the truth and peace of your Holy Spirit.

Where the Church is right, strengthen it;

where it is in error, re-direct it.

Where in anything it is amiss, reform it.

Where it is in want, provide for it;

Where it is divided, reunite it.

Where it is faltering, stiffen its resolve so that it may fulfil its role as a shining beacon on a hill to all who surround it. ***Amen***

Who knows what the coming week will bring but enjoy the extra freedom and do stay safe

Carol & Willem