

St Mary's Burghfield

Newsletter 4 Thursday 30th April 2020



Sunday 26th April 2020 - Join us for our 10am 'Virtual' service via Zoom.

Readings: Acts 2.42-end, John 10.1-10

Today's Prayer: Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father. Amen

To access this week's service please [email Revd Glynn](mailto:revd.glynn@stmarysburghfield.org) for access code

[Worksheet 1](#) & [Worksheet 2](#) for children for this week:

Communion/ 'Spiritual' Communion

Following discussion within our team we have decided to continue to offer 10am Zoom services on a Sunday for the time being. These will be Communion services in keeping with our normal 10am Sunday worship. However, if there is a strong feeling that people might prefer a 'Service of the Word' instead, we would really value your feedback on this please.

In the meantime, I just wanted to clarify our current situation as I have had several queries about 'receiving' communion. You will be aware that during the current Zoom service when myself or Lorraine, consecrate and then receive communion, we do so on behalf of everyone attending. At this point the Church of England offers an alternative and makes provision for those unable to receive physically, who may instead in faith, be able to receive 'spiritually'. Either Lorraine or I will offer a prayer at this point to enable spiritual communion.

A few have asked whether it would be appropriate to consume some bread and wine in their own homes at this point in order to feel part of communion. I could go into a theological explanation, but the short answer is, yes you may, so long as you understand there is difference between what is consecrated by Lorraine and myself and what you receive. Of course, Gods' grace is beyond our understanding and you may well feel that you are being blessed through receiving your own bread and wine at this point in the service. We will leave it entirely up to you whether this is something you may or may not choose to do. If you have any questions, please do get in touch with either Lorraine or myself.

Revd Glynn

IMPORTANT

Email Address

For all future correspondence with the Parish Administrator please use the below email address:

stmarysburghfield@outlook.com



Daily Readings for the week

Monday 4th May - Psalm 103, Exodus 32.1-14, Luke 2.41-end
Tuesday 5th May - Psalm 139, Exodus 32.15-34, Luke 3.1-14
Wednesday 6th May – Psalm 135, Exodus 33, Luke 3.15-22
Thursday 7th May – Psalm 118, Exodus 34.1-10,27-end, Luke 4.1-13
Friday 8th May – Psalm 33, Proverbs 35.20-36.7, James 4.14-30
Saturday 9th May – Psalm 34, Exodus 40.17-end, Luke 4.32-37



Prayers at St Mary's going forward

We are publishing three prayers and reflections per week (Mon, Wed, Fri) which we hope you will find helpful. These will be available on our website and Facebook page.

Thank you to those who have given feedback on how helpful you have found them.



Please pray for:

- Birch Road, Warren Close, Loves Close, Fox Close.
- PCC members as they seek God's will for our parish.
- Clergy and people of our link diocese, Kimberley and Kuruman.
- Those who have died recently, Derek Newman, Doreen Chamberlain



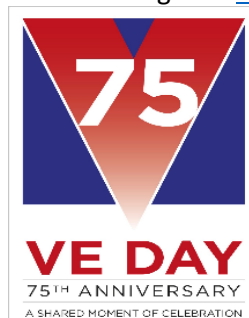
When VE Day dawns on **8th May 2020** it will be 75 years since the guns fell silent at the end of the war in Europe. Destruction had come to an end and millions of people took to the streets and pubs to celebrate peace, mourn their loved – ones and to hope for the future, but not forgetting those still in conflict until 15th August when it was announced that Japan had surrendered unconditionally to the Allies, effectively ending World War II.

The 75th anniversary will provide our nation, and our friends around the world, with an opportunity to reflect on the enormous sacrifice, courage and determination of people from all walks of life who saw us through this dark and terrifying period.

In order to celebrate the 75 years Revd Glynn will be recording prayers and uploading to Facebook for you to join in as you have done with our other prayer recordings through the week. Jane will send out links closer to the time. It would be great if we can make bunting and decorate our homes to honour the people who lost their lives and celebrate the War ending.

Please do not forget to send pictures of your wonderful efforts to share with our church community next week!

If you need help on how to make bunting click [here](#) for ideas and assistance!





News from 'Our Church Community'

We'd love to hear from you!



Margaret has kindly sent these wonderful photos of the wildlife caught on camera in her garden! Margaret has said 'We have two foxes who come. One we call black sock because she has a black foot. She is obviously feeding cubs at present, judging from underside. The other we call white tip because of his tail!'

Margaret Thomas



Gill Sinclair was invited to be interviewed on Radio Berkshire again on Thursday night (30th April) just after 8pm. You can listen to her interview and her wonderful song 'Hero' again. 'Hero' is touching so many people around our country and is moving around the world too. We continue to be so proud of you Gill!

Revd Glynn

Do you have any stories which have helped your faith during our time of crisis which you might like to share?

If you have any prayer requests please let us know and we can forward on to our prayer team.

If you have a request for a favourite hymn, let us know and we can pass this on to Gill.

Please send in any photos of the wonderful things you are doing at home during this time.

Maybe you have seen wildlife and photographed on your daily walks?



We'll sing again; don't know where, don't know when.....

At the recent Worship and Discipleship Committee meeting (held via Zoom from committee members' homes) we were looking ahead to the time when we can meet again in church to worship together. One thing we will really enjoy is singing together in our beautiful building, and we hope to hold a "Songs of Praise" service featuring some of our favourite hymns. **Now is your chance:** let us know **your** favourite hymns or songs (up to a maximum of five) and we will compile a list to see which ones are the all-time favourites. If you would like to say briefly why each of your chosen songs is special to you this would be great. Please let Eileen Thatcher know your choices, by email at brianthatcher@btinternet.com, or by phone on 0118 933 3037. Let us be ready to sing again in church as soon as we can!

The Bible Course



In light of the coronavirus situation, the Bible course has not been able to continue here at St Mary's.

The *Bible Course* has been adapted so that you can [watch the session videos](#) online for free
You can download the manual [here](#).

These Videos will be available to watch for a limited time online (at least until the end of August).
We hope that this development will be helpful and encouraging to you at this challenging time.



Weekly Reminders

- Do not forget to join in weekly at 8pm on Thursday nights, as we clap (or generally make a noise) to honour and show our support for everyone working so hard in the NHS as well as other keyworkers
- Reminder to place a candle in your window at 7pm on Sunday nights as a sign of hope and to show our prayer support for our neighbours and communities



Website

We are updating our website daily to ensure communication is kept between us and yourself at home. Please find useful links within our website:

Home Page – [Link](#)

Resources and updates during Coronavirus – [Link](#)

Online Videos - [Link](#)

We are also updating our website where we are adding photos to the 'Gallery' tab. If you have any photographs from past events which we can place in our gallery. Please can you forward to stmarysburghfield@outlook.com



The foodbank in Burghfield is closed and all food will now be delivered direct from the warehouse in Greenham Common to clients with vouchers. They have completed the last of their deliveries this afternoon and have crated up the remaining stock and it will go back to the warehouse early next week. So as of now the foodbank is closed. Obviously, food should **NOT** be dropped off there.

The new collection point will now be at **Budgens** and a collection point on a Tuesday at the post office, with a drop off remaining at **Tesco** in Burghfield. Please can we ask for as many donations as possible to be dropped to assist our community during this difficult time.

Donations may be made directly to their bank account, with the following details:

Lloyds Bank, Newbury: Sorting Code 77-95-05

West Berks Foodbank: Account No. 72784660

Or, you may send a cheque payable to "West Berks Foodbank" and send to: The Treasurer, West Berks Foodbank, 23 Charter Road, Newbury, Berks. RG14 7EW.

You may also wish to complete a **Gift Aid form to add 25% value to your donation**

The banks are urgently needing the following

DEODORANT, SHOWER GEL, RAZORS, SPONGE PUDDINGS, TINNED FRUIT