



Chet Valley Churches

Weekly News 5 April—Palm Sunday

Welcome to the Chet Valley Churches. Just now we are making connections with one another by phone and online, and we can also share updates via the Weekly News. Please let the News have any good news stories/items of encouragement that we can share. All our services can now be found on the churches' website at www.chetvalleychurches.org

Readings for today

Matthew 21. 1-11

Psalms 118. 19-24



Prayer for today

True and humble king,
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you and love you,
that we may be found beside you
on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory.

Dates for your diary

This section is only useful if you tell us what's on! The contact details for this newsletter are on the back page.

There are no meetings or services at the moment, but there are some dates and events that can go in your diary.

- Each Sunday service will be available by email, so we can join in worship even if we can't meet together. (See inside for details)
- Each evening at 7pm we are encouraged by the Archbishop to light a candle and pray for those who are affected by the Coronavirus in whatever way. That includes people who are ill, those who are fearful and those who care for others. It also includes people who are struggling financially. And of course it includes all who are trying to co-ordinate the way forward and those whose research may lead to overcoming the virus.

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.

Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;

that we may rejoice in your comfort

knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen

Prayers Please...

Please pray for people and situations in the locality and beyond...

Especially let's pray for people we know who are fearful about Covid-19 or who are ill. Let's also pray for health carers, those who have to issue guidelines and those who organise their implementation. On a wider scale let's pray for research scientists who continually work to develop vaccines to combat so many diseases.

Use the Prayer Shower

We have a 'prayer shower' for urgent prayer requests. Contact Ros Hoffmann email roshoffmann2011@gmail.com tel 01508 548200. Also contact Ros if you would like to pray for urgent needs as part of the shower.

Time for Prayer

On Tuesday evenings from 7.30 to 8.30pm we usually meet at St John's Chapel in Loddon for 'Time for Prayer and Space for Reflection', led by Jill Haylock. During the time when we cannot meet together, could you take time to light a candle and pray at home? If you wish, you can let Jill know (01508 520248)

Morning Prayer, but not in Church

Clergy are continuing with Morning Prayer at 9am, but in their own homes. You may like to join in. You can use your own copy of Common Worship or the old prayer book, or you can find the service at <https://tinyurl.com/MornPray>. Scroll down and click on Morning Prayer in Lent.

News and Events

Services Online

This week we would normally be holding Xpressions Café as well as various services of Holy Communion for Palm Sunday. If you usually (or sometimes) come to Café, why not make a cup of tea or coffee and take a moment to pray for the Café team and for any or all of the people you meet there. Being unable to meet together gives us a huge opportunity for prayer! If you have the News by email, you will also receive the Communion service, which this week was recorded by Alison Ball, at home and can be found at www.chetvalleychurches.org

Delivering the News

Each week the News is being sent out by email to over 50 people, but we're also delivering it to people who are not online who we think would appreciate a paper copy. Obviously we are doing this with care, mindful of hand-washing etc. If you would rather not have a paper copy, do say so—phone Nina Owen on 01580 522993.



Spot-ted

Genny Godber shared an idea she picked up from elsewhere, which would certainly brighten up the day. Why not put a teddy in your window as a sign of affection and hope. Families who are out for a daily walk can spot them as they go past, and we can all be encouraged by a bear's friendly face!

Church Buildings

All our church buildings are closed, but they can't look after themselves. If you spot something that doesn't look right, please tell clergy or churchwardens

Food Bank

The Food Bank collection points in Chedgrave church and St John's chapel may be currently closed, but there is still one in the Co-op. The Food Bank still needs support.

Holy Week

See the Chet Valley Churches website for a short reflection for each day of Holy Week and for a service for Good Friday.

Finance and Church

One of the effects of closing the churches is loss of income. We still need to pay our Parish Share and insure and maintain the buildings even when we are not meeting together. We are not receiving money in rents and fees, which are a significant part of any church's income, but the biggest loss is in weekly giving. If you don't give by standing order, would you consider doing so? If you give by envelope, would you consider doing so each week, even if you are not going anywhere just now? If you usually just give when you come to church, could you put a donation aside each week? If you want to discuss this, phone your treasurer or any member of the clergy team.

Things to Note

Church Office

The Church Office is no longer being staffed. For church matters please contact the clergy, or for matters relating to St John's you can contact Barry on 520045.

Smile of the Week

We might take a leaf out of Winnie the Pooh's book as he faces a crisis (in a flood), and with the aid of a honey jar, gets on top of things.



Information

Licensed Clergy

Rev. David Owen 01508 522993
david.chetvalley@gmail.com (Not Thur)

Rev. Ros. Hoffmann 01508 548200
roshoffmann2011@gmail.com (Not Mon)

Rev. Alison Ball 01508 528126
ball880am@btinternet.com (Not Fri)

Rev. Jill Haylock 01508 520248
jillhaylock@aol.com (Not Mon)

Rev. Louise Morrissey 01728 830733
delilah.morrissey@googlemail.com (Methodist)

Church Office

To contact the Church Office call 01508 521179 or email office@chetvalleychurches.org
The Church Office is just inside the door at St John's Chapel, Loddon. It opens Mon & Fri 10am-4pm and Tues, Weds & Thur 10am-1pm .

Prayer Shower

For situations that need urgent prayer, or to pray for others, contact Ros Hoffmann: 01508 548200, roshoffmann2011@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Send items for the Weekly News to news.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com (preferred) or on paper to the Church Office or by phone to the Office on 521179, by Wednesday mid day. Please include your name and phone number or email address.

Newsletter By Email?

Would you like to receive your Weekly News by email, making sure you get the news even if you can't be in church on Sunday? If so, send an email to news.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com

Website, including events diary

(www.chetvalleychurches.org)
To submit information for the website, email david.chetvalley@gmail.com

Food Bank Contributions

To donate items to the Norwich Food Bank put them in the collecting boxes in Chedgrave church or St John's Chapel, Loddon.

Services and readings next week—12 April Easter Sunday

The service is available by email and will be sent automatically to those who usually receive the Weekly News by email. It is also available to download from www.chetvalleychurches.org

You might take time to look at next week's readings:

Jeremiah 31. 1-6, Acts 10. 34-43, Matthew 28. 1-10

Tailpiece Feedback on last week's online service.... The cat came and sat with us to watch the service, and meowed in all the hymns!
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