



Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 5th April 2020 Palm Sunday



Though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ. Colossians 2.5

Morning Prayer at 8am-8:30am

10am-10:30am Service of the Word with music

on **ZOOM**

When you are signed in you can 'Join a Meeting' to access the services Derwyn will be hosting.

The meeting ID for all the meetings is 846 662 9590 (no password, open to all).

Whether or not you might like to do this, let's be aware of the prayerful communion in God's Spirit that we all share, wherever we are, whether or not we are able to talk, video-conference or communicate with one another.

I mention you always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will I may succeed in coming to you. For I long to see you, that I may impart some spiritual gift to strengthen you, that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. Romans 1.9-11.

There are a number of ZOOM meetings scheduled for fellowship and conversation, after the 10am worship session, since a conversation between 30+ parties is impossible! If you'd like to join one, please enter one of the codes below at 10:30am:

Derwyn - 846 662 9590 June - 822 740 0814 Derek - 927 480 8728 Rob - 841 818 2500
Roger - 458 034 0358

This evening we were due to be sharing worship with the Choir in a Choral meditation for Palm Sunday, with Gabriel Fauré's Requiem. You might like to listen to the Requiem via this link. I also attach the order of service so that you might follow the text if you wish.

Collect for Palm Sunday

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
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.



Gospel for Palm Sunday, Matthew 21.1-11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately. This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, 'Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.' The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!' When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

Children's resources –

With this week's newsletter we attach a copy of 'Look'. Each week the Gospel story is explained in age appropriate language. A prayer and a variety of activities that will engage the children are included, to help each child get to know the person of Jesus.

Or perhaps try a Godly Story? This week, the story of Palm Sunday, with wondering questions for families to think and talk about together. Find it on YouTube at:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=iAcaa-w5u_E

Derwyn invites you to listen to the short recordings he has produced. They're on the [website](#) and our Facebook page: a series on the Lord's Prayer and another entitled Powerful Prayers.

Psalm for Palm Sunday, Psalm 118:1-2. 19-end

Refrain: This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures for ever.

Let Israel now proclaim, "His mercy endures for ever." [R]

Open to me the gates of righteousness; that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. [R]

I will give thanks to you, for you answered me and have become my salvation

The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. [R]

This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. [R]

Come, O Lord, and save us as we pray. Come, Lord, send us now prosperity.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; we bless you from the house of the Lord. [R]

The Lord is God; he has given us light;

bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God and I will thank you; you are my God and I will exalt you.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; and his mercy endures for ever. [R]

Have no anxiety about anything, but with prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made know to God. Philippians 4.6

It has been heartening to learn how many people are praying in this current testing season, and how many people are so deeply appreciative of and grateful for prayer.

As another layer of the praying life of the church we have set up a simple Prayer Chain.

The idea is simple: a chain of people to whom a prayer request can be made through its coordinator. The coordinator receives the request and prays accordingly before passing it on to a member of the chain who does likewise, until the prayer returns to the coordinator after a number of days being prayed for by a variety of people.

If you would like the Prayer Chain to pray in this way for some concern which is on your heart, please make your prayer request to the coordinator, Diane Pettitt:

Tel. 01279 461845 Email diane.pettitt@hotmail.com

Requests are strictly confidential to the Prayer Chain, who will simply pray as asked and a request will not lead to any further contact or action

Do keep praying in all the ways that connect you to Jesus. If a request to the Prayer Chain would help, don't hesitate to make it.

And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and minds in Jesus Christ our Lord. Philippians 4.7



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Bishop's Stortford Food Bank – Excerpts from Chairman's Update for CTBS

We are working with Operation Community and Holy Trinity to enable all our food parcels to be delivered to people in need at their home address, removing the need for any face to face contact. All volunteers at the Food Bank always maintain a strict 2m space around them and strict hygiene practices are observed. We have been able to keep up so far but are starting to see shortages in some items being donated as they become increasingly scarce in the shops.

How to donate:

- Put items into boxes near check-outs when doing essential shopping:
Tesco at Lancaster Way
Sainsburys (either Jackson Square or Thorley stores)
Waitrose

Please don't be put off donating if the box seems full – people are being so generous; sometimes it's difficult for our van to keep up, but every item is desperately needed

- Food Bank at the Methodist Church (Monday and Tuesday only, 10am-2pm)

To avoid unnecessary contact, we will leave a trolley in the doorway at the side path entrance.

Most Needed Items:

- Long Life Fruit Juice
- Long life Milk
- Tea Bags & Coffee
- Tinned Vegetables
- Tinned Meat & Fish
- Biscuits
- Jam & Marmalade, Marmite & Honey
- Beans, spaghetti and soup
- Pasta and Pasta Sauces
- Long dated cereals
- Toiletries (shower gel, shampoo, toothpaste, soap, deodorants, shaving foam & razors, sanitary products etc)
- Washing up liquid
- Washing liquid or tablets (for washing machines)

To help by donating money: <https://www.justgiving.com/bishopstortfordfoodbank> or send a cheque or make a BACS payment direct to our bank. For further details please contact our Coordinator.

To help with food packing at the Food Bank: email bsfoodbank.coordinator@gmail.com

To help with delivery of boxes in and around town: Own transport and on a Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday. Please send a copy of your driving licence, colour photo of your ID card, evidence of a DBS (paper copy or digital reference number) OR a certificate from the free online Basic Safeguarding Course run by the Church of England to Canon Mandy Brown at Holy Trinity Church at ht.nightshelter@outlook.com

Your prayers, and the practical support you give us is very much appreciated. **Bill Macdonald**



*With this ordinary, unconsecrated bread
I make remembrance of my last visit to Church
and I remind myself that
the bread that I received there, however long ago,
will keep me in life eternal.*

*And with this ordinary, unconsecrated wine
I remember all those who were there with me
and live in hope to see them all again.*

ZOOM Holy Communion at 10am Wednesday 8th April and 7pm Maundy Thursday 9th April – Hosted by Derek Hinge. More information about Holy Week worship in the next couple of days.

Fairtrade Easter Eggs – Christine Solway has about a dozen Easter eggs (£4 each) that she is happy to deliver, preferably within Bishop's Stortford and as part of her daily exercise. Please contact Christine on (£4 each). To arrange, contact - christine.solway@virgin.net / 831840.

The Man Born to be King – Some of you might remember that members of St Michael's congregation were involved in a recording of five of the Dorothy L Sayers plays during Holy Week in 2012. These recordings are now on our [website](#) and you might wish to listen to them in the forthcoming week or so.

Divine Loves – David Arkell, one of our organists, has written a poetry collection with all proceeds going to the Bible Society. Click [here](#) for a taster selection. The book of 52 poems with Christian themes costs £5

and is available from David: davidharkell@yahoo.co.uk.

April Parish Magazine – Due to the current situation, the April 2020 issue of the Parish Magazine will not be produced in hard copy. Please visit the [magazine page](#) on our website to see a selection of items already submitted to the editor before the decision was taken not to publish a printed issue. The situation will be reviewed with regard to future issues of the magazine and regular contributors will be kept up to date.

Electoral Roll – The APCM is on **Sunday 26th April** at 11:40am in the WCC **dependent on the Coronavirus situation**. An alternative date has been set as 25th October. The reports may be viewed on the [website](#).

Prayers for our community – An invitation from Roger Sudbury: Would you like to join a weekly prayer session at 9:30am each Saturday? This usually takes place every Saturday in Church but for now will be via ZOOM, with the Meeting ID: 458 034 0358. All welcome!

The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar)	653867	Churchwarden: Rosemary Thomson	758389
The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO)	652173	Deputy Churchwardens:	
The Rev'd June Knight (PTO)	771756	Terry Pigram, Peter Rixson, Roger Sudbury	
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