

Pews News & Notices for Harbury, Ladbroke & Ufton

17th May 2020 : Sixth Sunday of Easter

Websites: All Saints', Harbury - allsaintsharbury.org

All Saints', Ladbroke - ladbrokechurch.org.uk

WORSHIPPING GOD - GROWING IN FAITH - WORKING IN COMMUNITY

A MESSAGE FROM REV'D ANN

Dear All

I hope you are all well and enjoyed celebrating VE Day. As Ed and I walked round the village we saw lots of people getting ready for their garden street parties and with a great atmosphere!! I hope we all feel inspired by the celebrations, interviews with veterans and the Queen's speech to continue to fight our own war with Covid 19 with renewed determination and hope with the help of God.

Having had 3 inspiring reflections by our great Readers, the thought for the week for the next three weeks will be by members of the congregation - this week is from Brian Jones.

My Grand-daughter has just finished university and I can't resist sharing her Facebook post with her reflections on ending university during lockdown. "

"Today I finished my degree.... Four years of work completed (which felt like maybe four weeks not four years!!) I never believed people when they said it would fly by, but OH BOY did it!

Yet as I now sit in my garden looking back on my time at uni I can't help but feel conflicted. They have been the best four years, I've grown so much over my time here... but this is never how I could of imagined uni ending. So many people's lives have been completely turned around because of Covid 19 and the way it's affected me is by uni finishing a month early while sat on my sofa submitting my final bit of coursework with no final exams (which I mean I'm not that upset about exams are gross 😬).

Yet I won't get any of the expected celebrations with my friends and family for a while, I won't be able to say goodbye to the church I have called home for the last four years, I will leave to start a new job in September with broken expectations of what the end was to be like.

But even in the midst of all these crazy changes and broken expectations there is one hope I cling to day by day. God is unchanging. He is all that I need each day to get through that day. He loves me, I am his child and one day I will be in glory with him. As the world changes around us, he remains the same and he always will be the same.

These truths are the things I cling to now as I feel so glad about my time at that uni, yet so sad at the way it ended. I don't know what my future away from Manchester holds... But I know that with God I will get through, he is my hope and the one I can always rely on."

May God bless you all and hold you close in his love.
Keep safe. With love & prayers for you all.

Ann

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, in this time of extreme uncertainty, help our faith in you to be sure. In this time of change and restriction, help us to be malleable to your will and firm in following your lead. In this time of having to face huge difficulties, help us to rise to your challenges that strengthen and change us for the better. Amen

REFLECTION FOR THE WEEK

In his love God is always trying to speak to us. But even when the events through which he speaks are hard to experience or accept, as in this coronavirus pandemic and lock-down, "Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4). More important than anything is knowing God's will and doing it, even seeking it out in a given situation.

However, our lives are so often full of other things we find it difficult to hear what God is saying in many of the situations we experience. Our ears can be deaf and our minds unreceptive. We do not hear God speak or may be distracted from responding.

But, in this period of reduced activity it may be easier to listen for him, to hear his voice and to follow his lead. Even the tentative measures to partially ease the lock-down can be fresh opportunities for God to speak.

When negative things happen to us, it is often unproductive to ask the question why? After all God is not answerable to us. But the question what – is God saying to me in this difficulty, is about God's communication with us.

One church minister wrote, "Faith that cannot be shaken comes only from a faith that has been so severely shaken that it is now sure, certain and steadfast."

It is vital that we continue to develop our relationship with God by learning from situations as they arise, especially the present one. And so being willing to embrace healthy God given challenges, intended to bring new growth into our lives. Then, by the accumulation of our experiences, we will increasingly be ready for anything.

God offers us the deep and exhilarating joy of knowing his love in our own experiences. Perhaps especially in the midst of our most difficult times in life.

Difficulties of varying kinds and intensities can often produce great depths of character, mature understanding, warm compassion and rich spirituality. They can make us more like Christ.

The sparkling radiance of a diamond is caused by a lump of coal subjected to extreme pressure and heat over a long period of time. A beautiful pearl emerges when an oyster has to cover an irritating object with layer upon layer of smooth mother-of-pearl, excreted from its own body.

When we suffer in various ways God is able to use all the pressures, the heat and the irritations to reveal something of his radiance, beauty and mature growth in our lives.

Brian Jones

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On-line Worship

We can join in worship on radio and TV which is being live streamed from churches. Here are some services. Do please let Sally Sleath know of other churches that are live streaming or of programmes we'd find valuable.

Some local churches are live streaming on Sundays.

- **Coventry Cathedral** at 9:15 am on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/coventrycathedral>
- **St Mark's Coventry** at 10:30 am on YouTube - <https://www.stmarkscoventry.org/online>
- **St Paul's, Leamington** at 10:00 am <https://stpaulsleamingtonspa.churchsuite.co>.
- **St Mary Magdalene, Lillington** lillingtonparishchurch.org (click on streaming and all their services)

I am going into church fairly regularly to check that all is well both in the church and the hall. If anyone needs anything from church and doesn't have keys please call me and I can either let you in or retrieve whatever is required Liz McBride.

We remember before God:-

Dennis Markham - please pray for Sophie and all the family.

Brian Boniface - please pray for Sue and all the family

Please remember in your prayers this week:-

Jeff, Mike, Chris, Caroline, John, Karen, Olivia, Kate, Sue, Nora Ellis, Emma Paine & Eveline Tennant.

Please remember in your prayers:

all the NHS staff, health carers & those people & organisations/companies/councils who are ensuring we have supplies & services during this time.

If you would like anyone added to the Prayer List, with their permission of course, do let Sally know.

NOTICES

Priest Advertisement :

The priest recruitment advertisement has gone live and was on schedule. This provides the link, sent by the Diocese, to the Church Times and Diocesan websites, should you want to see what our advert, final parish profile and other recruitment forms look like. Michael Vincent

The information is all up on our website which can be found at:
http://www.dioceseofcoventry.org/?page_ref=1269

An e-version of the advert in the Church Times can be found on page 30 of the publication: <https://publications.hymnsam.co.uk/emags/CT8199/index.html>.

LADBROKE : We will be having a Zoom 'Pause & Pray' fortnightly whilst the church is closed, on 1st and 3rd Mondays, 7.00 – 8.00 p.m. Please email ladbrokechurch@gmail.com if you would like an invitation.

DAILY HOPE is the FREE DAILY DIAL-IN WORSHIP PHONE LINE set up by the Archbishop of Canterbury offering music, prayers, reflections and full worship services 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044**. It's been set up particularly for those unable to join online church services. Do dial up and do please pass this on - particularly to anyone you know who doesn't do online.

The new Coventry Diocese website is now up and running <https://www.coventry.anglican.org> We are told that the the Equipping Disciples section has some great resources for prayer and wellbeing, with more to follow: <https://www.coventry.anglican.org/equip/>

CORONAVIRUS AND SUPPORT : The Harbury Parish Council, supported by the Church and other Harbury organisations, is seeking to identify those people who may need assistance during this period, and those volunteers who may be able to help. **If you would like to register interest, and have not done so** via other channels, please complete the attached form, as soon as possible, and either e-mail it to chair@harbury-pc.gov.uk, or return a paper copy to the Harbury post office. The Church will then help in the planning and delivery of the support initiatives, in ways yet to be agreed.

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THIS MONTH

A swarm of bees in May
is not worth a load of hay;
A swarm of bees in June
is worth a silver spoon;
But a swarm in July
is not worth a fly.

RECIPE FOR THE WEEK : AVOCADO, PEA, MINT & COURGETTE SALAD

Ready in 15 mins. Serves 4.

2 avocados
juice of 1 lemon
300g peas (if fresh, blanch; if frozen, just thaw)
200g courgettes, ribboned lengthways
2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
2 tbsp fresh mint sprigs

Peel & stone the avocados then cut into chunks and toss in the lemon juice. Add to the rest of the ingredients, gently mix together and season well. Scatter over the mint sprigs just before serving.

ANSWERS TO 10TH MAY QUIZ

1. Islamabad 2. Aran 3. Cordoba 4. Amadeus 5. Shane 6. Raphael
7. Carousel 8. Noele 9. Alastair 10. Elver 11. Tsetse 12. Echinacea
13. Speedwell 14. Epsilon 15. Cerberus 16. Ikebana 17. Eyes
18. Ursa Minor 19. Ironside 20. Abalone

THIS WEEK'S QUIZ

1. What is a flower that blooms year after year (9)
2. Which textile fibre is derived from the plant Gossypium (6)
3. Which famous girls' school near Brighton was founded by the Lawrence sisters in 1885 (7)
4. What name is given to a nation's principal financial institution (7,4)
5. Which water lie bounded by Asia to the north and Africa to the west (6,5)
6. What is the main building of Cambodia's most famous tourist site (6,3)
7. Of which British Crown possession is Douglas the capital (4,2,3)
8. What is a pleasure craft for sightseers on the Seine (6,6)
9. Which green gem is a form of beryl (7)
10. In bridge, who are the dummies' partners (9)
11. What title was applied by foreigners to the shoguns of Japan (7)
12. Which 1971 film starred Dustin Hoffman & Susan George (5,4)
13. What is the first name of British actresses Ms Hancock, who starred in The Rag Trade in the early 1960's (6)
14. Which Will wrote 'My Idea of Fun' (4)
15. Which striped animal is native to the Democratic Republic of Congo (5)
16. Who were William the Conqueror's people, who invaded Britain in 1066 (7)
17. Manchester City have won how many League Cups in succession?
18. Which stage did England reach in the women's World T20 World Cup?
19. What is the Japanese word for edible raw fish?
20. From what French city does the fish stew known as bouillabaisse originate?

In order to ensure we keep you connected & informed during this time we have adapted Pews News accordingly. If you would like us to include more information, please let Sally know. In the first instance this will be circulated electronically.

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