

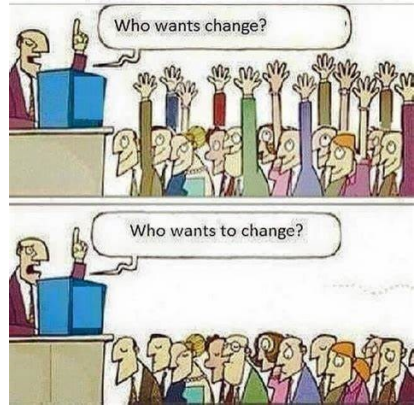
Vicar and Curate's Musings

*and any other information we found interesting,
funny or a need to share!*

Vicar's Musings

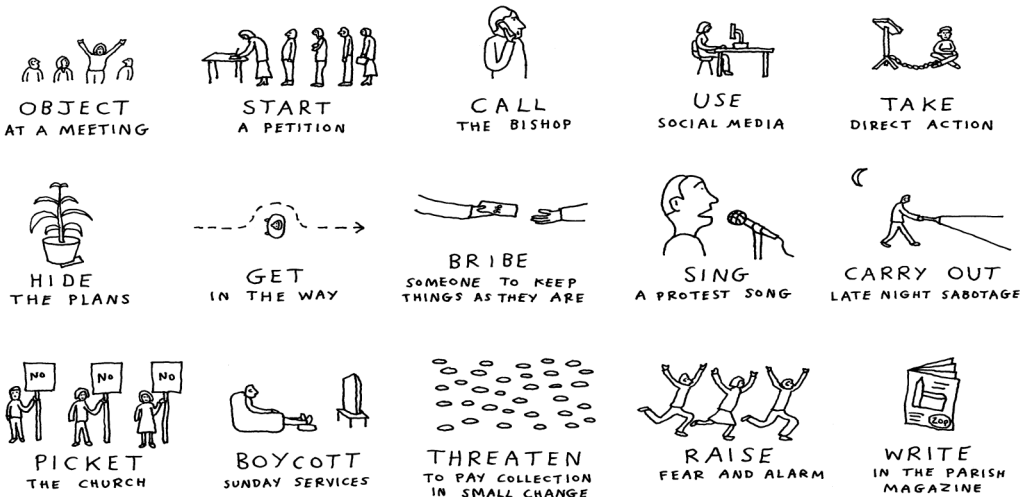
I've been thinking about the word 'change' and the effect it has on people....especially in the church.

In fact there are many cartoons about the church and change, for example...



CHANGES

WAYS TO RESIST THEM





© 2008 Dennis Fletcher - More at LeadershipJournal.net/Caricatures

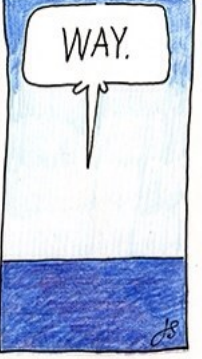
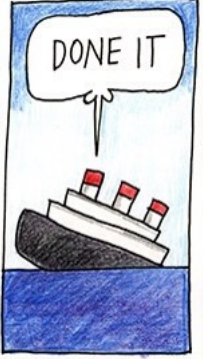
"We're hoping you'll lead us on a journey of transformation without requiring any real changes."



"So . . . if there are no more comments, we'll change the order of worship on Sunday."



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© 1996 Tim Lison - More at LeadershipJournal.net/Caricatures



I remembered a post on my blog <https://shelliem.wordpress.com/2011/06/01/change/> from 2011.

It includes the song – Mrs Beamish by Richard Stilgoe & Peter Skellern...which has a funny take on change and if you haven't heard it do follow the link to my blog—it is funny. For those that don't use or aren't used to youtube—here are the lyrics:

Mrs Beamish stands in church,
expression calm and holy,
and when the organ plays,
she mumbles hymns extremely slowly.
A pillar of St Botolphs for twenty years or more,
she does the flowers at Easter and the brass work on the door.

But recently St Botolphs has gained a brand new vicar,
his name is Ken, he's single,
and he wants the hymns sung quicker,
and he's introduced a custom that Mrs Beamish hates,
so she rounds upon the person next to her and clearly states:

*"Don't you dare shake hands with me, or offer signs of peace.
You lay a finger on me and I'll send for the police.
Don't whisper "Peace be with you": this is the C of E,
So bend the knee, say "thou" and "thee" and keep your hands off me!"*

Ken tells us "love your neighbour",
and Mrs Beamish sneers:
"I only love my neighbours
if I've known them thirty years.
Even when it isn't Christmas
he lets youngsters in the church;
he's altered all the music after audience research.

They shout out "Alleluia";
- they don't act like me and you.
The young women don't wear hats,
and the young men quite often do.

And they seem to like their hands
enthusiastically wrung,
Till they try with Mrs Beamish,
and feel her acid tongue:

*"Don't you dare shake hands with me! I don't know where you've
been.*

*You lay a finger on me and you'll feel this tambourine!
Don't whisper "Peace be with you": this is the C of E,
so bend the knee, say "thou" and "thee"
and keep your hands off me! "*

In the beginning was the word,
read out loud by Thora Hurd,
Harry Secombe then would scream:
"morning has broken" by a stream.

Now the organ's - gone for scrap.
Ev'ry vicar's got the clap: Hallelujah,
Mrs Beamish, Mrs Beamish.
Hallelujah, she's squeamish, so squeamish.

*"Don't you dare shake hands with me, or turn to me and smile,
You'll wake up spitting teeth out, face downwards in the aisle,
Don't whisper "peace be with you", this is the C of E,
you go just one inch too far,
you'll end up wearing that guitar.
One false step in my direction,
you'll need to believe in the Resurrection,
so bend the knee, say "Thou" and "Thee"
and keep your hands off me!"*

I at the time also found this poem about change....about welcoming change, which whilst not as funny as Mrs Beamish is a more positive view of change.

Welcome Change

by *Gina Whitacre*

*Change is inevitable,
But yet we fight it, just the same.
Change is essential to our evolution.
Change is going to happen,
In fact, it happens every day,
Maybe it is too small to see,
or perhaps we would rather not see it.*

*We fight change, because we fight the unknown,
We fight the unknown, because we are scared,
Scared of change, scared of the unknown.
If we were to allow change to happen freely,
We might find solutions to the problems that exist around us,
But instead, we are hung –
up on controlling everything around us.*

*Maybe this is the problem with the world today.
Everyone assumes control of everything and does not allow nature to
run her course.*

*Maybe this is why, we have devastating fall out from Nature,
Natural catastrophic disasters, such as fire and flooding.*

*We fight change, therefore we are fighting nature and her natural being
and her existence in the world that she has created by God's hand and
has graciously allowed us to be a part of .*

We should welcome change and allow nature to control our destiny.

*Change is uncontrollable,
Change is inevitable,
Change is the unknown.*

Nature takes pride in being one of life's illusive wonders, the unknown.

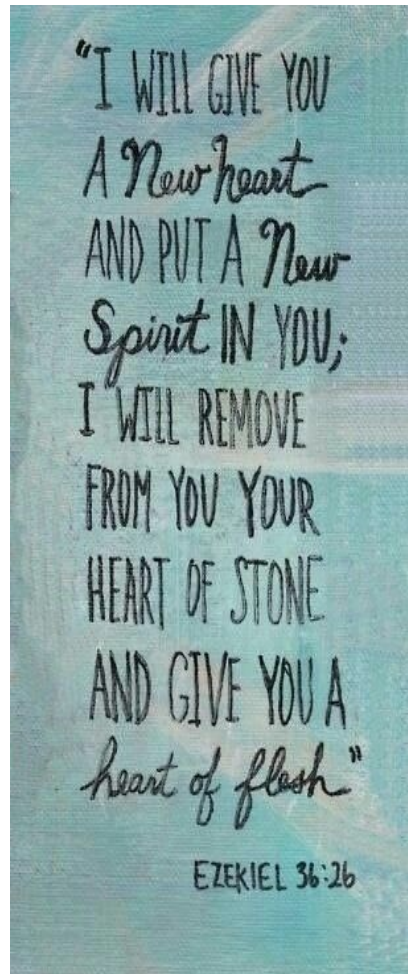
The world we live in at the moment is very different and many changes have occurred. As a church we have flourished going back to our roots and offering help to those in need, being there for people at the end of a phone, praying for people when they ask and need it and also supporting the decision to not worship in our buildings but in different ways through lockdown.

We've offered places to pray online, through Facebook, Zoom and Whatsapp. It may be different but as a church, together we are coming through this in many ways, some we've not explored before.

Coming out of lockdown for many churches is harder than locking the door at the beginning due to the guidelines and the risks. Some volunteers can't help for many reasons as they would wish to or used to do.

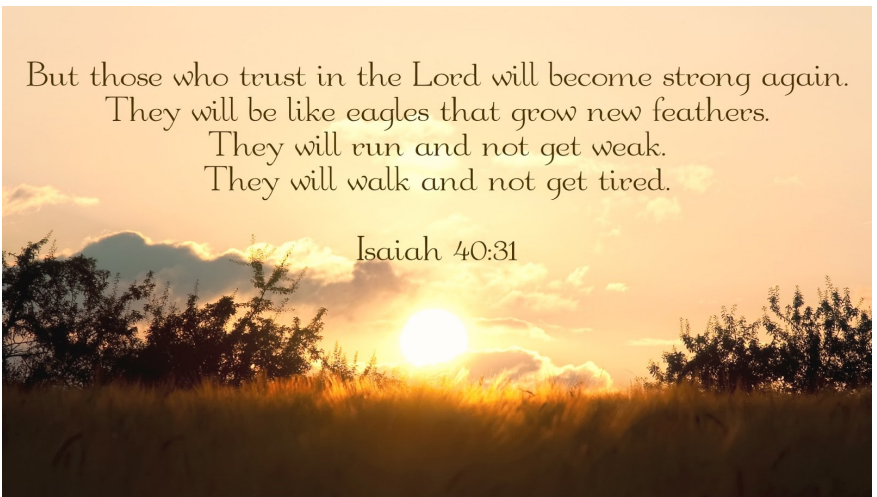
Change has happened to us and around us in the world we live in. Let's not be like Mrs Beamish and through our faith, our hope and trust in God we will come out the other end with a year we will never forget but will learn from. I pray we come out of this lockdown stronger depending on and putting our trust in God.

Yours in Christ
Shellie



But those who trust in the Lord will become strong again.
They will be like eagles that grow new feathers.
They will run and not get weak.
They will walk and not get tired.

Isaiah 40:31



Calling

I was searching for something today and read this and thought it was worth sharing...

There is an old Christian tradition
that God sends each person into this world
with a special message to deliver,
with a special song to sing for others,
with a special act of love to bestow.
No one else can speak my message,
or sing my song,
or offer my act of love.
These are entrusted only to me.

John Powell, Invitations God's Calling for Everyone Francis Dewey (The Cromwell Press, 1996) p9.



**God can restore
what is broken
and change it
into something
amazing.
All you need
is faith.**



"It keeps me from looking at my phone every two seconds."



"But there's not enough space for Thou shalt not wear socks with sandals."

FAITH
INCLUDES
NOTICING
THE MESS,
THE EMPTINESS
AND DISCOMFORT,
AND LETTING IT
BE THERE

UNTIL SOME
LIGHT RETURNS.

ANNE LAMOTT

Prayer

*God is not a good habit
a useful Sunday exercise
one interest among others
a fascinating hobby
God is life itself
He is Someone
not to be analysed
examined, proved
but to be met
And when that happens
Life unfolds
meanings matter
love is deeper
Be still. Relax. Unwind.
Open those inner doors.*

Howard Booth.

Trust in the LORD
with all your heart
and do not lean on your
own understanding.

In all your ways
acknowledge Him,
and He will make
your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6



*This is quite true and also very funny
and I'm very sorry to the author as I
can't remember where I found it...*

Dear God

*So far today I have done all
right.
I haven't gossiped.
I haven't lost my temper.
I haven't been greedy, grumpy,
nasty, selfish or overindulgent.
I am very thankful for that!
But in a few minutes, Lord,
I am going to get out of this
bed,
And from then on,
I'm probably going to need a
lot more help.
Amen*



After 50 years as the church organist, Gladys made a genuine effort to adjust to the new worship format.



everybody is
a genius.
but if
you judge a
fish
by its ability
to climb
a tree, it will
live
its whole life
believing
that it
is
stupid.

{Albert Einstein}



How to wash a cat

1. Put both lids of the toilet up and add 1/8 cup of pet shampoo to the water in the bowl...
2. Pick up the cat and soothe him while you carry him towards the bathroom.
3. In one smooth movement put the cat in the toilet and close the lid. You may need to stand on the lid.
4. At this point the cat will self agitate and make ample suds. Never mind the noises that come from the toilet, the cat is actually enjoying this!
5. Flush the toilet three or four times. This provides a 'Power-Wash' and 'Rinse'.
6. Have someone open the front door of your home. Be sure that there are no people between the bathroom and the front door.
7. Stand well back, behind the toilet as far as you can, and quickly lift the lid.
8. The cat will rocket out of the toilet, streak through the bathroom, and run outside where he will dry himself off.
9. Both the toilet and the cat will be sparkling clean.

Yours Sincerely,

The Dog



I am a Christian

When I say that “I am a Christian,” I am not shouting that “I am clean living.” I’m whispering “I was lost, but now I’m found and forgiven.”

When I say “I am a Christian,” I don’t speak of this with pride. I’m confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say “I am a Christian,” I’m not trying to be strong. I’m professing that I’m weak and need His strength to carry

on.

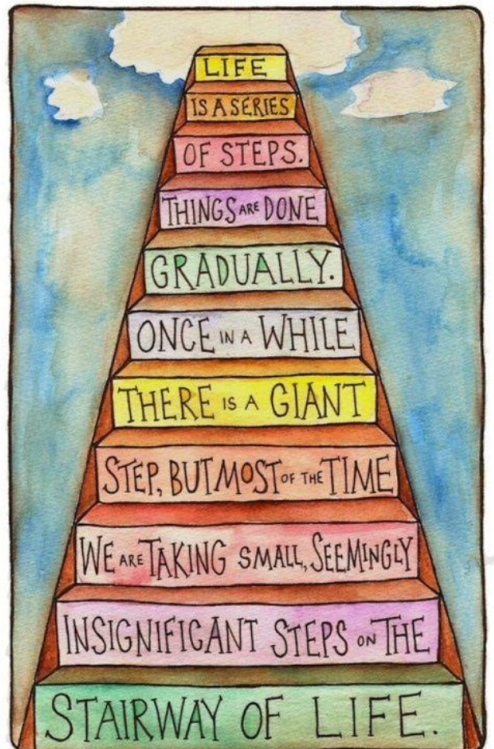
When I say “I am a Christian,” I’m not bragging of success. I’m admitting I have failed and need God to clean my mess.

When I say “I am a Christian,” I’m not claiming to be perfect. My flaws are far too visible, but God believes I am worth it.

When I say “I am a Christian,” I still feel the sting of pain. I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon His name.

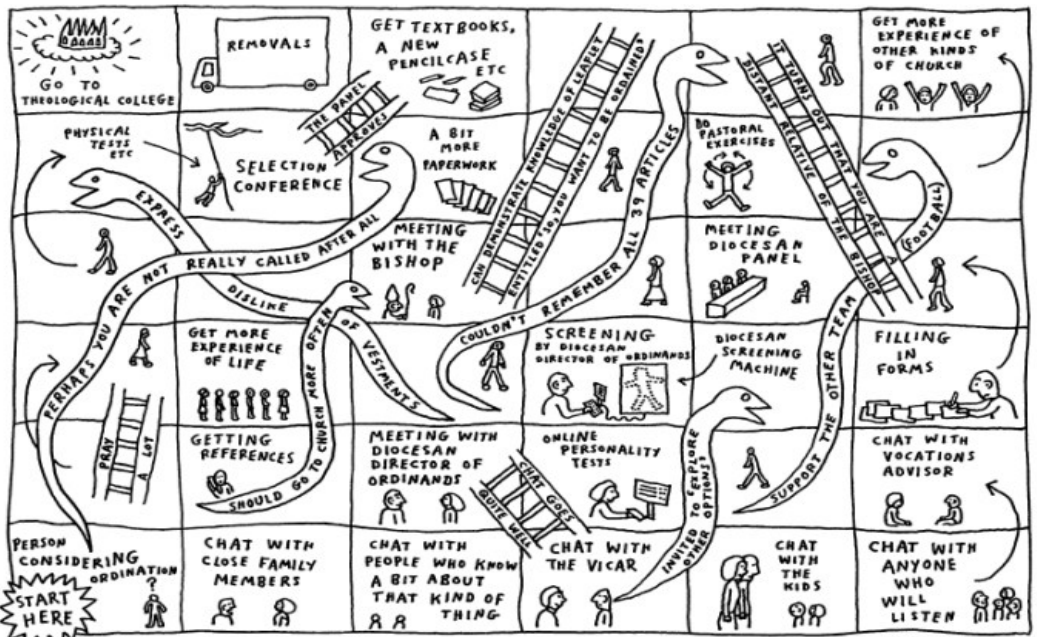
When I say “I am a Christian,” I’m not holier than thou. I’m just a simple sinner who received God’s good grace, somehow!



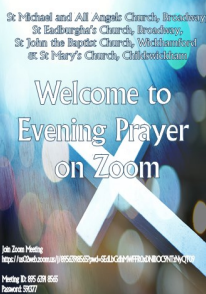


THE DISCERNMENT PROCESS

HOW TO BE SELECTED AS A MEMBER OF THE CLERGY



Coronavirus / Covid 19 update



Evening Prayer on Zoom Order of Service

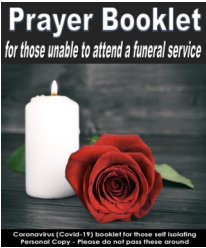
<https://www.stmichaelsbroadway.org/church-services>

Join Zoom Meeting (recurring meeting details)

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89563918565?
pwd=SEdLbGdhMWFFR0xDNlI1OC9NTzNyQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89563918565?pwd=SEdLbGdhMWFFR0xDNlI1OC9NTzNyQT09)

Meeting ID: 895 6391 8565

Password: 591377



This prayer booklet is for people unable to attend a funeral

<https://shelliem.wordpress.com/2020/03/29/prayer-booklet-for-those-unable-to-attend-a-funeral/>

Join Shellie with a cuppa - Coffee Club on Zoom

A space to meet, chat and catch up
Bring you own coffee / tea and link in

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83887886545?
pwd=Z3hUZHFsa250SnhvVk9TTndrSUU4QT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83887886545?pwd=Z3hUZHFsa250SnhvVk9TTndrSUU4QT09)

Meeting ID: 838 8788 6545

Password: 867308

Go to church this Sunday (virtually)

You can watch (and rewatch) the Church of England's virtual Sunday services:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/church-online>

Radio 3—Choral Evensong 3pm

Radio 4—Morning worship 8am

BBC Radio—Hereford and Worcester—8am



Broadway Coronavirus Support Network



47 mins · 🌐

A MESSAGE FROM OUR GROUP AND VOLUNTEERS

As we move into a new and more hopeful phase since the Covid Pandemic began - our amazing team of Volunteers are now returning to work either full or part time and whilst many will endeavour to help those self isolating and vulnerable stocked up it may now take a litter longer to provide food and medications, for eg - these might be dropped later in the day to fit around our working hours.

We would like to extend a HUGE note of thanks to all of our Volunteers who have made such a difference by helping those in need in our Village.

THANK YOU TEAM BROADWAY SUPPORT NETWORK 🥰



UPDATED FRIDAY 3RD APRIL

BROADWAY FOOD / MEALS / SHOPPING DELIVERIES

COLLINS OF BROADWAY BUTCHERS

01386 852061 for any orders big or small.

WAYSIDE FARM SHOP can take orders, payment and deliver to door as well as collection; Wayside also doing roast **01386 830 546**

CO OP - offering food orders online between 10am -1pm on Tues, Weds,Thurs. Call order and pay on **01386 842870** and they will organise the food.

For those self- isolating due to illness, or those vulnerable / elderly you can then call us when you have made payment and we will arrange delivery **07780 002565**.

NISA LOCAL - BIBSWORTH AVENUE

Set up for online payment and delivery. If you wish to place an order please phone **01386 859218** before 2pm.

Also offering a drive through service - phone with order, pull up outside and it goes in the boot.

THE BROADWAY DELI – Call the boys on **07483 404497** for Deli food, letter posting, newspapers ... whatever you need :)

THE BROADWAY WINE COMPANY

Call **01386 852 501** to order your Wine, minimum of 6 bottles for home delivery.

JOHN BARLEYCORN

Selection of quality local beers, ciders, wines, loads of gins & other spirits from small British distilleries, jams, honey etc. Free delivery (on orders over £20) in Broadway and to the local area, up to 5 miles. Any orders outside this area might be subject to a delivery fee. **01386 854938** only between 9am-2pm Tuesday-Saturday with your order.

THE BAKEHOUSE

Offering fresh, daily prepped Bake@Home ready meals delivered to door. Weds – Saturday. Details on website, Telephone **01386 852277**.

www.thebakehousebroadway.co.uk/bakeathome

Other Useful Information

found on Facebook or other places online

Information from the Diocese

Live Streaming of services

You can follow the links to these churches online via the diocesan page:
<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/2020/03/16/coronavirus-latest-information/>

I have chosen, for now, to offer a WhatsApp group where we can pray, share and communicate as a benefice—if you wish to join the group please send me your mobile number and download the app. There is always the prayer booklet on our churches website and a hard copy is in church.

The following churches will be live streaming. Please do point people to these if you're not able to stream worship yourself.

Worcester Cathedral will be streaming their 8.30am service each morning on the Cathedral Facebook page. (From Sunday 22 March)

All Saints in Worcester are streaming 11am morning prayer and 10pm Compline as well as a Sunday service at 10.30am on YouTube.

Holy Trinity Church, Old Hill will be streaming their Sunday service at 10.45am on You Tube.

Malvern Link with Cowleigh parish will be streaming a 9.45am Eucharist and 11.15am Contemporary Worship on Sundays on their Facebook page.

Christ Church, Lye will be streaming prayers and a sermon at 11am on Sunday morning on their Facebook page.

East Vale and Avon benefice are putting together a series of online services which can be accessed through their website.

Holy Trinity & St Matthew, Ronkswood, Worcester will be live streaming worship via Zoom on Sunday at 10am and 6pm. Details about how to join in are on the parish website.

St Mary, Old Swinford, Stourbridge is live streaming services on Thursdays at 10.30am and Sunday at 10am. More details on the parish website

St Peter, Cradley is live streaming daily morning prayer at 8.30am and Compline in the late afternoon through their Facebook page

Hagley and Clent are offering Sunday worship at 10.30am via Zoom and all are welcome to join them. Contact the Rector, Richard Newton for more details.

Morning Prayer from Worcester Cathedral

Watch Morning Prayer from Worcester Cathedral. This is one way in which we are linking members of the Cathedral community as well as the wider public to the Cathedral's daily offering of praise and prayer.

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/WorcesterCathedral/>



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

For those suffering **domestic abuse**, isolation will be a terrifying prospect and **significantly increase the risk of harm**.

If you, or anyone you know is **in need of help**, please reach out to Women's Aid, us, a trusted friend or family member and consider using a code word to communicate safely.

National Domestic Abuse Helpline: **0808 2000 247**



www.fb.com/groups/wearethemotherload

NSPCC
0808 800 5000
(24hrs)

National Domestic Abuse Helpline
0808 2000 247
(24hrs free)

Mind
0300 123 3393
(Mon-Fri 9-6)

Victim Support
0808 168 9111
(24hrs)

NEVER ALONE



Cruse Bereavement
0800 808 1677
(Mon-Fri 9-5)

ChildLine
0800 1111
(24hrs)

Action on Elder Abuse
0808 808 8141
(Mon-Fri 9-5)

Respect - Men's Advice Line
0808 801 0327
(Mon-Fri 9-5or8pm)

Samaritans
116 123
(24hrs free)

National Centre for Domestic Violence
0207 186 8270

Mental health

The Church of England has produced some mental health reflections to help you in this time of uncertainty. You can access them at: cofe.io/MentalHealth.

The Mental Health Foundation has also produced some useful resources, which can be found at: <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/coronavirus>

You can find a host of other [mental health resources](https://www.mentalhealthatwork.org.uk/toolkit/coronavirus-and-isolation-supporting-yourself-and-your-colleagues/) from a variety of different organisations and charities. <https://www.mentalhealthatwork.org.uk/toolkit/coronavirus-and-isolation-supporting-yourself-and-your-colleagues/>

Some helpful books and resources are also available from [Sacristy Press](https://www.sacristy.co.uk/books/coronavirus-church-resources#) at <https://www.sacristy.co.uk/books/coronavirus-church-resources#>

EDMHSS supporting the community

COVID-19
COMMUNITY
Helpline

TELE : 07495896695

9am to 9pm
7 Days a week

edmhss.org
Made with PosterMyWall.com

WORCESTERSHIRE
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
MAKING A DIFFERENCE TO YOUR COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY
FUND
The National Lottery Community Fund

TESCO
Every little helps

God has no phone, but I talk to him.
He has no Facebook, but He is still my friend.
He doesn't have twitter, but I still follow him!

Jesus said:
"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them,
and they follow me."
- John 10:27

www.biblequizzes.com/psalms

It is God who arms me with

STRENGTH

and keeps my way

SECURE.

Upper Lowercase Symbol Number
[Psalm18:32]