

# Vicar and Curate's Musings

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

## Vicar's Musings

Well this week has been full of Zoom meetings and a lot of conversations about the Church and the permissions given, which everyday seem to change or be tweaked (not usually I might add giving clarification but more confusion) about opening up for private prayer.

I will stress now that our churchwardens have attended Zoom meetings on this as well and having spoken to all 6 churchwardens we are in agreement that we should not open this week as we don't feel we can do so safely. We are however attempting to find ways we can do this and hope to open soon once we've found ways to deep clean (*can you imagine how filthy the churches are having been closed since 23rd March and no one allowed in to clean them?*) and also make a safe space to pray.

We do welcome the government's allowing us to open our buildings however once we've read and gone through the risk assessments we find that over 70's cannot be asked to help (which are the majority of our congregation's).

There are many questions:

How we supervise the opening of the churches once they are and also clean them between people praying for their safety?

How many people we can allow into each building at one time will differ due to their sizes and aisles all being different?

What we need to remove, or move to make sure people don't touch hymn books etc or go in the children's corner at this time?

Do we have a gap of 72 hours between openings at first because that means less deep cleaning? (a lot of churches are going down this route when they open).

How can we work as a benefice and also with the other churches in Broadway—can we stagger the 72 hours so we can offer a place to pray everyday and keep within the guidelines of all the denominations and the government?

Who can we ask to help us if most of the congregation are over 70 and we can ask or even allow them to help us (even though we know some would willingly help us!)

Can we get the sanitizer products we need?

Do we put tape everywhere as suggested or can we come up with a method that highlights 2 meter distancing and the way through the church?

Can we open another exit to create a one way system—which is the preferred option?

These are just some of the questions we are asking and dealing with.

Also now that once a church is open we can use them for immediate family for funerals but with no hymns, verger or organist—how would this be safe with just the Priest / Minister present for the funeral and how could we steward that?

It is I'm sure you would agree rather complex and I'm sure many people will either disagree with our answers at this time that we can't safely open yet or be disappointed. We are sorry for that but safety for everyone is important.

To this end I've been thinking about how we can meet together corporately and Zoom seems to be the answer.

On Thursday we used to meet for Coffee Club in Number 32—how would you like to join me for a coffee (of beverage of your choosing) on zoom?

**Topic: St Michael's Church Coffee Club Zoom Meeting**

**Time: Jun 18, 2020 10:30 AM**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/78331621559?>**

**pwd=NUJXVFgxR1R1Uml4bmRlbithRTRPdZ09**

**Meeting ID: 783 3162 1559**

**Password: 0sQrjm**

For those of you who are new to Zoom, please find below some extra instructions that may help you.

**Register for a 'Zoom' account.**

1. In advance of the meeting go to [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) and enter your email address (at the left hand side of the web page)
2. Press the orange button 'sign up for free'.
3. Confirm that this is your email address by pressing the blue button.
4. Press the orange 'confirm' button.
5. You will then receive an email from Zoom asking you to confirm your account. Click the blue 'confirm account' button.
6. You will then be asked to input your name and create a password for your account.
7. You are now set up and ready to attend your first Zoom conference.
8. On the day of your conference please go to [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) and sign in to your account.
9. **Click 'Join a Meeting'** button on the top right hand side of the screen.
10. Type or copy and paste the **Meeting ID** number below into the box and click **'Join'**

**Meeting ID: 783 3162 1559**

**Password: 0sQrjm**

11. Click **'Join with computer audio'**. Hint: Ensure that your volume is turned up and your camera is turned on.
12. It is possible to mute / un-mute yourself using the buttons at the bottom left of your screen. This is also where it is possible to turn your video on and off.

I hope people will join me and if we manage to do this we're hoping we can expand zoom to Evening prayer on Sunday evenings starting from the first of July. I hope this coffee club which you can drop in and out of will be an opportunity for those either not used to Zoom or even for those who are to become more comfortable with it in an informal setting before we try praying.

If there are a lot of us I can try to for a 'break away group' ( I had my first experience of one of these this week) to make chatting easier as Zoom works best when one person speaks at a time. Basically they create small groups for 10 mins approximately.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Across on the other page is a picture of Archbishop John Sentamu with his wife Margaret and daughter Grace. They all joined the Archbishop for his final service last week—if you didn't see the service it was recorded and is still on the Church of England Facebook Page.

A prayer used this week at the Clergy gathering on Zoom:

## **Watch, O Lord (St Augustine)**

Watch, O Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep  
tonight, and give Your angels and saints charge over those  
who sleep.

Tend Your sick ones, O Lord Christ.

Rest Your weary ones.

Bless Your dying ones.

Soothe Your suffering ones.

Pity Your afflicted ones.

Shield Your joyous ones, and all for Your love's sake. Amen.

Please stay safe as we come slowly out of  
lockdown

*Shellie*





*Special broadcast from Archbishop Sentamu with his wife and daughter,*

# HOW TRACK AND TRACE WORKS ONCE LOCKDOWN ENDS – IN FULL

■ A contact tracer will text or email a person who has tested positive with coronavirus

■ **That person will assume it's some sort of scam and delete the message**

■ The contact tracer will then phone the person

■ **The person will block the caller, assuming the unknown number is one of those automated calls wanting to know if they've recently been in a car accident**

■ The contact tracer finally gets through 36 hours later to

the person, who has meanwhile spread the virus widely, to ask who they have been in contact with, so those people can be made to self-isolate for fourteen days

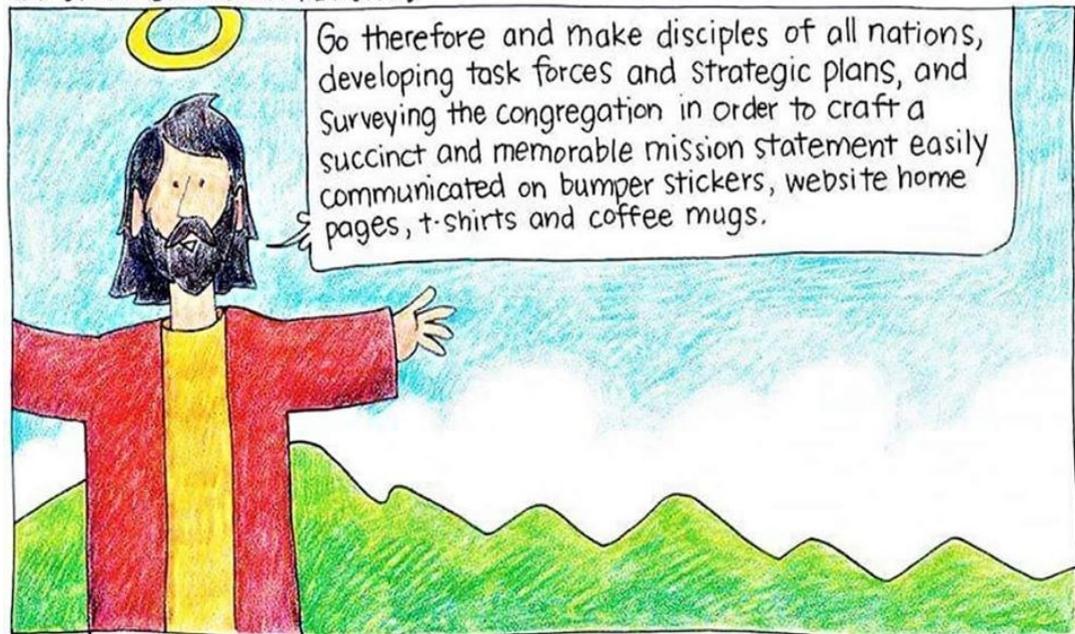
■ **The person with coronavirus includes a number of people they don't like in that list, forcing them to go into two-week quarantine**

■ And conveniently forgets to mention Karen from Marketing with whom they're having an affair

■ Er...

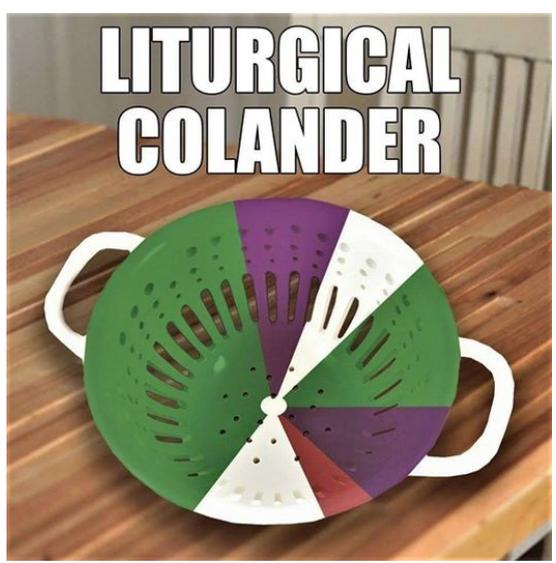
■ That's it.

## THE GREAT COMMISSION REVISITED





**THE GREEN IS BACK!**



**LITURGICAL  
COLANDER**



**GREEN VESTMENTS**

**THAT IS SOMETHING I HAVE  
NOT SEEN IN A LONG TIME**

imgflip.com



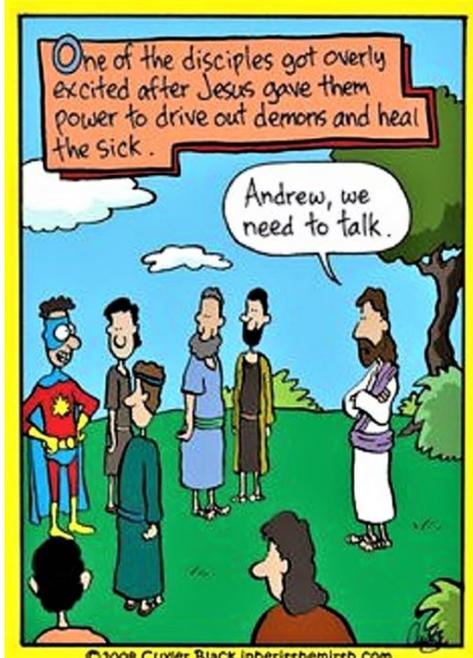
**GREEN THE PARAMENTS  
ARE**

**MY FAVORITE  
COLOR IT IS.**

imgflip.com



**KEEP  
CALM  
IT'S  
ORDINARY  
TIME**

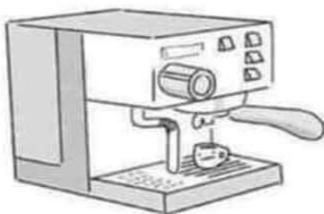


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## WHAT YOUR COFFEE PREPARATION METHOD SAYS ABOUT YOU



**PRESBY/  
LUTHERAN**



**West coast  
evangelical**



**Trad Catholic**



**Radical  
Ref**



**Anglo-  
Catholic**

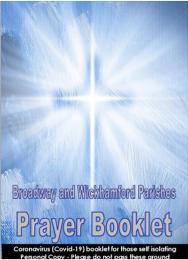


**Orthodox**



**Non-denom**

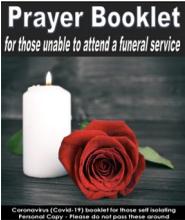
# Coronavirus / Covid 19 update



## Prayer Booklet

Prayer Booklet for June

<https://shelliem.wordpress.com/2020/05/30/june-prayer-booklet/>



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/>

## 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



The Church of England   
[@churchofengland](https://twitter.com/churchofengland)

Our weekly service will be led by [@StGEast](https://twitter.com/StGEast) from Sunday at 9am.

Celebrating Corpus Christi, Rev Richard Springer will be joined by ecumenical partners, drawing parallels between Jesus' sacrifice and the pain of racism, hunger and homelessness.



Jesus meets us in our darkest hour, online service to hear | The Church of England  
[churchofengland.org](https://www.churchofengland.org)



## **Broadway Coronavirus Support Network**

There is a group of people who have formed a group with many volunteers—The Broadway Coronavirus Support Network—  
<https://www.facebook.com/broadwaycoronasupportnetwork>

This is updated regularly on Facebook.

(UPDATED 7pm SAT 21/03) To all residents in the Parish of Broadway

We are so far a very small group of villagers working together with the Parish Council as we would like to provide help to our fellow residents during the current Coronavirus pandemic.

We are in the process of setting this page and network up so please bear with us whilst we pull together the relevant parties to assist.

This FREE service is available to residents within the Parish of Broadway who are self-isolating, vulnerable or have underlying health issues that prevent them from going to public places.

Please contact us if you require assistance with local shopping, prescription collections, posting letters or anything else you are struggling with, or if you would simply like a friendly chat over the phone:

Contact:

Tel: Revd Michelle (Shellie)Ward - 07780002565.

E-mail: [broadwayvillagenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:broadwayvillagenetwork@gmail.com)

One of our coordinators will then put you in touch with a helper who lives near to you.

\*PLEASE NOTE - we will also aim to provide all of the details on leaflets and posters so that those who do not use online services can easily access the same help.

Please do not feel isolated or that you shouldn't be asking for help. We are all here for each other during this difficult time! Your contact details will only be shared with your designated Broadway Helper. We won't keep records, or publicise your details or ask you for money.

This free service will be available until the British government / W.H.O. has declared that the pandemic is no longer a threat.

\*PLEASE NOTE

\*\* We cannot provide medical advice / assistance or lifts to medical appointments or elsewhere. If you require this type of help please contact Cotswold Friends, a local charity:

Telephone 01608 651415 [info@cotswoldsfriends.org](mailto:info@cotswoldsfriends.org)

We will aim to work with our local stores provide delivery services.  
The following Broadway businesses offer local delivery, and you can place your orders over the phone and pay with your bank card: We will add to this list as we go;

### **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](http://www.thebakehousebroadway.co.uk/bakeathome)

\*\* If you need a volunteer to pick up a few urgent essentials for you from the local shops please ensure you have some cash at home or a cheque book. All cash should be placed in an envelope.

We're here to help!

## **Other Useful Information** found on Facebook or other places online

### **Barn Close Surgery**

5th May 2020

Barn close Surgery remains affected by the current lockdown. We are operating as a "Blue" site for telephone and video consultations. Please ensure that we have your latest mobile telephone numbers to enable video consultations.

We are also an Amber zone for face to face consultations for non respiratory or cardiac conditions. Appointments are limited due to the need for reducing face to face consultations and social distancing requirements. If it is felt that you would benefit from a face to face consultation we will give you strict instructions.

Our Red zone is operating at De Montfort medical centre in Evesham. We will advise you whether you need to attend the Red zone on the basis of your presenting condition.

8th May 2020 Bank Holiday. The surgery is closed for "normal" business and you will be unable to collect medication that you have ordered.

If you require urgent care that cannot wait until the surgery is next open, then please call the surgery and listen to the instructions.

Thankyou again for all your patience and kind will at this difficult time.

[www.barnclose.co.uk](http://www.barnclose.co.uk)





**Our website is now live  
to take your orders!**

**We are currently able to deliver  
flowers in & around Broadway,  
within a radius of 12 miles.**

**Thank you!**



**NUMBER.32**

CAFÉ • BAR • FOOD

**Delivery Menu**

Delivery is £3 for orders in Broadway, Childswickham & Willersey.

**Burgers**

All Served In Peter Cook's Brioche Buns

**No.32 Burger £8**

Dry Aged Beef Burger, Streaky Bacon, Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato, Gherkin, Red Onion & Paprika Mayo

**Pulled Pork Burger £7**

Harissa Spiced Pulled Pork, Cheese, Red Cabbage 'Slaw' & Homemade BBQ Sauce

**Bacon Burger £8**

Dry Aged Beef Burger, Cheese, Streaky Bacon, Bacon Jam & Baconnaisse

**'Imposter' Burger £8**

100% Plant Based Burger, Caramelised Red Onion, Grilled Halloumi, Lettuce, Tomato, Gherkin & Garlic Mayo

**Pizzas**

**Margherita £12**

Tomato, Mozzarella, Oregano & Basil

**Hawaiian £13**

Tomato Base, Bacon, Parma Ham, Pineapple & Mozzarella

**Pulled Pork £13**

Tomato Base, Harissa Spiced Pulled Pork, Bacon, Jalapenos, Red Onion & Mozzarella

**Zeus £13**

Tomato Base, Sun Blushed Tomatoes, Olives, Artichoke, Spinach, Red Onion, Halloumi & Mozzarella

**Feast of Meat £14**

Tomato Base, Pepperoni, Salmi, Bacon, Parma Ham, Mozzarella, Rocket & Balsamic

**Sides**

**Skin on Fries £3**

Rosemary Salt

**Sweet Potato Fries £4**

**Halloumi Fries £5**

Pineapple & Chilli Salsa, Hot Sauce

**Red Cabbage 'Slaw' £3**

**Homemade Sauces**

**Roast Garlic Mayo £0.5**

**Smokey BBQ Sauce £0.5**

**Paprika Mayo £0.5**

**Baconnaisse £1**

# Re-Opening for Takeaway

**Customer collection only,  
no pre-orders accepted**

**4.30pm to 8.00pm**

**Tues-Weds-Thurs-Fri-Sat**

Beer Battered Cod and Chips - £8.00  
Chicken Goujons and Chips - £8.00  
Breaded Scampi and Chips - £8.00  
Battered Halloumi and Chips - £7.00  
Paddock Farm Sausage & Chips - £7.00  
Chips - £2.50  
Large Chips - £3.00

To contact us please use email as the telephone will  
not always be answered

[info@russellsofbroadway.co.uk](mailto:info@russellsofbroadway.co.uk)

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage  
everyone to stay safe, wash your hands, support the  
vulnerable people around you as well as small local  
businesses wherever possible.

Ross, Andrew & Gavnor Rilev & team.

# 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 YouTube.

**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.



A free phone line of hymns,  
reflections and prayers

**IMPORTANT  
NOTICE**



***I wanted to make people aware.... guide dogs haven't been trained in social distancing and queuing to get in a shop. If you see a guide dog heading straight for the shop door and not joining the queue, that is what they have been trained to do. They're not being rude or intentionally queue jumping. Also, if you see them walking down the street, remember, they haven't been trained to social distance, so it is up to us, the sighted people, to give them the space. Hope that helps my many guide dog owner friends in these really difficult and challenging times.***

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](http://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](https://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 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 at <https://www.sacristy.co.uk/books/>

EDMHSS supporting the community

# COVID-19 COMMUNITY Helpline

TELE : 07495896695

9am to 9pm  
7 Days a week

Worcestershire  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
MAKING A DIFFERENCE TO YOUR COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY  
FUND

The National Lottery Community Fund

TESCO  
Every little helps

edmhss.org  
Made with PosterMyWall.com

Don't let the entire staircase  
overwhelm you.  
Just focus on the next step!

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# Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22-26

LOVE	JOY	PEACE
PATIENCE	KINDNESS	
GOODNESS	FAITHFULNESS	
GENTLENESS	SELF-CONTROL	

© 2020 The Church of England

# NO ONE IS ENTITLED TO TREAT YOU BADLY.

© 2020 The Church of England

# **We Can't Go Back...to Preserving Bricks & Mortar**

<https://viamedia.news/2020/06/09/we-cant-go-back-to-preserving-bricks-mortar/?fbclid=IwAR2LrTIWOKOaAsZwQY3SoFqYVjZ4Jj6DrIvZm2HflvCiHtzACjrBN75-ePo>

by the Ven Nikki Groarke, Archdeacon of Dudley and Member of General Synod



*A small group of beleaguered disciples, tired, fearful and disappointed, uncertain about the future, meeting behind closed doors, wistfully reminiscing about the crowds who had at one time gathered with them. Now it's just the faithful remnant.*

*The Holy Spirit comes, and they are transformed, heading out into the public arena, living life fully as Christ's followers, drawing others to join them by their love for each other and their neighbours, and their accessible, amateurish but heartfelt teaching and worship.*

We have all reflected recently on a story something like this over Pentecost. However, what I am describing is not the early church, but rather what I have seen played out in many small congregations across my diocese in these last few months. In multi-parish rural benefices and urban teams, where previously ten to fifteen committed long term members met in multiple locations for worship, now a

hundred or more gather online together, energised and engaged each week, making new friends and attracting others. It's easier to join a crowd than a clique.

For many years across the country, weary church wardens have with dogged determination, fought to keep regular Sunday services going in their church building, not wanting to betray their predecessors by allowing the church to die on their watch. Failure and local wrath have been constant threats. Then, overnight in March, the doors of every church building were closed, unilaterally. And they were not responsible. It was not their fault. A Kairos moment?

Lockdown was dramatic and shocking for church communities. Emerging from it will be far more nuanced, and no less difficult. Already MPs and journalists are politicising the 'draconian' refusal to permit the use of church buildings for private prayer and funerals. Bishops across the country are tweeting (including my own)! Passions and anxieties are running high amidst uncertainties and swathes of guidelines for 'whenever we can reopen'.

Churches will soon be allowed to open again, and that is right. But please let's not rush back to opening them all. Church buildings are different, have different purposes and callings, and can sometimes get in the way of God's people truly being church. And we have too many of them.

It's very easy to say. "Open your church building from tomorrow" to gain some support from vocal campaigners. But what about the tiny rural church with no mains water, where handwashing isn't possible? How do you clean an ancient building with nooks and crannies when you can't slosh the bleach around? How do you safely open a huge cathedral with multiple entrances and many chapels, when staff are furloughed, closure of cafés and shops and no tourists has caused a financial crisis, and most volunteers are vulnerable or shielding? Practically there are many issues to be overcome. The challenges will be met of course. Clergy and church members will rise to the occasion creatively, just as they have adapted to the constraints of recent months with resilience and faith.

But what about the opportunities of this Kairos moment? Strategically is it right to go back to dispersed, fragmented and often insular worship in every place? Surely this is the time to courageously ask the questions few previously dared voice.

Should this church be used for worship each Sunday in the future? Can we re-designate for occasional use – weddings, funerals, harvest and Christmas? Can we formally close, and recognise the building's importance as a local heritage asset, treating it as such rather than trying to meet unrealistic expectations of it becoming a vibrant community hub when we all know in our hearts that this role is filled adequately by the village hall or pub? Dare we contemplate allowing our building to become perhaps a beautiful ruin?

Place is important of course, and prayed in places are undoubtedly holy. It is important to have sacred space where we can gather, celebrate the sacraments, reflect amidst beauty. Buildings where key life events have been marked hold special significance and will always be places of pilgrimage. But not every church building is beautiful, many are not fit for purpose, they are often in the wrong places where settlements have moved. Some were built for dubious reasons – as follies or status symbols. One size does not fit all, and we need to grasp the freedom the current closure gives us to treat each case individually.

If congregations and weary wardens can be released to be church, rather than being burdened with the responsibility of preserving bricks and mortar, maybe the new life we have seen emerge in lockdown might blossom and flourish – not forever online – heaven forbid! But in vibrant Christian communities meeting in the most appropriate church building in a grouping, or even in a school hall, focussing their energies and enthusiasm on serving their communities, fed by corporate worship with many others, sharing gifts and skills as they grow in discipleship together.

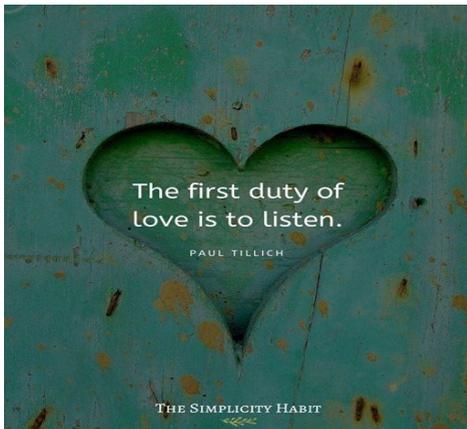
My theological college principal often reflected that policy is usually at least ten years behind practice in the Church of England. Re-designating masses of church buildings can, if we are brave to seize the moment, be trialled instinctively as we begin to embrace the new normal. The legislation to make it formal will take Chancellors and Archdeacons and General Synod many years and tie us all in knots, but let's not be deterred. We cannot go back to a uniform approach to church buildings draining the life from the church. Let's invest in some, reinvent others, and dare to let some quietly stay closed for ever.



## Church of England Diocese of Worcester updated their cover photo.

20 hrs · 🌐

The Bishop and the Dean have ‘taken the knee’ outside the Cathedral to pray for all those affected by repression, discrimination and injustice in a special video ahead of the protest planned in Worcester tomorrow. Read more: <https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/2020/06/12/blacklivesmatter/>



Found on the **Ship of Fools** Facebook Page:

*Is your Bishop, Priest, Archimandrate or Sundry a top left or a bottom righter?*

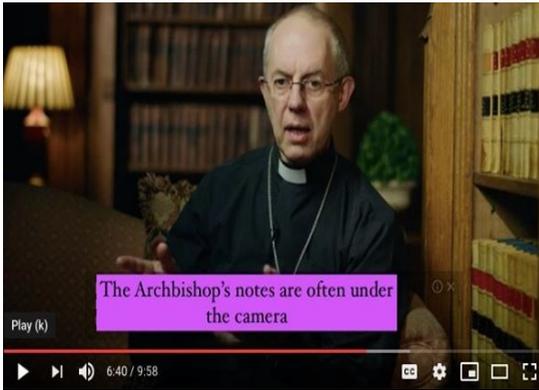
*Don't tell me you haven't asked yourself. We all do.*

*The internet is suddenly brimming with sermons and stuff, and we watch for that flick in the eyes, working out the really important question facing the church today:*

*where have they Blu-Tac'd their notes?*

*Not only does it provide something to do but but there is also, almost certainly, something deep and psychometric about this.*

*At this historic time in the modern history of Anglicanism it's vital that we crack this one.*

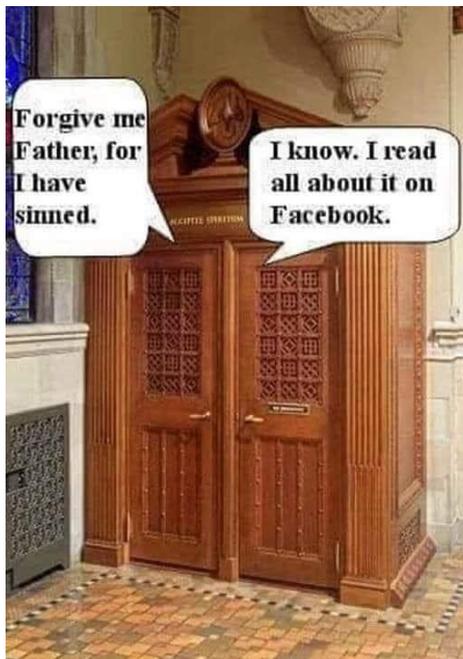




**Choir uniforms for the  
fall!**

Forgive me  
Father, for  
I have  
sinned.

I know. I read  
all about it on  
Facebook.



..for what  
is it you pray,  
my child?

Can't tell you,  
O Lord.  
It's private!

**BBC NEWS**

BBC.COM

Places of worship to reopen for private prayer

HT 2020

**God's blessings are not about ease and comfort, but rather about the joy of being a part of God's work, being used by God for God's purposes, and being accompanied by God's presence, particularly in the face of adversity.**

Adam  
Hamilton

CcNet:  
The Clergy  
Coaching  
Network



What if 2020 isn't cancelled?

What if 2020 is the year we've been waiting for?

A year so uncomfortable, so painful, so scary, so raw —  
that it finally *forces* us to grow.

A year that screams so loud, finally awakening us  
from our ignorant slumber.

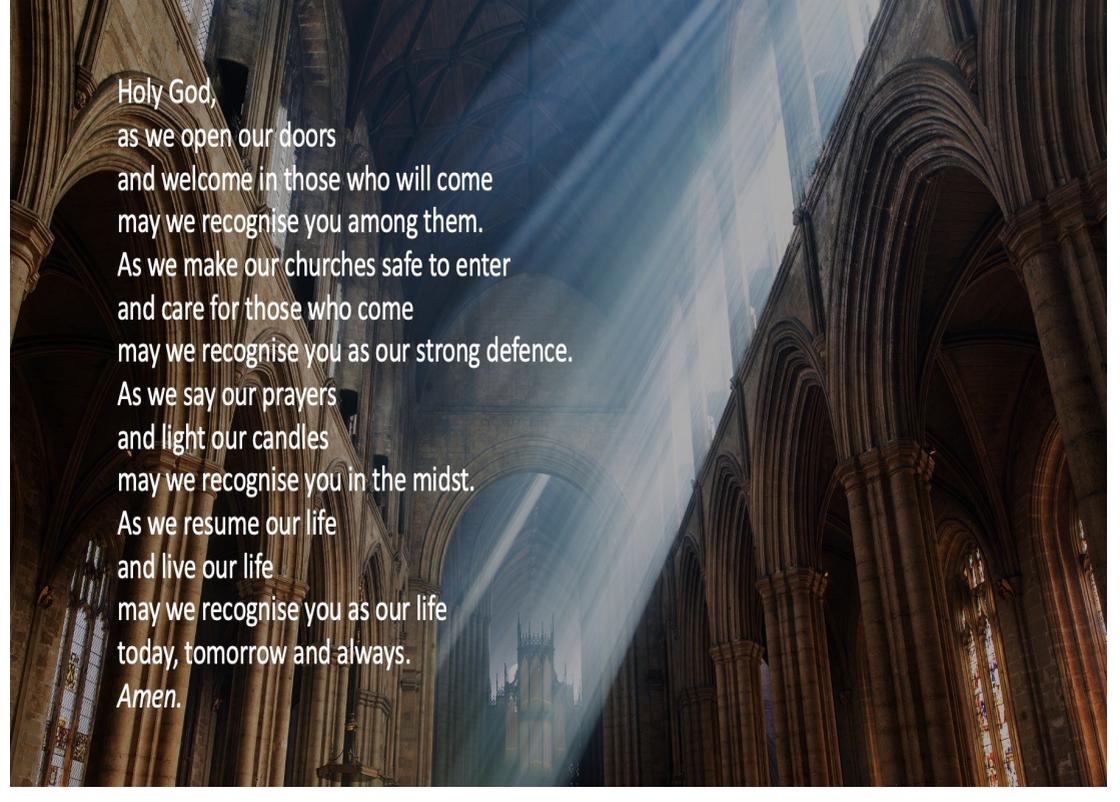
A year we finally accept the need for change.

Declare change. Work for change. Become the change.

A year we finally band together, instead of  
pushing each other further apart.

2020 isn't cancelled, but rather  
the most important year of them all.

— *leslie dwight*



Holy God,  
as we open our doors  
and welcome in those who will come  
may we recognise you among them.  
As we make our churches safe to enter  
and care for those who come  
may we recognise you as our strong defence.  
As we say our prayers  
and light our candles  
may we recognise you in the midst.  
As we resume our life  
and live our life  
may we recognise you as our life  
today, tomorrow and always.  
*Amen.*