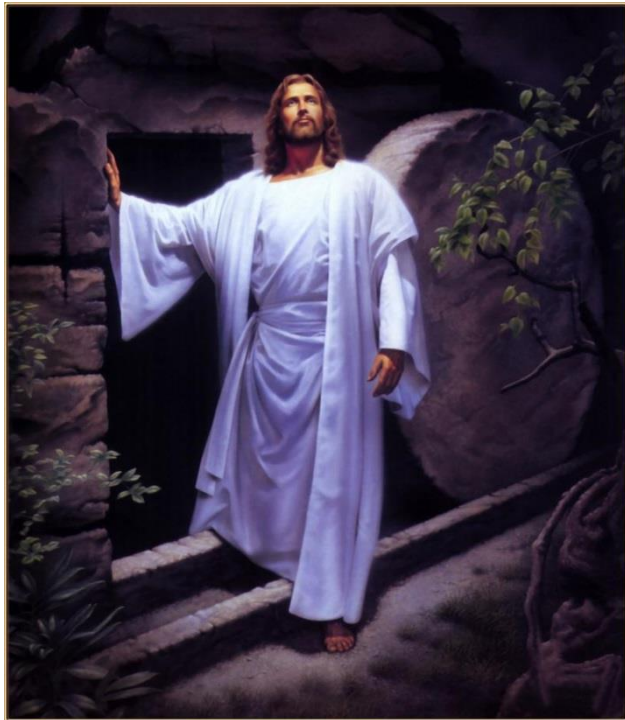


# **ST. WILFRID'S & ST. MICHAEL'S**

**Meeting Needs, Bringing Hope,  
Sharing Love**



**HE IS RISEN! ALLELUJAH**

**APRIL NEWSLETTER 2020**

|                                 |                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Rev. John Langlands</b>      | <b>07588 664962</b> |
| <b>Churchwarden John Cox</b>    | <b>02476 394802</b> |
| <b>Deputy Warden Vic Murray</b> |                     |

Rev John's Jottings - Are you a person who has 'No Hope' or do you 'Know Hope'? It is the month of Easter. Lent has been a new wilderness experience for us all one way or another, as the whole world goes through this coronavirus pandemic. Just as Lent gives way to Easter, so the darkness of these days will bring new beginnings. But how much of Easter is relevant to you in these days? It's the greatest message of hope the world can know. Can you recount the Easter story? Sadly, our nation is losing its grip on its Christian heritage.

Holy week begins the time leading up to Jesus death. Palm Sunday was when Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey proclaimed as a king by the crowds shouting 'Hosanna' Thursday night and the Last supper was when Jesus shared with last meal with his disciples – and became the institution of communion. Then there was Jesus praying sweat like blood in the garden of Gethsemane and his arrest.

Good Friday was when Jesus was mocked, tried, crucified and then he died and was buried. Easter Sunday came and his body could not be found – the tomb was empty 'Hallelujah' and the supernatural appearance of two angels declared, 'He is not here, He is risen'

It was an event that has changed the course of history and the lives of millions of people ever since. Because not many folk will no longer have access to this magazine, the congregations in the Benefice of Ansley and Arley have been creative in finding new ways to communicate with each other as well as trying to help those around the villages in practical ways where possible.

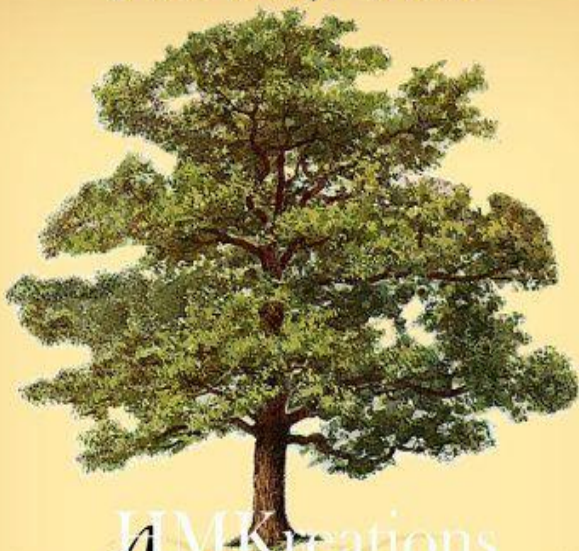
In the Anglican liturgy we sometimes have these words: 'This is His (Jesus) story, this is His song' and we go on to say, 'This is my story, this is my song'. I am suggesting that if you can, get access to the churches' websites: [ansleychurch.org](http://ansleychurch.org) & [arleycofechurches.org.uk](http://arleycofechurches.org.uk)

As well as having regular updates of church news and helpful items, you will begin to see stories from our congregations about 'their story and their song'; either of how they came to discover the Lord in a personal way or what their Christian faith means to them today. Don't miss any of it! You'll also find out more about myself if you wish to know. In the meantime, have a very blessed

Easter, keep well and safe. God bless you all.

Rev: John

# "The Oak Tree"



**A** MKcreations

A mighty wind blew night and day.  
It stole the oak tree's leaves away.  
Then snapped its boughs and pulled its bark  
Until the oak was tired and stark.  
But still the oak tree held its ground  
While other trees fell all around.  
The weary wind gave up and spoke,  
"How can you still be standing, Oak?"  
The oak tree said, "I know that you  
Can break each branch of mine in two,  
Carry every leaf away,  
Shake my limbs, and make me sway.  
But I have roots stretched in the earth,  
Growing stronger since my birth.  
You'll never touch them, for you see,  
They are the deepest part of me.  
Until today, I wasn't sure  
Of just how much I could endure.  
But now I've found, with thanks to you,  
I'm stronger than I ever knew."

- Johnny Ray Ryder, Jr.



April Recipe: Caraway Cake or Seed Cake: (serves 8 – 10)

Ingredients:

170gms(6oz) butter, plus extra for greasing.  
170gms(6oz) Caster sugar  
3 Eggs  
3 teaspoonsful of caraway seeds  
225gms(8oz) plain flour  
A pinch of salt  
1 teaspoon Baking powder  
1 Tablespoon Ground almonds  
1 Tablespoon milk.

Method:

Preheat oven to 170degC/325degF. Gas mark 3. Grease and line 23cm (9inch) round cake tin.

Cream together the butter and sugar until fluffy and pale.

Add the eggs, one at a time beating well between each addition, then mix in the Caraway seeds.

Sift the flour, salt and baking powder together and fold gently into the mixture.

Add Ground Almonds and milk.

Spoon the mixture into the prepared tin and level the top.

Bake in the preheated oven for approximately 1 hour, or until the cake is well risen and firm to the touch.

Allow to cool in the tin before turning out the cake.

To serve cut into slices.

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'Things turn out the best for people who make the best of the way things turn out.'

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# BIBLE EASTER WORD SEARCH



K C T E K A M S R H T O A Q T L T J T S H P  
L G D A B H C I A A O Z F S S P C X E U Z I  
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ROMANS

RISEN

SACRIFICE

THREE DAYS

ANGELS

SAVIOR

GOLGOTHA

BLOOD

SIMON OF CYRENE

JESUS

ROBE

LAMB

SON OF GOD

TOMB

APOSTLES

CALVARY

CROSS

NAILS

MARY

CRUCIFIXION

PILATE

HIGH PRIEST

PASSOVER

SUNDAY



PLAN FOR POSITIVITY:

Due to circumstances beyond our control why don't we all do a little planning for each day. Looking after your own needs is key to increasing your happiness potential.

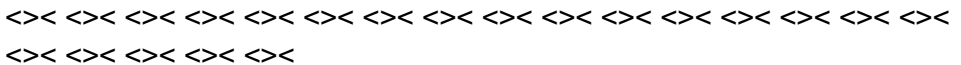
Why not set your alarm for 15 minutes earlier than you need to get up. That way you make space in the morning for joy, rather than rushing out of the door. Sit and drink your tea or coffee in peace, meditate or pray or listen to music. For those who are unable to go to work, perhaps a walk or cycle ride may make you feel good.

Set a morning routine. Follow the same pattern every day. The fewer decisions you have to make first thing, the less potential for stress. Get your clothes ready the night before; decide what you are going to eat for breakfast.

Make sure your routine includes something to look forward to, every single day. To – do lists can dominate every waking moment, so just find time to jot down a few things that give you joy.

We will all have time for our 'little' jobs around the house, so decide which room or place you want to make a start on, or potter in the garden. and take it from there.

Make each day something to look forward to



Even when storm-clouds Are filling the air,  
We know there's a rainbow, Just waiting somewhere,  
And when the storm's over - Our rainbow will be  
Shining brightly in glory For both you and me.





## In the Garden during April:

Around this time of year you can start to sow hardy annual flowers directly into beds. Hardy annuals are flowers that you plant by seed yearly and which will survive in open ground. These kind of yearly additions to your garden look best when they are scattered randomly amongst your shrubs and perennial returners. Plant them in scattered drifts rather than regular patterns so that they look they have blown in on the wind. I always like to scatter a few cornflowers and Californian poppies for their bright colours. I also scatter a few snapdragons for their fun factor, plus a few marigolds and cosmos, because they are such reliable performers. Although I have a few regular favourites I do like to mix things up every year and try something new. Because annuals only last a year, I always think that a few risks can be taken. In many ways this is the fun part of gardening, as you scatter your seeds wildly, never quite sure how things will look when all the seeds germinate. It is a time to have fun and experiment, as well as throwing things around randomly and letting nature take a hand. It is about working with nature rather than trying to be too dictatorial. Not all the seeds you scatter will germinate, only the ones which are happiest where they fall.

*The seed that is sown is the good news about Jesus, which is shared in many places. Just as the different places where the seed falls cause a different reaction in each, the good news about Jesus can be received differently by different people. It is received well by some and poorly by others. The seed falling on the path, no soil, is an analogy for those who hear the good news but pay no attention. The seed falling against rocks reflects interest at first then move to other things. The seed amongst the weeds indicates initial interest replaced by other pursuits. But the seed on good ground, takes root and flourishes in our hearts.*

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer” Romans 12:12

We are facing a time of challenge, where prayer, worship and fellowship with others feels increasingly important. Below are a few resources and ideas that might be helpful: Daily Prayer: [www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-dailyprayer](http://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-dailyprayer) Available as an app or through the Church of England Website, this gives you access to prayers throughout the day, Daily Collect and suggested readings according to the lectionary. Lectio 365: <https://www.24-7prayer.com/dailydevotional> - Available for iOS and Android. A simple app with daily prayer and meditation on scripture. It begins with a centring prayer, a reading from the Psalms, then a Bible passage that has some thought/comment afterwards. There is an option to read through it yourself slowly, or use the audio guide, which uses different voices and takes approx. 10 minutes.

Prayermate: <https://www.prayermate.net/> - Available for iOS and Android. Allows you to pull together different themes and prayer points into a virtual prayer diary, with prompts and reminders to set a daily rhythm. Also allows access to additional materials like the C of E Collect for the Day, prayer material from mission agencies and the ability to upload PDFs – so any prayer requests that come through on your usual email address from prayer partners or church communications can also be added into your rhythm. Digital Family Prayer Adventure: <https://engageworship.org/thy-kingdom-come-resources> – Part of Thy Kingdom Come wave of prayer. This is a series of resources – journal, podcast and interactive adventure map that enables you to pray and worship together as a family. The idea is to explore what prayer is, think of people and situations we can pray for and develop a rhythm of prayer as a family. The prayer map is supported by an app that unlocks extra content and daily challenges so this could be a great way to help your children worship and pray if they are currently unable to access their usual children’s activities at church/school. Contemplative at Home: <http://contemplativeathome.com/> - Reflections and guided prayer with scripture. A large back-catalogue of podcast recordings – approximately 20 minutes long. Each offers a time of stillness, a piece of scripture to reflect up, some thoughts from Lissy Clarke and some guided prayer to explore what God might be saying to us through the passage. Sacred Space: [www.sacredspace.ie](http://www.sacredspace.ie) (also as an app for iOS and Android) This website contains thought for the day, guided reflections, and a daily Bible passage.

It is also home to “Pray as you Go”- an app to help maintain rhythms of daily prayer at times to suit you. The Bible App for Kids - <https://bibleappforkids.com/> Animated Bible stories and Bible themed activities for children to explore the Bible and how it fits together. Great for exploring stories as a family, discussing deeper themes in an accessible way and helping continue to disciple children in the absence of their own church groups.

Other ideas:

- Set up a WhatsApp group with a couple of people whom you can comfortably share your spiritual journey. Chat throughout the day, share prayer requests, offer humorous stories or anecdotes on what you are learning to maintain a sense of connection – we still need fellowship, even if we have to do it from a distance. Video calling through WhatsApp/Skype/FaceTime etc. can all be a fun way of praying together as a group.
- Consider the practicalities of your church going online. Are you able to record your sermons? If you already do this, are you able to offer a live stream to the whole service through Facebook live or similar? Are you someone who has the skills or technical knowhow to help your/another church to do this to reach those who can't access in person? The Diocese will be making some help sheets and practical advice available in the coming days.
- Use of Zoom or similar platforms can allow a small group of you to meet virtually through video conferencing for prayer and worship. Again, guidance and help-sheets will be coming soon.
- Use Spotify to access music, podcasts and playlists of worship songs and Thinking about prayer following the pattern of the Lord's Prayer. Sessions include why we should pray, how we can pray and what happens when prayers are not answered. It comes out of the 24/7 prayer movement and has encouraged and helped many people start or grow in their prayer life. There are 8 videos, 25-30 minutes each. You can also download a plan with questions to reflect on. Shining as Lights: <https://www.lightsforchrist.uk/shiningaslights> "This course encourages us to develop a personal Rule of Life: a simple framework of actions for living out our faith day by day. Each session helps explore what shape that might take". There are questions and thoughts with a very short video. Discipleship Explored - <https://discipleship.explo.red/> A follow-up to the Christianity Explored course, this looks at different aspects of daily discipleship and relationship with Jesus, using Paul's letter to the Philippians to reflect on how the first disciples model a life of growing faith.

Rev. John

Psalm 121 A song of ascents.

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the mountains – where does my help come from?
- 2 My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot slip – who watches over you will not slumber;
- 4 indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5 The Lord watches over you – the Lord is your shade at your right hand;
- 6 the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord will keep you from all harm – he will watch over your life;
- 8 the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and for evermore.

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PSALM 121 - ADDRESS Psalm 121 is a beautiful psalm often called “The Traveller’s or Pilgrim’s Psalm”. It’s a psalm that marks life’s journeys, reminding us that the Lord is our keeper from our birth until our death. It’s a psalm well-suited for a farewell. It was the special psalm of David Livingstone’s mother-in-law when she said her last farewell to her son-in-law, as he set out for what was known then as Africa, the dark continent. It was on the morning of November 17th 1840 that the Livingstone family got up at five o’clock. His mother-in-law read Psalm 121, then he and his father walked 12 miles from Blantyre to Glasgow to catch the Liverpool steamer. His old father walked back alone with a lonely heart. When David arrived in Africa and set out on his dangerous travels, this psalm was a ground of hope to him and his family back home. It is entitled “A Song of Ascents.” and it was originally used on or before a journey to one of the 3 major festivals in Jerusalem. Around Jerusalem would be the surrounding mountains to which the pilgrim would look up to as he approached the city. Hence the words, ‘I lift mine eyes to the hills, from whence cometh my help?’ Although they looked up and saw these daunting mountains, they were looking beyond them to what lay on the other side, which was their ultimate destination – the city of Jerusalem. All word that translates as

‘watch’ in this psalm also means ‘to keep’ as well as ‘to ‘guard’ and ‘preserve’



## Another trip down memory lane from our friend Anne :

### Moving On:

My Dad had been conscripted into the Warwickshire Regiment and some time later Mum Janet David and I were coming back from the 'bottom end' of the village. It was dark and of course no street lamps. Mum pushed the pram containing David and Janet and I trotted alongside . My Mother was reciting poetry – she loved poetry as I do and perhaps the ability we all have(Janet David and I) to write verse comes from us hearing poetry from a very early age.

I think it was 'The Merman' we were reciting or it could have been 'Vita Lampada', those were two of our favourites. As we reached the 'Gate' my mother remarked that there seemed to be a light on in our cottage. 'It is probably the reflection of the moon', she said. Then round the corner came my father – he was on embarkation leave.

He felt of course, that he would like to see his mother and family before he went abroad, so we all set out for Barnsley on the train. It was dark when we arrived and I was sent on ahead to knock the door. The door opened and flooded the yard with light. 'Switch that light off woman or shut the door', growled Grandad from within. 'Nell, Nell, it's our Anne', we walked in and found Grandma's back room full of people. Auntie Jean, Patricia and Hilary were there and Uncle Jack, Uncle George and Auntie Netty. My uncles were miners so had not been called up. Grandma said, 'See, I told you there would be a man coming with a pack on his back today', and pointed to my Dad's kitbag slung over his shoulder. She had been reading the tea leaves again!

God knows how we slept that night. I know I slept in a chair bed which was so narrow that there was not room to turn over. Grandma, Auntie Jean and her daughters, Mum, Janet and David

(Continued)

all slept in the big feather bed taking turns to sleep I should imagine. Grandma always wept when we left, but unfortunately we missed the train and her face fell when she saw us all come back. I know that feeling, it's lovely to see your grandchildren but its nice to see them go.

Soon it was time for Dad to leave us. He would not let Mum go with him but we all stood at the back window and waved until he was out of sight. He waved back right to the end of the road. By this time he had been transferred to the South Wales Borderers and members of that regiment wore black ribbons on their caps and as he walked the ribbons bobbed. Now he is an old man so troubled by vertigo that he can barely walk, but when I think of him now I see him striding out with the black ribbons bobbing as he walked. With Dad gone I became my Mother's main confidante and I often felt worried if she was short of money. I can understand why she talked to me, she was far away from her mother and most of her family, and she probably put too much responsibility on a little girl. At only four years old I can remember being sent round the lane to Mrs. Birch's shop, which she kept in the second bedroom of her bungalow. The bungalow was right at the end of our two fields and after a while Mr. Birch made a hole in the hedge so that I could squeeze through and visit her shop by going up her back garden path. I quite enjoyed doing the errands for my mum, as Mrs. Birch made a fuss of me and always gave me a couple of sweets or a biscuit to eat on the way back. Next door to the Birches lived the Pinfolds, Lil & Jim, and sons Tony & Peter. Tony was my boyfriend, had bright curly ginger hair and when I asked him to my 5<sup>th</sup> birthday party he took one look at the other children and went home....!

Thank you Anne – so nice to hear your memories. Looking forward to next instalment. Maureen x

Dear Friends,

Firstly, I hope you are all keeping as well as possible - and making the most of the sunshine!

I have just sent through to Maureen our Arley Church magazine editor, my Jottings for the April edition.

In it I have suggested the following piece of homework for us all - if you are up for a challenge?

I think it would be a good opportunity to find out a bit more about each other and see it also as a means of sharing our faith, possibly inspiring others and an opportunity to spread the gospel message. What I have in mind is this:

As an individual we write either or/both but separate items about the following -

- a. What led you to find your faith in Christ ie your Christian story of finding faith
- b. What your Christian faith means to you in this time of crisis.

The article should be roughly no more than an **A4 page** with **Arial script** and **14 size font**

This would then be published on the website of Arley. It is something that could go on a weekly basis, or twice weekly depending on how many of you respond. For those who do not have access to the internet,

it may be possible to share a hardcopy of the article with others who can be reached in a safe way. The idea came about when I was thinking about Lent, Easter and the Anglican Liturgy which says:

This is His story, this is His song - Hallelujah

This is our story, this is our song - Hallelujah

Are you up for the challenge to share your story? Just a suggestion.

Please take care, be safe and if you need any help please let me know.

God bless you all.      Rev. John



## LET US PRAY

Father, I give you thanks for the beauty I see from my window.

Blossom, colourful flowers, birds feeding, bulbs pushing through the pots and grass growing.

Amongst all the evil surrounding us, You are the Creator God, who brings beauty and goodness from the cross.

We worship You and praise You and ask that you hear and respond to all our prayers for a turning to You and an end to this horrendous virus. We pray for the dying, the bereaved, and all the service workers trying to alleviate pain and suffering. Bring comfort to all families, and take away any fear from them.

Lord hear our prayer – in Jesus name. Amen

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Dear Lord, Open my eyes that they may see the deepest needs of people. Move my hands that they may feed the hungry; touch my heart that it may bring warmth to the despairing.

Teach me the generosity that welcomes strangers; give me care that strengthens the sick. In sharing our anxieties and our love, our poverty and our prosperity, we partake of your divine presence. Amen.

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O Christ as we walk through the land that you loved, in the country where you lived and taught, grant us the grace and wisdom to see clearly and understand deeply that all you suffered was for the sake of redeeming humanity. Through your life, death and resurrection you have made it possible for us to have life, and have it more abundantly. Amen.

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God of new beginnings, free us from the fear of change. May our experience of Easter so change our lives that they express your boundless love. Amen



Simon Cripwell. Trading Standards Officer. Old Budbrooke Road

Warwick. CV35 7DP.

Warwickshire County Council.

Dear All,

Throughout this period, Warwickshire County Council Trading Standards is endeavouring to keep Warwickshire consumers and businesses updated on Trading Standards related Coronavirus (COVID-19) issues including scams, doorstep crime and business advice/regulations. To that end the service will be issuing messages on a daily basis, as necessary via its email alert system and social media.

If you can, please help by cascading this information/guidance/advice as you see fit.

Kind regards. Warwickshire Trading Standards

### **Working from home? Businesses are warned of mandate fraud**

As people begin to work from home, this may provide new opportunities for scammers to take advantage of this disruption. Mandate fraud is a scam that thrives in situations where staff are working in isolation, using different modes of communication than normal and are perhaps unable to seek advice from colleagues. Mandate fraud is when someone gets you to change a direct debit, standing order or bank transfer mandate, for example related to a business supplier. Payments are then made to fraudsters, rather than the real recipients. Businesses are advised to look out for any of the following:

urgent payment due to cash flow problems ; changes to bank account details contact from third parties requesting changes to bank details and claiming to act on behalf employees incapacitated by the virus.

To avoid problems, ensure all staff are aware of mandate fraud, robust procedures including where necessary enhanced authorisation processes are in place and maintain frequent communications with all staff. Further advice:

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/a-z-of-fraud/mandate-fraud>

Trading Standards Service.[simoncripwell@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:simoncripwell@warwickshire.gov.uk)

01926 738987 07771 975570

## EVERYDAY GRACES:

(From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another) John 1:16.

Most of the time when we talk about God's grace, we are referring to the gift of salvation. But God's grace also comes in tiny little packages marked, 'A Gift For You'

Each day God presents gifts of His grace. Most of the time we take them for granted.

Take some time to appreciate some of these gifts:

- . Freedom to be real
- . Quiet moments
- . The brilliant colours of Spring
- . Walking
- . Knowing you are loved
- . A friend who listens
- . A child's hug.

Start looking at each of these as little dreams come true. God's dream for us unfolds in thousands of little ways through everyday graces He places in our lives.

Too often we are just too busy to notice. Or we are so eager to have the big dream come true, we forget to watch for the little things that *are* the dream coming true.

Most Christians can trust God for heaven and eternity with Him, but we struggle to trust Him for everyday life. Start seeing and living differently – It will turn your life around!

*Thank you God, for your abounding grace, for the tremendous gift of salvation, and for the thousands of little graces You send our way each day. Amen*

We wish to share with you part of Rev. John Langlands sermon on Mothers Day:

MOTHER'S DAY – St Wilfrid's (22/3/20)

For those of us who have had the privilege of a mother whilst growing up, we possibly have had one of the greatest influences upon us. They have shaped much of our values, behaviour, attitudes, thinking and decision making. There is recognised a special bond between a mother and her children. Mothering is a lot about love expressed in patience, compassion, sacrifice, protection, wisdom, generosity, unselfishness, guidance and discipline.

A London editor submitted to Winston Churchill for his approval, a list of all those who had been Churchill's teachers. Churchill returned the list with this comment: "You have omitted to mention the greatest of my teachers—my Mother."

Preacher G. Campbell Morgan had four sons and they all became ministers of the gospel. At a family reunion, a friend asked one of the sons, "Which Morgan is the greatest preacher?" All of the sons looked at his father to which he replied, "MOTHER."

There's that one well known hymn that mentions 'mothers' which we sang at the beginning of our service - 'Now thank we all our God'. Verse one says:

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices; who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

It was written by Martin Rinkart as far back as 1636 whilst he and thousands of others were besieged in a city during the Thirty Years war. Also, a plague was sweeping across Europe at this time.

So despite these gruelling and horrendous circumstances, he could still give thanks to God, especially for his mother's blessing. His words were translated from the German by Catherine Winkworth in 1858, since when the hymn became, and still is, very popular.

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## Prayers - each day during April:

**Lord Send us your Holy Spirit to give us strength to face each new day**

|    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | <b>Pray for Rev.John &amp; Frances keep them well and strong enabling them to minister to those in our Parishes.</b>                           |
| 2  | Lord, you know about us and we thank you for all your care and love  |
| 3  | Let us focus on our Lord especially during this Holy season  |
| 4  | Let us forgive one another as our Lord forgives us   |
| 5  | Today let us be completely humble and gentle as we reach out to others   |
| 6  | Find a place of quiet so we can spend time with our Gracious Lord  |
| 7  | As God's chosen people, dearly loved ,show your compassion and kindness  |
| 8  | Always think before you speak and try to do good   |
| 9  | Creator God we give you thanks and praise for the beauty of the earth  |
| 10 | The Cross became the only way God was able to forgive our sins   |
| 11 | Give thanks to God's blessing of your special gift   |
| 12 | Hallelujah ! He is Risen. Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life   |
| 13 | Thank you God for sending us your Holy Spirit into our hearts  |
| 14 | Today let us show love with words, actions and truth   |
| 15 | Let God take away your anger today and bring us your calmness  |
| 16 | Give us strength & willingness Lord so we can help our neighbours  |
| 17 | Remembering all residents in Stewart Crt. Meadow Croft & Rowland Crt.<br>Keep them all safe and well ,knowing they are in our thoughts         |
| 18 | Lord we pray you bless our families and friends with your abiding love   |
| 19 | We pray you heal the sick in body, mind and spirit   |
| 20 | Let us give praise to our Heavenly Father  |
| 21 | Today may our Lord bless us with hope to look forward to the future  |
| 22 | Let us pray for all the victims of the Coronavirus and their families Let us<br>pray for all the victims of the Coronavirus and their families |
| 23 | Remembering St. Georges Day – Patron Saint of England  |
| 24 | Lord we pray you bring an end to all wars and bring peace to our world   |
| 25 | Lord God encourage us all to do what is right  |
| 26 | Pray for all those in hospitals and hospices at this time  |
| 27 | Pray for all in care homes and their carers –may God bless you all   |
| 28 | Let us pray and give thanks for our pets that bring us so much comfort   |
| 29 | Whatever our worries – give them to Jesus our healer   |
| 30 | Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, and soul   |

## THE PRIORITY OF THE CHURCH IS TO KEEP EVERYONE SAFE

As you are aware the Church of England has closed all churches for conducting formal services of worship ,however, the Rev. John is conducting funeral services either at the graveside or the crematorium subject to the families wishes., there are more details on the rear page of this newsletter

Unfortunately the curtailing of services at our churches will impact on our extremely tight budget as we have to still pay our running costs. ie: the Parish Share, insurance on both churches , utility bills(these will hopefully be reduced during the current crisis)

We are therefore asking those who contribute their offerings via the envelope scheme to continue so during this period, arrangements can be made to have them collected by ringing the numbers on the front of the newsletter or alternatively if you would be prepared to contribute via a standing order the appropriate form is available.

It is very important that we are able to have a steady flow of income as the current situation is that we only have enough funds in our bank account to sustain us for the next 3 months.

Within our parish there are a number of vulnerable people who may need help I am reminded of the hymn that begins

*When I needed a neighbour -were you there, were you there*

*When I needed a neighbour -were you there, were you there*

It is a lot to ask in these difficult and fearful times but with God's help and mercy we will be safe and able to continue in our daily lives.

Please contact us should you need any help or just a chat

From. Rev. John

Although sadly we cannot meet for worship on Sundays at the moment, we can still be part of worshipping from home together by praying and reading the Scriptures.

If we make a point each Sunday at the normal service time to be united in prayer even though we cannot physically be together, this will be powerful,

I hope we can still imagine ourselves together as we use this. I will also send through other items as they arise.

If you know someone who would appreciate having this who is a neighbour or church member but does not have the internet please do print off if you can and pop it through their door; or if you know someone else on the internet who might like this please forward.

Take care, be safe & God bless,

Rev'd John Langlands