

The Parish Magazine

of Whitchurch, Fauls & Tilstock



June/July 2020

PASTORAL LETTER



Dear friends

I was wondering what I have learnt during this time of lockdown. I think I'm old enough to know my personal flaws and plus points reasonably well and I'm glad to say that I don't think there have been any nasty surprises! I have reconfirmed that I'm happy in my own company, that I like to have a plan for the day although I don't mind if it gets interrupted, and that I have enough books and art and craft materials to last me several life times.



For many years now practically every Sunday morning has seen me walking up the High Street to attend the morning service at St Alkmund's. I am glad to be an active participant in the worship there, grateful for the understanding about faith that the liturgy and the teaching provide, and strengthened by working as part of the church community. And yet, I haven't, yet, missed it as much as I thought I might, or felt the need to replace it with something 'virtual'. I have, instead, enjoyed the time to read and reflect – I may even as a result be less grumpy about St Paul next time his writings are my sermon topic!

I have, however, read with interest the conversations that have been fluttering around the media and church twitter about the various online offerings of church. There has been much muttering about whether it is substandard if these come from the minister's home rather than from the church building; if it's possible to participate meaningfully in Communion over the internet; whether zoom which requires an invite but allows for congregational chat is better than 'youtube' which can be played back at any time by anyone.

It seems that many people have engaged with the various presentations including those who don't normally come to church. If that's you, Rev Judy would love to know your thoughts and what it might mean for you and St Alkmund's as we move out of lockdown. Perhaps you have been listening to the offerings of other churches locally or further afield and have some recommendations to share.

I am sure that it will in future be appropriate to use the internet more than we have done as a group of churches to reach out to those who don't join our Sunday services for any of the many possible reasons. I hope though, that online connection will act as a draw to be part of our real life community. I fully appreciate the fear which accompanies joining an existing group, of walking through those big doors and wondering how one is supposed to behave on the other side of them, of not knowing what the rituals will look like or what they mean. I remember the terror I felt as a young adult when I realised that the evening service I had gone to on my own was a communion service ... if I could have done a runner without drawing attention to myself I would have done. I felt extremely uncomfortable faced with the unknown and no-one I knew to talk me through it. But, once that great leap has been made, there is no better way to walk the Christian journey than to walk it alongside friends.

I look forward to seeing you in church soon. If you've not been before and don't want to walk in alone, ring Rev Judy, me or one of the other people whose phone numbers are in this magazine and we will be glad to walk in alongside you.

Yours in Christ

Jane



Coronavirus Situation and the View from the Rectory

The Literal View

As lockdown came into play, the work on the St Alkmund's stopped and so I no longer saw familiar figures walking to and fro or up on the scaffolding.

The use of Bargates for almost all groups stopped and so Honey barked a lot less at the traffic in 'her' garden: the exception to this is on Tuesday and Friday mornings. It's been wonderful to see all the Foodbank material going out by delivery to the most needy in our community.

My back garden looked different this year – no plant sale 'vegetation' in my greenhouse – but still a spectacular sale and fundraiser thanks to Judy Bryant, Janet Ivens, Mel Williams and all the "Helping Hands" deliverers



The Change to Phone and Computer Contact

Sundays have changed for so many of us: the lack of Sunday services in our three churches has meant that we have had to develop new ways of receiving and giving Christian nurture, pastoral care and fellowship and of corporate prayer. Amongst other changes, there's had to be a greater reliance on individual or family prayer – and having access to the right resources for this:

- We have approximately 50 volunteers who are in regular phone contact with those who appreciate a call or who shop or pick up medications for others who shouldn't be out and about themselves
- Weekly mailings have become the norm – whether by e mail or the 'ordinary' post; these have provided the set Sunday Bible readings, plus the introductions to them and a sheet of reflections to them. Those who receive them electronically have the bonus of a seasonal hymn recorded by Peter Edge which is lovely to have – thanks, Peter
- My experience in doing short "Pause for Thought" slots on Radio Shropshire has stood me in good stead for the short videos and phone messages I've been recording, which have received good feedback. I checked the number of listeners to the phone message for one occasion – and there were 18 which is a good number to add to all the views for the videos on YouTube and Facebook
- Jo (our Parish Administrator) has been working mainly from home. Along with producing the weekly sheet, her continued work has meant that we've been able to send out the Chancel Steps and Magazine on the appropriate dates. She's also had the opportunity to do a lot of work on revamping the website and put resource material on it: www.stalkmunds.com

Weddings and Baptisms

Weddings and baptisms were not allowed to be done once lockdown was in place. There has been a considerable amount of ongoing work to try and sort out new dates for the weddings, with many couples deciding to delay until next year. It's been a tough time for them – please do include them in your prayers. We still don't know when churches can be fully open and how long social distancing will apply in churches at social functions, including receptions, so there are still two couples hoping for later this year. Baptisms have also been postponed – and we don't know when they will be able to go ahead, nor do we know how many families will want to delay until they can have a service and party afterwards that are not affected by social distancing. The workload building up for next year is a further concern.



Funerals

These have taken place at the graveside (immediate family only) or at the Crematoriums (10 people allowed). Some families may decide to have a Thanksgiving Service in church later to celebrate the life of their loved one with a wider group. Generally speaking, people have been grateful for the service and have felt it had an intimacy and so was a better experience than they had expected.



Next Steps

- We will be following Diocesan, National Church of England and Government advice. I'm hoping that all three will be saying the same thing – but I'm not entirely confident about that!
- Please pray for all our schools: those with 3 to 11yos will be having more children in from 1st June onwards and SJT will still be catering for vulnerable children and those of key workers before having more year groups in.
- Please also pray for our Care Homes and Care at Home firms as the lockdown for these people is likely to stay in place.
- The stonework has begun again on 11th May for St Alkmund's but the work on the windows has been delayed a little longer
- It seems probable that social distancing will be with us for the next few months which greatly affects what we can do but we have begun some planning
- We need to prayerfully reflect on what our communities as well as our congregations might need as lockdown continues to ease, or indeed if it imposed again
- We need to ask ourselves what we have learnt from the past months and how that might affect the way we work and worship in the future – please pray for the PCCs and others involved in decision making over the next few months



Sam, our new curate

Sam and his family are expecting to move into their new home at 12 Edgeley Gardens on 11th June.

The current plan for his Ordination as Deacon is looking towards Sat 26th September but he will be licensed as a lay worker here from 28th June. This means that he can lead services and preach (whether on-line or in church buildings!), but not baptise or officiate at weddings. Neither as a lay worker nor as a deacon can he preside at Holy Communion. Various training for him and for me is taking place on-line..

Do please be praying for him and the family. The eldest two children now have school places – Alice-May at WJA and Lucas at WIA, so that's good; but it's a very strange and potentially difficult time to be moving and starting a new role. If / when restrictions are lifted, we'll have some kind of welcome event. See next page too.

Revd Judy

OUR PARISHES' NEWS

HELP US TO HELP OTHERS WITH WEBSITES

AND WEBLINKS: if you have appreciated a website for Christian worship, prayer or nurture or if you have been linking into a particular Church Service that is available on the web, please send details of this together with a very brief description to Revd Judy on revjudyhunt@gmail.com

It would be helpful if the description included the type and style of content – worship, personal prayer, nurture; high church, evangelical *etc.*; , meditative, praise *etc.*

WELCOMING THE JOHNSON FAMILY:

Sam and family are moving in on 11th June: 12 Edgeley Gardens; if you'd like to contribute items to help stock their 'larder' in these coronavirus restriction times – please drop them off in the Rectory porch over the coming days (thanks to Janet I for coming up with this idea.)

SUPPORTING YOUR CHURCH FINANCIALLY:

In the light of the Coronavirus epidemic, if you would like to change your giving from cash to direct debit, please contact a member of the clergy or your treasurer.

MESSAGES FROM REVD JUDY: two or three times a week, Revd Judy will continue to record a video with reflections/prayers.

These will be found on the Facebook page of St Alkmund's W/ch, on YouTube:

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLafrOGz5y6pw_5JKHbC-OPFtXQ1n4qA1w)

[list=PLafrOGz5y6pw_5JKHbC-OPFtXQ1n4qA1w](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLafrOGz5y6pw_5JKHbC-OPFtXQ1n4qA1w)

and on Twitter: @hunt_rev. Possibly on the church website at some stage too!

REVISION OF THE ELECTORAL ROLLS 2020,

APCM, Electoral Roll & Nominations for Churchwardens, Deanery Synod and PCC:

As APCMs will not be taking place until later in the year, processes for all the above will need to begin again. Any ER forms already returned will be kept.

CLERGY WORKING PATTERNS: Even though there are no regular services, all our clergy will continue to work offering prayer and pastoral support where they can. Please pray for them and their efforts to comfort at this difficult and stressful time.

REVD ELAINE IS ON THE MOVE:

1st & 2nd June. Her new contact details are:

The Vicarage, Vicarage Lane, Frodsham, Cheshire, WA6 7DU; 01928 733378. Her e mail remains the same: revelaine@nym.hush.com

PLANT SALE against all odds the plant sale was a **SELL OUT!** A huge thank you to everyone who supported us so magnificently at the recent 'Lock Down Plant Sale'. You will be delighted to hear that the final total raised is £1,150.

Mel did many days stalwart work on the end of a phone with her card reader, taking payments for each order; Helping Hands made light work of so willingly delivering the orders to all corners of Whitchurch and the surrounding villages and Janet and I did our best to make sure the pots, baskets and plants were all sorted and ready for delivery.

It was a total pleasure for us and we hope the plants give you pleasure as well.

Janet and Judy

PARISHES' OUTING TO LLANDUDNO

Our annual outing to Llandudno was planned for Sat 4th July; this has now been cancelled.



FTW Diary



Diary

All Churches are now CLOSED

**Each day Prayer will be offered in our parishes
by lay people and clergy from home.**

Tuesdays

Rector's Vestry will now be offered by phone 01948 667253 from 6.30pm to 7.30pm each Tuesday



JUNE

7th June —Trinity Sunday

11th June—Corpus Christi—Day of thanksgiving for the institution of Holy Communion

12th June—Barnabas the Apostle (trans from 11th)

14th June—Trinity 1—Proper 6

21st June—Trinity 2; Proper 7

24th June—Birth of John the Baptist

28th June—Trinity 3—Proper 8

29th June—Peter & Paul, Apostles

JULY

3rd July—Thomas the Apostle

5th July—Trinity 4—Proper 9

12th July—Trinity 5—Proper 10

19th July—Trinity 6—Proper 11

22nd July—Mary Magdalene

25th July—James the Apostle

26th July—Trinity 7—Proper 12



Bible Study



Well, we're on Week 9, just another 4 weeks to go if we're staying in isolation for the 12 weeks, but, of course, it may be longer! Are you getting a bit fed up with it? I had a bad day yesterday, I didn't have a good night's sleep the night before so to tell you the truth, I was feeling really 'down' yesterday. In fact I even told Pat, I was fed up!' Which isn't like me.

I've been finding plenty to do, I've even sorted out the notes for the Creeds which the Bible Study group wanted to do next, probably be in the Autumn the way we're going on. So, there's no need for me to feel fed up. I took a sleeping tablet last night, so woke this morning, full of beans!

I read all my readings from Judy yesterday, thank you Judy for working so hard, and this morning, the good Lord reminded me that we are never alone, even when we're feeling fed up. Jesus said: "I am with you always, even to the end of time". I had forgotten that.

He knows how tired life seems when we're feeling lonely and so tired of our own company, even with Pat always there. After all, how alone He

felt on the cross, His friends had deserted Him, but His Father was still with Him. St John never stops letting us know that Jesus is with the Father, and the Father was with Him. God's love for His Son, He shares with us, when we are feeling alone.

Jesus promised His friends that He would send the Holy Spirit to help us, to share our thoughts, to share our loneliness and

give us that love from God our Father, at all times, we are never alone!

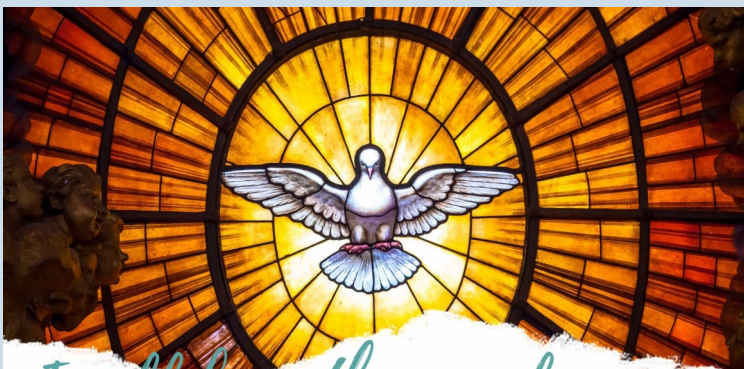
SO, this morning, after taking the tablet, I woke so refreshed and thanked the Lord for that. When I eventually came downstairs, there was a parcel on the table. My card suppliers in Preston had sent something which they only wrote to tell me last week, was out of stock. It's all about 'flutterbies'. So I can start to make some more cards for the Beechtree Centre as well as cards for the church's next Coffee morning - whenever that will be. That's really great - I'm so excited! You wait until you see them!

I'm so sorry Lord, I forget You have my life under-control. I know He loves me and I DO LOVE HIM TOO. Lord forgive my unbelief.

If you are feeling down, remember the Lord understands, and He is with you always.

Stay safe and keep trusting in Him.

Celia Camplin



I will be with you always...



Stonework Progress

You may remember that some time ago we were offered the chance to go up the scaffolding to see how work was progressing. The front cover shows (left to right) Andrew Minshull, Jill Wallace & Nigel Davies up on the scaffolding that day.

I (Jo Lavin) started doing a display in church to record the progress of the stonework—unfortunately none of you can see that at this time so I thought I would include some of the photographic updates—you may remember the damaged stone that I earmarked to follow, it was on the East end of the church. **Below left** shows when it was removed and **next to it**, the new stone in situ.



A CAPITAL JOB

The work has now re-started after being delayed due to the Coronavirus Pandemic restrictions.

The work being done is of the highest standards and I am sure that you will agree how impressive it is.

The picture on the **left below** shows a damaged 'capital' stone—the decorative top to one of the pillars, which flank each window, on which stands the arch.



Continued overleaf



Left– 1: Carved stone ready to be installed

Below 2: Stones in place



Below left 3: shows an old iron fixture where a damaged stone has been removed—these were used to tie the stones together—seems like a good idea unfortunately when the iron rusts it expands and cracks the stone then water penetrates which causes more damage especially when it expands upon freezing.

Bottom left 4: carved stone waiting to be tailored and fitted.

Bottom right 5: White sandstone, structural but also forming a decorative 'dental' pattern on the corner of the church.



SCAM!

Alert

Beware of an unlikely scam from needing emergency medical help:

I have put this together because I think my story may be useful to anyone who may be faced with a similar financial situation.

Last Monday (4th May) about 4 pm I was outside and heard a bang. I walked round the corner of the house and found Kath lying face down on the concrete path with a pool of blood round her head. She was not unconscious but dazed and I was able, with her help, to get her in the house. She was losing a lot of blood and I felt I needed advice and used Google to get in touch with

NHS 111 as I find it so difficult to hear on the phone.

The website led me through a series of questions and then said I would be receiving a written advice by e-mail but first asked me to cover the transmission costs by paying five pounds. I was surprised but getting on with things had my priority. I then had an e-mail to confirm my instructions and I noticed that they regarded me as a member of the Just Ask group and they would be taking £38 per month for a year but I could cancel at any time so I found what I thought was an E Mail address and wrote and cancelled immediately and rang NHS 111.

They were marvellous and gave me guidance as the rest of the day passed but after four hours they asked us to estimate the amount of blood Kath had lost and we must have overestimated that as they told me to dial 999 straight away. From that moment on the ambulance crew took over, stopped the bleeding from her nose and told me to keep an eye on her for the next two days. Next day I checked my bank account and the £5 had not been taken so I breathed a sigh of relief.

Fast forward now to Friday 8th May at 4.05pm. I was using my I Pad and noted that I had a message from Just Ask to say that they would be withdrawing £38 on Monday 11th May. I realised that I could not get in touch with my bank, Barclays, as it was late on Friday afternoon and in any case a Bank holiday so I rang the Barclays fraud department. They were very patient with me, agreed that Just Ask had probably committed a criminal act, that they had taken the £5 and that the best thing to do was to block my Debit card immediately to which I agreed. They have been in touch with me this morning confirming that the card is blocked, a new card is on the way and as I had reported a fraud they would refund the £5. At the end of the phone call they wished me a happy birthday on Monday !



There are lessons to be learnt. I would normally check the company name or sponsor before I would use a website but under pressure and stressed I did not on this occasion and did not read the small print. I have looked up comments about this company and one lady had lost about £500 before she could get out of the tangle. I was not alone.

Roly

Additional note from Revd Judy: Roly & Kath, thank you for being willing to share this story to help others – and I'm glad to know, and to let others know, that Kath has made a full recovery!!

OUR USUAL PATTERN OF SERVICES

The table to the right shows the normal pattern of services in our three parishes and is included here for future information only, as unfortunately due to advice from the Government and an announcement from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York—all public worship is cancelled until further notice.

Occasional Offices

(Baptisms, Wedding and Funerals)

The following information (up-dated on April 1st) is taken from the Church of England Website
www.churchofengland.org

FUNERALS: Sadly, funerals may now only happen at the Crematorium or at the graveside. Only immediate family members can attend (but only if the crematorium allows) – that is, spouse or partner, parents and children, keeping their distance in the prescribed way (*this is true also for burial of ashes*). No wake or gathering should be held following the funeral, and this should be scheduled for a later date.

We recognise how difficult this will be for many and add to the pain of a loss, and encourage you to discuss with your vicar or minister the possibility of a memorial service at a date in the future where more people can be present.


BAPTISMS: Emergency baptisms can take place in a hospital or at home, though subject to strict hygiene precautions and physical distancing as far as this is possible.

WEDDINGS: Sadly, there can be no weddings in church buildings until further notice.



Sunday Services

An asterisk (*) denotes a slightly shorter service—suitable for those with young children

| First Sundays | | | Second Sundays | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 8.00am | Whitchurch | BCP Communion | 8.00am | Whitchurch | BCP Communion |
| 9.30am | Fauls | Morning Worship* | 9.30am | Tilstock | Holy Communion |
| 10.00am | Whitchurch | Worship Together | 10.00am | Whitchurch | Sung Communion |
| 11.00am | Tilstock | Morning Worship* | 6.30pm | Fauls | Evensong |
| 6.30pm | Whitchurch | Sung Evensong | 6.30pm | Whitchurch | Sung Evensong |
| Third Sundays | | | Fourth Sundays | | |
| 8.00am | Whitchurch | BCP Communion | 8.00am | Whitchurch | BCP Communion |
| 9.30am | Fauls | Holy Communion | 9.30am | Fauls | Holy Communion |
| 10.00am | Whitchurch | Sung Communion | 10.00am | Whitchurch | Sung Communion with Prayer for Healing |
| 11.00am | Tilstock | Holy Communion | 11.00am | Tilstock | Holy Communion |
| 6.30pm | Whitchurch | Sung Evensong | 6.30pm | Whitchurch | Sung Evensong |
| Fifth Sundays | | | Other Services | | |
| 8.00am | Whitchurch | BCP Communion | Weds at 9.45am | Whitchurch | Morning Prayer |
| <p><i>There is often a Joint service at one of the three churches, so please see notice boards and pewsheets for details.</i></p> <p><i>The pewsheet Diary also has any variations to regular services.</i></p>  | | | <p><i>Usually in church or Bargates, but venue may change from time to time, so check pewsheets</i></p> <p>Junior Church (2-11yrs) and Sermon Slot (12+)</p> <p>This takes place at St Alkmund's W/ch during the 10am service on most Sundays (apart from the 1st Sunday and School Holidays)</p> | | |
| | | | | | |
| <p>St Alkmund's Rector's Vestry</p> <p>Baptism and Wedding dates can be arranged each Tuesday evening by phone during the coronavirus outbreak, from 6.30pm—7.30pm</p> <p>Usually, The Rector or the Churchwardens would be in church for 'Rector's Vestry' between 7 & 7.30pm most Tuesday evenings</p> <p>Rector's tel no: (01948) 667253 or revjudyhunt@gmail.com</p> | | | | | |



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Freda's Update May 2020



Palm Sunday in lock down

Lock down. How the world has changed in a few weeks!

Pakistan has over 32,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and over 700 deaths to date (12th May). The Sindh provincial government, where the cases first appeared, was quick to impose lock down but Punjab was much slower and they are now almost equal in the number of cases. Crowded city slums make social distancing impossible and large numbers of people dependent on daily wages make lock down difficult. The government recently relaxed the rules to allow the construction industry to resume work, which is a major employer of daily-paid labour.

When I was still going into the office to work – walking the two miles as there are no bus services running – I would see lines of workmen by the side of the road, with the tools of their trades, hoping for someone to employ them so that their families could eat that day. It was very sad, and made Jesus' parable of the labourers in the vineyard come to life (Matthew 20, especially verse 3-7). As well as these people, many others who were employed are now out of work, as employers have closed factories and other businesses.

There is no concept of "furlough" here, so if you are not working you do not get paid. Many Christian women work as maids or domestic cleaners in people's homes, and they are out of work now, and not being paid. My organization has started a Compassion Campaign to help the most needy families, both in Lahore and other areas.

All church services are cancelled since the middle of March. It was strange to celebrate Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter in isolation. Many churches, including my church, St. Andrew's, are broadcasting their services on-line for those members with internet, and others are holding their services on the roof-tops of their homes, where there are several Christian families in the immediate vicinity. There is an advantage of the typically Punjabi houses having flat roofs, which are used as extra living spaces – to catch the sun in the winter months, and to sleep in the cool air in the long hot summer.

Continued overleaf



Live transmission from St. Andrew's Church



Palm Sunday service on the roof tops



All educational institutions have been closed since 16th March, and will not re-open until 15th July at the earliest, after the fasting month of Ramadan. Some schools have organized various forms of distance learning, sometimes using modern technology such as Zoom and Skype, or just producing worksheets for the students to complete at home. But most schools are unable to make any such provision. As the 9th and 10th class Board exams had just begun when the lock down was called, all those students will have their Matriculation (school leaving) exams calculated according to past performance, which is bad news for my friend Emmanuel's son as he was already having to repeat the year. When schools resume, they will have to continue throughout the summer months in order to catch up, which will be very hard on students and teachers alike.

All our classes have been suspended, as the key element is the group discussion time. Students can study the books at home but we have not yet been able to put anything in place to enable the group discussion to take place in other ways. Our staff are continuing to work at their desks for the time being, taking reasonable precautions such as frequent hand washing and social distancing, but I am mostly working from home. I am checking the translation, editing and adding questions (programming) to a new course on Christian Theology that is being written by a German professor who taught for many years in Pakistan, at another Seminary.

Lock down has affected my students, those in my regular weekly class, those on the MACS (Master of Arts in Christian Studies) programme and at the Seminary in Rawalpindi, as it has hindered them from completing their practical research assignments. Please pray for them as they try to complete their work by the extended deadline of 30th May. The next MACS module, on Hermeneutics is scheduled for the end of June, but as yet we do not know if it will happen, due to the uncertainty caused by COVID-19.

I am fortunate to live where I do with two small general stores within 2 minutes walk, for basic commodities, and fresh fruit and vegetables available as the sabziwalas and fruitwalas come every day with their barrows. The weather is pleasant because we have had rain from time to time, which has delayed the onset of summer. On Saturday (25th April), the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan began. The breaking of the fast is normally celebrated by *iftar* parties in the evening, which have officially been banned because of the lock down, so we shall see what happens.



Sabziwala passing below my balcony

Prayer Requests:

For God to have mercy on our world, and provide healing and protection from COVID-19.

For the Pakistani government, at federal, provincial and local levels, to have wisdom in dealing with the present crisis, and for the official *Ehsaas* (Favour) campaign, that is may benefit the most needy and be administered with integrity and transparency

For the Compassion Campaign, to reach the most needy, and for the staff to be kept safe as they do this distribution. Please pray for the health of all staff and their families, especially for Rev. Nadeem, Field manager, who is suffering severe back pain from a herniated disc.

For all students whose studies have been disrupted, including my students, and the Increase Course Writers' Training trainees in Russia doing their research. Please pray for wisdom as the planning team try to re-schedule the next workshop.

Thank you for your fellowship, prayers and financial support. With best wishes, *Freda*

Richard Yates Memorials Monumental Mason

New monuments erected—Existing memorials renovated



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Whitchurch
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O1948 663433
Mobile 07875 148715
richardayates@btinternet.com

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Check for the latest news on Crosslinks mission partners and associates on our web site
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Alison Talbert

Prayer Update May 2020

Dear Friends,

“Habari za shughuli?” “Corona” (How are things? Corona) That’s the greeting and reply I heard in the market last week. Kenya has 490 confirmed cases at the last count, but only 24,784 people have been tested up to May 4th. Kilifi County was one of the first to report cases after a politician returned with the infection from Germany, continued with public duties then refused to go into quarantine. Since then confirmed cases in our county have remained at 9 or 10 according to which newspaper you read. The neighbouring county Mombasa has the most reported new cases this month. A mass testing there last week has not been successful as few took up the opportunity. Why? Well, people testing positive have to go into government quarantine facilities and pay approximately £200 for their 14 days stay. Reportedly the accommodation and food aren’t brilliant and people have to share bathrooms.



Food, pads, masks and soap delivery by motorbike taxi



Market entrance with hand-washing tap and soap

We are being advised to stay home and some businesses are shut. There’s a night curfew and no movement allowed in or out of 5 counties including Kilifi and Mombasa.) Those caught trying to get out of Nairobi were also put in quarantine regardless of their Covid-19 status.

Daily life for me consists of working from home, getting distracted by the news, housework, garden etc., Whatsapping and emailing friends. I’ve limited trips out. We are expected to wear masks in public. All

shops and the market have handwashing facilities and the supermarket now does temperature checks in addition to the normal security ones. Food supplies seem to be getting through OK.

continued overleaf

My local church has not streamed any services and contact is very limited, however I am spoilt for choice with online UK services. Our bible study members keep in touch through Whatsapp but we have yet to venture into Zoom meetings. I think people are waiting for technically challenged me to set it up...

The Upendo children are all at home as the schools and project site are shut. We continue with monthly food and soap distribution, and last month added masks for the children and sanitary towels, thanks to a donation from Rotary. School term was supposed to start on May 4th but has been postponed for a month. We are trying to make sure all Upendo children do some home study, bearing in mind few have access to TV, radio or online resources.

Lemic, the Upendo project director, got married in a private ceremony with 5 guests. I promised that we will have a big celebration with the Upendo children when gatherings are allowed. Till then we wait as the watchman waits for the dawn

With love in Christ,

Alison



I thank God for:

- His protection, provision, peace, and everyday blessings
- The awayday with the Upendo Board Members in Watamu in March

Renewed contact with old schoolfriends and distant relations as a result of lockdown



- Kenya as it tackles the Coronavirus outbreak in its own way
- Those displaced by floods in Western Kenya and the Coast
- Accessible learning materials for Upendo children

Renewing my special pass whilst government offices are closed



Planned
Sundays in 2020

**27th Sept &
22nd Nov**

**3pm until
4.30pm**

**In Bargates Hall
(behind St Alkmund's)
And having fun with
crafts, singing,
stories
& a bite to eat
All Welcome!**

**Of course as things
stand at the
moment this cannot
go ahead, but,
hopefully will be
able to resume
towards the end of
the year if the
Coronavirus
restrictions are
lifted**

**so perhaps pop
these dates in your
diary—just in case**

for more information
please contact:
Marcia Haywood on
01948 666542 or
jmshayw@aol.com

Please note, all children
must be accompanied by
an adult
(but adults don't have to be
accompanied by a child!)



St Alkmund's Church Contacts & Organisations

Working to become **Dementia Friendly**



| | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Rector | Rev Canon Dr Judy Hunt | 667253 |
| Rector of St Alkmund's Parish Church (charity No. 1129900) | | |
| The Rectory Church Street Whitchurch SY13 1LB—email: revjudyhunt@gmail.com | | |
| Churchwarden | Mr John Stokes | 663194 |
| Churchwarden | Mrs Jill Wallace | 666233 |
| Verger <i>Funerals/Weddings</i> | Mrs Pauline Stokes | 663194 |
| Electoral Roll Officer | Mr Paul Williamson | 664112 |
| Organist & Choirmaster | Dr Bob Fowler | 666554 |
| PCC Lay Chair | Mr John Stokes | 663194 |
| PCC Secretary | Mrs Judy Bellingham | 663443 |
| PCC & Fabric Treasurer | Mrs Mel Williams | 661286 |
| Church Office | Miss Jo Lavin | 665413 |
| Website | www.stalkmunds.com | |
| Church Email | stalkmundschurch@btconnect.com | |

Junior Church for children aged 2-11 years meets most Sundays (apart from the first in the month) during the 10.00am service in the Church Office, begins during the first hymn and re-joins the congregation at the Peace.

Sermon Slot for young people aged 12 years, meets most Sundays (apart from the first in the month) at the 10.00am service, between the Gospel and the Peace.

Mrs Jane Rylands 663184

Choir Practices in church on Wednesdays: *Sunday morning Choir*, 6.30pm

Sunday evening Choir, 7.15pm

Bellringers (Practice on Thursdays 7pm)

Mr Malcolm Monie 663069

Bible Study Group meets in Bargates Hall

Celia Camplin 01948 662380

Children's Society Secretary

Mrs Sue Collins 667845

Guild of Service

Mrs Sue Wainwright 664252

Tea & Coffee Rota on Sundays

Mrs Wendy Darter 07429 255 151

Christian Giving To give regularly to the Church, contact the **Churchwardens**

Envelope & Gift Aid Secretary

Mrs Mel Williams 661286

Whitchurch Federation of CoE Schools Executive Head

Mrs Sarah Cope

Head of W/ch Infant Academy—Mrs Julie Rowlandson 662905

Head of W/ch Junior Academy—Ms Sarah Walsh 662255

Bargates (Church) Hall

email bargateshall@aol.com

Bookings & Caretaker

Mr Wayne Edwards 07800 569 801

Pastoral Care in Whitchurch As part of our care for one another, if you know of anyone (yourself included) who would appreciate a phone call from a church member, please let us know. This might be due to illness or some other reason. You can do this by contacting any of the following:

Audrey Baguley (662692); Jill Wallace (666 233); Vic Woodhouse (666420) or the Rector, Judy Hunt (667253). *"Bear one another's burdens and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ"*

or

IF HELP IS NEEDED during the coronavirus outbreak Please contact:

For Fauls—Liz Kempton: 01948 840271 or 07805445736
or lizkempton19@gmail.com

For Tilstock—Joan Hockenhull: 01948 880226

For Whitchurch—Jill Wallace: 01948 666233 or 07714373192
or jwillwall40@yahoo.co.uk



Clergy and Reader in Fauls, Tilstock & Whitchurch

Rector of Fauls, Tilstock & Whitchurch

The Revd Canon Dr Judy Hunt—01948 667253
revjudyhunt@gmail.com

Associate Ministers of Fauls, Tilstock & Whitchurch

Revd Sue Armstrong—01948 840039 revsuea@talktalk.net

Reader of Fauls, Tilstock & Whitchurch

Mrs Jane Rylands—01948 663184 jane@rylands.me.uk