

A message from Susan Bailey Churchwarden. Sally Gallimore, Katie, Haydn and I have been working hard to ensure that the weekly sheet gets to all the church family either manually or electronically. Together with Sue Haskell, Ruth Ayling and Malcolm Jones we ensured the sheet was posted last week to those without internet access. Sally delivered the first of edition of the Rector's letter, a morning/ evening prayer leaflet and the sheet to every household in Week 1 of our shutdown. Thank you to all. If you didn't get these let me know. We are now in week 3 and home delivery is becoming more difficult. From now on you will receive your weekly sheet by post only if you have no online access. If you would like to receive the weekly sheet by email please email me at susan.bailey@olney.church. We are adding new links and resources to the church website every day so please keep looking on www.olney.church so that you can access this wealth of wonderful material.

This week on the sheet we are including a hymn and link to the music so that you can sing along. Sometimes we will include two hymns. Versions are available online but you may have a book of common prayer or a hymn book at home; what better time to sing at the top of your voice! Beryl has an inspiring musical story to share and Andrew will share his thoughts for Holy Week. We are all out here, in the virtual church of St Peter and St Paul Olney. Stay in touch at this difficult time.

Sending love and virtual hugs. Please take care and look after yourselves. We are here to help. God bless, Susan Bailey and the team.

Funerals. None.

Holiday Bible Club. It will come as no surprise that we are having to cancel the HBC drama auditions, scheduled for Saturday, 25th April and the first all-team meeting on Thursday, 30th April. We will keep you posted with further developments as and when we know them. Thanks, Hilary Terry

Safety. For those of you still able to go out please remember to keep yourself safe. Keeping a distance of 2 metres from others helps to avoid the spread of the virus through droplets in the air. Touching as little as possible in shops will also help to keep you safe, as will making sure that you wash your hands thoroughly for at least 20 seconds. Please treat any packaging and parcels following the guidance for the paper copies of the Weekly Sheet. Please see <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-52040138> for more information and advice.

Prayer requests. We would love to pray for you about anything that is concerning you. Please ping an email to our prayer coordinator, Sue Haskell, outlining what we should pray for, and indicating if you would prefer to withhold your name or the names of others. She will then disseminate your request to a large group of the church family who are committed to praying for those with needs. Sue will reply to your emails whenever it is possible. Please email: prayer@olney.church

IF YOUR WEEKLY SHEET COMES BY POST PLEASE OPEN CAREFULLY AND REMOVE CONTENTS, THEN WASH YOUR HANDS. THE SHEETS ARE PREPARED WITH GLOVES BUT THE ENVELOPES MAY HAVE BEEN THROUGH POST SYSTEM. ALL YOUR POST AND DELIVERIES SHOULD BE TREATED IN THIS WAY, TO KEEP YOU AS SAFE AS POSSIBLE FROM THE VIRUS.



Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Olney

Sunday 5th April 2020

Today – Palm Sunday



All services cancelled

Reading: *Isaiah 50: 4-9a*
Philippians 2: 5-11

Gospel: *Matthew 21: 1-11*
Matthew 27: 11-54

Wed 8 April *Isaiah 50: 4-9a*
John 13: 21-32

Collect: True and humble king, hailed by the crowd as Messiah: grant us the faith to know you and love you, that we may be found beside you on the way of the cross, which is the path of glory. Amen

Intercessions ®: God our Father: **let your will be done in us.**

We pray for our church. During this period of crisis and uncertainty and with all our churches closed we pray that you would strengthen and guide those who are supporting and leading us through these difficult times.

We pray for our world. For those suffering through trauma in physical loss, mental stress and difficult relationships. For peace and hope in their lives today.

We pray for the sick. *Toby O'Grady, Kevin, Michael Seabrook, Ted, Cyril, Rene Tourle, Pat Major, Emily, Helen, Gail, Martin, Keith and those who are self-isolating.*

We pray for the souls of the recently departed and their families. *Doris Wright*

We remember and give thanks for those whose Yearsmind is now.

There will be a collection during the hymn immediately following the sharing of the peace. If you have already given through some other means or feel you are unable to give, please pass the plate on.

Eucharistic Prayer: A

Prayer: Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation: give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King, to the glory of God the Father. Amen

Listening Ear. Please email prayer@olney.church for prayers.

Some material included is

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Rector's Letter

Dear Family, in such difficult times, it is good to know that even if we cannot be with each other, we can think of each other and pray for each other. We are about to remember some of the most amazing events in the history of the world. Of course, there is Christmas when we remember the human birth of Jesus, and then there is this coming week that leads us up to Easter Day. Do read the sermons and thoughts posted each day as an aid to remembering the sad events and the wonderful events of Easter.

Andrew has summarised some Bible verses and a thought for each day that you might find useful for Holy Week.

Palm Sunday 5th Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey and the people laid palm branches in His path.

Read *Luke 19:28-42* and *Zechariah 9:9*

Praise God today for His coming into your life.

Monday 6th Jesus in the Temple.

Read *Luke 19:45-20:8*

Think about your body as a temple where God dwells.

Tuesday 7th Jesus taught in the Temple.

Read *Luke 20:1-40*

Thank God for Jesus' teaching and the Bible.

Wednesday 8th Read about who Jesus said He was and the reactions of the people in

Luke 20:41-47 and *Luke 22:1-6*

Decide afresh to listen to Jesus' teaching, to honour Him and follow Him.

Maundy Thursday 9th The Day of the Last Supper – Jesus washed the disciples' feet.

Read *Luke 22:7-46*

Jesus celebrated the Passover, recalling when God, through Moses, delivered the Jews out of slavery in Egypt. The night before, the Hebrews put the blood of a lamb on the door mantle so the angel of death would pass them by. Jesus told us to remember Him (God's sacrificial lamb) when we break bread and drink wine.

Good Friday 10th Remember Jesus on the cross for our sakes between 12:00 noon and 3:00 pm.

Read *Luke 22:47-23:48* and *John 19:1-37*

Give thanks for God's forgiveness for you, paid for by Jesus on the cross.

Holy Saturday 12th The women left Jesus' body in the tomb for the Sabbath.

Read *Luke 23:50-56* and *John 19:38-42*

We cannot always see Jesus but He is always thinking of you and always there for you.

Sunday 13th Easter Day! Praise God! The Lord Is Risen Indeed!

Read *Luke 24* and *John 20*

Thank God that Jesus is alive and present to bless you and be with you.

Anthem for today (from Beryl Lavender)

Here's an uplifting moment for these dire times. Listening to BBC 4 yesterday morning, I heard about the death a few days ago of David Briggs. You probably haven't heard of him – I hadn't. He was 102 years old and obviously

because of lock-down there could be no funeral in the normal sense. But David himself and his children had organised how his life and death would be celebrated.

David was the last surviving member of the Kings College Chapel Choir that made the 1928 broadcast of the Nine Lessons and Carols Service. Music was important to him all his life, and his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren also became involved in music. It was decided that his family would write an anthem that would be written and performed, live, however and whenever his remains were disposed of. Many of his family and friends were musicians but they were trapped in their homes all over Britain, so they arranged for the anthem to be performed - online! The trouble was not going to be to keep everybody in pitch - that was something they could almost do in their sleep. The trouble was going to be the timing because there are those momentary lapses caused by the differing times it takes to bounce the signals up to the satellites and back again. So, the performers were all given a metronome to keep them in time. The signal was given - and they performed the following anthem in memory of David and his wife, Mary. You can listen to it online here:

<http://anneatkins.co.uk/songofsongs>

Hymn Suggestions for Holy Week from Richard Heyes- the tune can be linked to below so you can sing along

Be thou my guardian and my guide, And hear me when I call;
Let not my slippery footsteps slide, And hold me lest I fall".

*"Thine arm, O Lord, in days of old, Was strong to heal and save;
It triumphed o'er disease and death, O'er darkness and the grave;*

*To thee they went, the blind, the dumb, The palsied and the lame,
The leper with his tainted life, The sick with fevered frame."*

"The world, the flesh, and Satan dwell, Around the path I tread;
O save me from the snares of hell, Thou quickener of the dead.

And if I tempted am to sin, And outward things are strong,
Do thou, O Lord, keep watch within, And save my soul from wrong.

Still let me ever watch and pray, And feel that I am frail;
That if the Tempter cross my way, Yet he may not prevail

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CDiE6oO-vzg&list=RDCDiE6oO-vzg&start_radio=1&t=0

Other suggestions Ride on! ride on in majesty!", "My song is love unknown", "When I survey the wondrous Cross" or "There is a green hill far away".

For those of you who are extremely vulnerable. You can now register with the Government and access additional help such as priority shopping delivery slots. To register go to <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus-extremely-vulnerable> and follow the instructions. If you need help to do this or with anything else in the meantime, please contact the church office (241721) or Susan Bailey (susan.bailey@olney.church)