

Funerals. Doris Wright, 20th April. Private funeral.

Food bank. Richard and Nicole Colson asked me to pass on that the Catholic church on West Street had a box clearly marked Food Bank for dropping off goods. It was outside the priest's house, who popped his head out of the upstairs window to thank them when they dropped off their items. So please use this facility whilst the church is closed. Our box went to Olney is` Kind as they were running low.

Message from the Olney Covid 19 group. This message featured on their website over the weekend and it is worth thinking about: *Dear friends, no matter what your own personal faith and belief, the Christian faith teaches us that on this day over 2000 years ago one man sacrificed his life in order to save the souls of millions. For the coming weeks let us all think about this: if, by staying at home in accordance with the government's advice, we can save the life of just one of our friends, neighbours, a nurse or even a total stranger is that not worth it? Stay in, stay safe, protect our town and our NHS and have a truly Happy Easter.*

You can contact the Olney Covid 19 group on 07309 464 422. They offer support and can help direct you towards volunteers to assist with shopping and other practical matters during this period.

Practical support. As the lockdown continues you may not be able to venture outside now. We have members of the church family who can help you. We can liaise with the Covid 19 group for you so that they can help you with your shopping, errands and prescription needs..

We know it can be daunting to suddenly find yourself reliant on electronic communication. We have a technical expert who can gently explain functions to you, overcome glitches, or talk you through what apps and programmes might be of use.

Are you feeling anxious or low? We have a qualified and trained member of the church family who is ready and available to listen to you and speak to you over the phone.

Do you remember having a pen pal when you were at school? How about a phone pal to keep contact with? We have a growing network of folk who would like a daily chat. Would you like to be part of this gang?

Please call the church office on 01234 241721 or email Katie at office@olney.church and we can direct you to someone who can help.

A short service from Yardley Hastings. You can watch the Easter service from Yardley Hastings here: https://youtu.be/4_8IZMIEZ6U



Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Olney

Sunday 19th April 2020

Today – 2nd Sunday of Easter



Welcome and notices

Hymn: 373 *Jesus lives! Thy terrors now*

Reading: Acts 2: 14a, 22-32

Hymn: 30 *Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks*

Gospel: John 20: 19-end

Wed: Revelation 12: 7-12

John 15: 18-21

Collect: Risen Christ, for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred: open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace, to the praise of God the Father. **Amen.**

Intercessions ®: Lord in your presence: **we lift our hearts to you.**

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, George Scott, George Woodhouse, Melissa Cheng and Gladys Johnson.*

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

Hymn: 192 *God of grace and God of glory*

Eucharistic Prayer: A

Hymn: 381 *Jesus stand among us*

Hymn: 670 *The strife is o'er*

Prayer: Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**

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

Some material included is

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YouTube links. Sometimes when we have given you a link in YouTube you may get an advert first. You can skip it after a few seconds, don't let it put you off! The Live stream services from the Diocese can be found here:

<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19/livestream/> and they always provide a copy of the service too, so you can follow or read later. One of the sentences which I particularly remember from listening to the Holy Week and Easter services from Oxford is that "Death becomes a gateway". As we pay tribute to the fine members of our community who passed away over Easter, it seems a fitting phrase to keep in mind.

George Woodhouse

Ruth Ayling, sister Heather and brother Phillip have sadly lost their father George Woodhouse to the Covid19 virus. George who had recently moved to Olney died on Saturday 11th April. He had started to come to our church on his daughter's arm, to enjoy the services. His children said he was a man larger than life who lived for his family and his career in Journalism. He travelled widely and loved his golf and bridge. He will be sorely missed by his three children, 6 grandchildren, 3 step grandchildren and 7 step great grandchildren. *We will meet again but until then enjoy life everlasting.*

George Scott

George and Margaret moved to Olney following their retirement from careers in ecclesiastical architecture and ecclesiastical law to be nearer their son Richard, daughter-in-law Carmel and grandchildren who live in Newport Pagnell. They became well-loved members of our church family, welcoming many of us to gatherings in their home. Three years ago, following a period of ill-health, George moved to The Willows Nursing home in Great Linford, later to be joined by Margaret. Always very devout, George spent much of his time singing hymns to himself in these final years! On Good Friday, Carmel asked for the last rites for George which Thelma was able to give through mobile technology. George died peacefully from natural causes on Easter Sunday with Carmel at his side. Please pray for George, Richard, Carmel and their children, and for Margaret, who remains in The Willows.

Melissa Cheng

Melissa sadly passed away on Thursday 9th April after a battle with Covid19. Having owned Jade Garden for 30 years Melissa was well known in the community and counted many of her customers as friends. She will be sorely missed.

Amazing Grace. On Easter Sunday, by invitation of the City and of the Duomo Cathedral in Milan, Italian global music icon Andrea Bocelli gave a solo performance representing a message of healing, love and hope to Italy and the world. His version of Amazing Grace was another memorable version! Find it here (Amazing Grace starts at 19 minutes into the video):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=huTUOek4LgU>



Saying it with flowers. Janet has had a creative couple of weeks at home, using props and flowers to create her own depictions of Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Janet's next idea is to visually represent the days as the disciples walked to Emmaus, gathered by the lake and Peter was forgiven – and the Ascension of course! Perhaps a Pentecost display with lots of flames? We'd love to see what you come up with.

Hymns from Richard Heyes and Susan Bailey

There are two hymns again for you this week as we continue to celebrate Easter.

Thine be the glory

*Thine be the glory, Risen conqu'ring Son;
Endless is the victory, Thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave clothes where Thy body lay. Refrain*

*Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing;
For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting. Refrain*

*No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life;
Life is naught without Thee; aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors, through Thy deathless love:*

Bring us safe from Jordan to Thy home above. Refrain

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GaoV5w2Qfag>

Now the green blade riseth

*Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,
Wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green
In the grave they laid Him, Love who had been slain,
Thinking that He never would wake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.*

*Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.*

*When our hearts are wintry, grieving or in pain,
Jesus' touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BcHunlsylW0>

Saturday Prayers. This is a new initiative starting this coming Saturday 18 April at 10:30 am. It is set for 45 minutes maximum per session, every Saturday until 30 May 2020. To make it inclusive to all, you can dial in or use the online details. For details, send an email to prayermeeting@olney.church.