

Funerals. None.

PCC Standing Committee. Each week on a Tuesday evening the PCC Standing Committee of Andrew, David, Susan, Lisa and Pat, together with Haydn, our website and communication guru, meet on Zoom. We analyse the latest news from the Diocese and act on it, we move forward any business the church has to deal with and we flag up anything new or emerging which will affect our church or church buildings. The minutes of these meetings then go to the PCC, together with requests for their permission to go ahead with certain projects. Three key areas presently, are the moving forward of an upgraded security system for the church, the ability to collect monies and donations by bankcard, and the reopening of the nursery on 1st June in the Church Hall. We have permission from the Diocese and the PCC to allow the nursery to use the building, but in order to comply with guidelines the nursery staff will be managing their staff, parents and children. They will also be keeping the hall clean. For the time being, no other group can use or enter the hall, so those of you that have keys, **must not enter the building for any reason.** Tim Haskell, as a single named individual, has been checking both the church and the church hall for many weeks, to ensure that nothing untoward has occurred regarding water, electricity, illegal entry, etc. He will continue to do this for the church. We are all grateful for his help with this.
David, Churchwarden and Chairman of the PCC

Bereavement support. We are sharing a very short, but meaningful two minute recording that was done for the Church of England, working in partnership with Loss and Hope www.lossandhope.org. In this video Rev. Kate Bottley explains that anyone can help bereaved people feel heard and supported in their loss, at this time of social distancing. What can we do to support bereaved people? Contact, Listen, Bless. Here is the link:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wbw5AcR_o8g

Hymns from Richard. This week we have two hymns for you to enjoy: 'Come down, O Love divine' and 'O Breath of life, come sweeping through us'. Both can be heard by clicking on the links below.

Come down, O Love divine:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gi78bnzMyws>

O Breath of life, come sweeping through us:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rKz1BwFe6uE>

Retirement service. The Rev. Richard Caddell (American ex-Naval Helicopter Pilot, one-time Area Dean of Newport Deanery and 13 years as vicar of Haversham) will celebrate his last service this Sunday before starting his retirement. Do join him on zoom at 11am if you would like to. Here is the link to use:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83535046472>

Meeting ID: 835 3504 6472 or by telephone 0203 481 5237 same ID: 835 3504 6472



Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Olney

Sunday 31st May 2020

Today - Pentecost



Welcome and notices

Reading: Acts 2: 1-21

Gospel: John 20: 19-23

Wed 27th: 2 Timothy 1: 1-3,6-12

Mark 12: 18-27

Collect: Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Intercessions: With thanks to Fenella for this prayer

Lord God, we thank you for our loved ones; for the families you have given us of all generations. We ask you to bless each and every one of them. Please would you help us during lockdown, to feel close to those we cannot see in person and cannot hold and also to really enjoy those we have more time with than we ever anticipated. Bless our marriages, especially when we are feeling stressed and tired. And be with those of us who are lonely and desperately missing friends and family. We pray for those who have lost, or who are worried about, family members. Please comfort them.

Bless our children; we ask you to protect them physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually and help those of us who are parents to help them make sense of this season. We invite you, Lord, to work through us and in us, for your purposes and your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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

We pray for the souls of the recently departed and their families. Dorothy Alder and David Adams

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

Eucharistic Prayer: A

Prayer: Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

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

Some material included is

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Contact details. Church Office 01234 241721 or by email at office@olney.church. The church website has links to the weekly prayer sessions, and to various support groups. These can be reached via <http://olney.church> or support@olney.church.

Rector's letter

This Sunday we celebrate Pentecost, literally the 'fiftieth day' as it comes fifty days after the feast of Passover. For the Jews it is the feast day when traditionally the first-fruits of the corn harvest were presented in the Temple. Later in time it also became a day to celebrate the giving of the Law through Moses.

On this day after the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus the Holy Spirit was poured out on the believers and followers of Jesus enabling them to tell out the truths of the Christian faith – the Good News of all that Jesus had done and of the love of God for all the peoples of the earth.

Our faith is rooted in the Jewish faith and so for us Pentecost can be a time when we celebrate the gift of the Bible, God's laws and teachings, the gifts of food and all that God gives us and the wonderful gift for every believer; the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Bible teaches us that when we become Christians we do not receive a spirit of slavery leading to fear, but we receive the Spirit of adoption. By the goodness of Jesus and the Holy Spirit we can then call God our Father. That means that we become God's children and also heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ. We are God's children on earth and we will inherit our place with God in heaven when it is our time to do so.

Stay safe and God bless! *Andrew+*

Week 11 – Updating

The frustration of lockdown has been eased for the most part by good weather, getting outdoors, home deliveries and importantly, by communication, by whatever means, with friends, loved ones, family and of course via the Weekly Sheet. I will touch on all of these this week.

Communication Over the weeks you have been thinking about and contacting those who might be alone or who may not be on our lists. Most weeks we have an email or call to ask if Katie and I could include (and send back copies) to someone new. We are happy to do this, so please keep letting us know. Also it is lovely to have your feedback, so that we know you are reading, enjoying and even looking forward to the next edition. I try and talk to a few people every week, but if you would like a chat please email me (below) or via Katie on 01234 241721 and supply your telephone number, so that we can catch up. I had thought about writing about those directly affected by Covid19. If you would like to share your experiences, let me know at susan.bailey@olney.church

Home Deliveries. We have done an update (attached) of places that will deliver to your homes and we would like to mention a new one, The Cherry Tree in Olney. They are cooking pizzas to order for collection on Friday or Saturday. The system is very clear and picking up your pizzas outside is very easy. For legal reasons their pizza service has to be non-profit making, so they are giving all their profits to Cobbs Garden Surgery and have so far raised £1,606.20. To pre-order your Pizzas for a Friday or a Saturday (for collection between 5-8pm) you have to call 07960115842 between Tuesday and Thursday 6-8pm

to pre-order and pay.

www.thecherrytreeolney.co.uk/takeaway

Getting outdoors. Although the telephone and computer are great for keeping in touch (and I have enjoyed chats with so many of you) there is a real joy in walking during lockdown and seeing people you know and miss. From my vantage point on the river, I see families with both youngsters and older kids (some back home unexpectedly), cyclists, dog walkers, kids on tractors, babies in pushchairs and some very sprightly older folks. Joan often walks around the Goosey and, like many of us, has heard the cuckoo singing; we chat often as we pass. I have also been pleased to see (at a social distance) Laraine and Keith with their dog, Tory, Andrew PK at Easter, Janet, Sally, Rosemary, Ruth, Rita and Sheila. I have stopped off to talk to Graham, seen Ann M and have ventured up to see Ken and Gill and on a visit to the church grounds I came across Rachel and Brian. On the river, besides the wildlife which is a delight, there has been the startling sight of a canoe and a punt carrying teenagers in masks, with their homemade paddles! In Emberton Park I encountered the Colson family, Lucy with her daughter and Jo. Each time I meet someone, I find it gives me a real boost. As we are allowed out more, it will be wonderful to catch up with more old friends and acquaintances. Many people tell me that they have found walks and places they didn't know existed around their home town. In Emberton Park I found three new arrivals I had not seen before and wondered if you had seen them too or even if there were more... they are the bird benches, Starling, Magpie and Swallow, each a unique shape and displaying some meaningful text. They are made from old pews and on them it says, 'Take a pew'! Look out for them on your next walk. Meanwhile I have attached pictures of them so you can go "bird-spotting".

We thank Katie, Seb and Lara for their rainbow drawing. It was a very kind thought and so beautifully drawn. We are going to laminate it and put it on the Church noticeboard to cheer everyone up.

Congratulations. We are all thrilled that Andrew Geary is the new mayor of Milton Keynes and Lisa the Mayoress. Many of us watched the virtual ceremony broadcast by the council on YouTube. It is still available online at and you can see them in the picture supplement https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B-kn_Et6-E.

Although it is nearly two hours long, you can skim along, to see Andrew's acceptance speech and Lisa helping him with his chain. Andrew said: "*As we move forward, my wife Lisa and I very much look forward to engaging with the community, and learning more about the many groups and individuals who work so hard for the betterment of MK and help to make it such an inspiring, wonderful place to live.*" God Bless, Susan

An update on Teresia. Teresia has continued to make miraculous progress and is now at home! She would like to thank everyone for their continued support and prayers. Teresia and Jamie are in the picture supplement.

Picture supplement Week 11



Lovely Lisa and Andrew making the most of a lockdown ceremony



Teresa is home and Jamie and Jeff are delighted. She thanks us all for the messages and kind words and especially our prayers. Teresa has asked that we keep on praying, while she gets her strength back



Finley reading for the first time encouraged by his Nanna -Susan via Facebook Messenger



Easter visitor.....at a social distance



Birdwatching.....Starling



Magpie



Swallow

Here are the contact details for local grocery shopping and food deliveries with details of the services they are offering currently.

Business and contact	Opening hours	What's available
Harvest 01234 240661	Tuesday-Saturday 7.30am-4pm	Can order fruit and vegetable boxes, and add in deli items – for collection or delivery. Standard boxes cost £20-£30 plus the cost of any additions you make. The deli has cheeses, bread, pasta, rice and other dried and tinned goods available. They also have small bedding plants for the garden.
Olney Bakery 07507 887344	Monday- Saturday 8am-2pm	Order before 2pm for next day delivery. Offer collection as well. £10 minimum order for delivery.
Olney Butchers 01234 930550	Tuesday-Saturday 9am-4.30pm	Collection or delivery via the Covid-19 group. Allow 2-3 days for delivery once order has been placed.
Cox and Robinson 01234 711203	Monday-Saturday 10am-1pm and then 2-5pm	Free delivery of prescriptions, and can add other toiletry items to the order at the same time, Pay over the phone.
McColls 01234 240186	Daily 6am-8pm	Call to set up a regular delivery of newspapers and magazines.
Alban Hill Nursery www.albanhillnursery.co.uk	Orders taken online every day. Delivery days will be arranged when they contact you.	Order via the website, leaving your contact details – they will then contact you to arrange delivery and take payment.
Enzo's	Monday-Saturday 4-9pm	Serving from the window only. Cash or card payment. .
Maderia's	Daily 12-10pm	Serving from the window only.
Olney Kitchen 01234 717000	Tuesday-Thursday 11am-9pm Friday and Saturday 11am-10pm Sunday 11am-9pm	Order and pay over the phone. They will deliver locally. Menu available online at www.olneyskitchen.uk
Gabriella's www.gabriellassolney.co.uk	Delivering Thursday-Saturday 12-5pm Brunch box delivery Saturday 9-11am	Meal delivery is free with orders over £30, otherwise £2 delivery charge. The meals can be frozen so you can stock up. Brunch box delivery is free – only 20 slots available each week. All food ordered via the website, and customisations can be made if required.
The Two Brewers 01234 711393	Order by 10am for lunch delivery, and by 4pm for dinner delivery. Sunday lunches must be ordered by 6pm Saturday.	Collection or delivery. Phone to order and pay by card or cash. Menu available online at http://www.twobrewersolney.co.uk/wp-content/themes/twobrewers/menus/covid-19.pdf .
Murati's	Thursday-Sunday	Orders taken over the phone for collection

Here are the contact details for local grocery shopping and food deliveries with details of the services they are offering currently.

01234 714117	4.30-9.30pm	or delivery. Offers available on the website; quote when you order to have these applied. Menu online at www.muratispizzeria.com
Spice Garden 01234 240630	Tuesday-Sunday 5-10pm	10% off order of collected. Free delivery on orders over £20. Menu online at https://www.spicegardenofolney.co.uk/menus
4 Pillars 01234 711563	Daily 5.30-11.30pm	10% discount on collection. Menu available at http://4pillarsrestaurant.co.uk/index.php/welcome_user/accordion_menu
Maya (formerly Amaya) 01234 713170	Tuesday-Sunday 5.30-11pm	20% discount on collection. Menu available at http://maya-olney.co.uk/menu.html
Donzella's www.gabriellasolney.co.uk	Delivering Thursday-Saturday as part of Gabriella's deliveries	Meals and wine can be ordered for delivery via Gabriella's website. Giovanni's homemade ice cream is also available to buy in 2 or 4 litre tubs via the website. Alternatively you can phone on 01234 .
The Cherry Tree www.thecherrytreeolney.co.uk/takeaway 07960115842	Collection Friday & Saturday between 5-8pm Order Tuesday-Thursday between 6-8pm..	Pizzas for sale, with all money going to the Friends of Cobbs Garden Surgery. Collection only.
Amphawan Thai 01234 714355	Open Tuesday-Saturday 5-9pm	Collection or delivery. Offering a reduced menu currently – menus can be collected from the restaurant or phone for details.