



CHURCH AT HOME

Issue 10: May 23rd 2020

Welcome, brothers and sisters to the tenth edition of "Church at Home".

So, this week it will be ten Sundays in a row that we haven't been able to meet together in worship. The good news is we seem to be on the other side of the peak and are able to do a little more. Sadly, because of the nature of worshipping together it may be a little while before the church's doors are open for us again, but rest assured that day will come.

Key holders can I remind you that access to the church buildings is by permission of Colin, our warden. He will be able to advise on if you can enter and what restrictions are in place.

Next week I'm having a scheduled rest from ministry for a week so, there won't be a church at home on the 30th. But do keep sending your pictures and contributions. Are there any budding film reviewer's or Art critics out there? Do any of you ramblers have a guided walk you could share?

My prayer is that I will be able to greet you in person again soon and I'm very much looking forward to that day

Follow the guidance, encourage each other, pray and stay safe.

Rev Clive

Church noticeboard

Following guidance from Bishop James all Churches are to be completely shut. Please speak to Clive or Colin if you need emergency access to our buildings.

Brenda Thompson-Murray who is the co-ordinator of the prayer ministry team has set up a WhatsApp group for shared prayer during the crisis. To join the group, download the WhatsApp app to your phone and send Brenda your number. brendat.bt87@gmail.com

Please put aside some food for our foodbank each week so our usual supply is still there when we come out of this crisis.

Colin has updated the photo folder on our website, it now includes some mindfulness photos i.e. images of nature and also a Church at Home page with a selection of recent (non-peopled) photos from Church at home.

Jonathan Viera is performing live concerts from his Steinway room at 8pm on Sundays. Currently, you need to like his Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/jonathan.veira.7> to take part.

There is a space in the Memorial garden (to the left of the church grounds) where you can say a prayer and light a candle in Orlaghs memory if you wish to. Please observe social distancing if there are more than one of you there.

Bible reading Apps

There are many of these available. Here are two suggestions, but let me know what ones you use.

Youversion – <https://www.youversion.com>

Wordlive – <https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/wordlive>

Community Notices

Bexley Community Help

1. Helpline

The London Borough of Bexley has set up a phone line to assist people in need during the coronavirus pandemic. Whether you need someone to get shopping, pick up other essentials, or to give you information, guidance and advice, please call us on 020 3045 5398. The helpline will be open from 8am to 6pm.

2. Volunteer Hub

We at the London Borough of Bexley are working with Bexley Voluntary Services Council (BVSC) to support Bexley residents who are able to give their time to support the community during the Covid-19 pandemic. We are inviting people to register with the Bexley Volunteer Hub (<https://bvsc.co.uk/covid-19>) where willing volunteers will be matched to where they are most needed in Bexley at this time.

3. Keeping in touch

We are also keen to build up our understanding of what community support is already being mobilised locally by neighbours and communities and how we can help. If you are involved with a local neighbourhood support scheme, whether it on social media or 'off line' between a few neighbours, we would be really interested to know as we build up our knowledge of what support is on offer where across our borough and how we can support you in this.

We are looking to share the wonderful displays of community spirit on our twitter and facebook page @BexleyTogether so please do share with us what is happening near you and find us on there if you haven't already.

Community Notices

Contactless Payments

Knitted Hearts

Darenth Valley Hospital are asking for donations of small knitted hearts that they place in patients' hands when they pass away. A second heart is then placed in a memory box for relatives. To donate please e-mail dgn-tr.wellbeing@nhs.net

Phishing Scams

Which.co.uk have a free service that you can sign up to at - <https://action.which.co.uk/page/s/which-scam-alerts>

Enter your details and they will send an email when a new scam crops up.

They also offer a free advice service should you be the victim of a scam.

Painted stones

Add your painted stone to the snake in Bursted Woods



This week's prayer

Father, we seek Your wisdom daily. Be with people making decisions that affect the lives and futures of our families, communities, countries, and the wider world. We pray that they communicate clearly, truthfully, and calmly — with each other and with the public — and that their messages are received and heeded. May truth and empathy be the touchstones of people setting policies for our protection.

Amen

From World Vision

Prayer

There are many who still need our prayers. Those who have asked for our prayers are: Ann Batchelor (Reader at St Martin's) Andrew Bennett, Charles Brooke, Elizabeth Foster and Joan Handy. For Marjorie and Eileen Hoare, Monica Lindridge, Christine Meaton and Christine Minns. For Carol & John O'Connor, John Ralph and Amanda Ralph. For Jane & George Stafford. For Karen Vaughan (Cameo), Peggy Vidler, Jeanette Watts and Mark Williams.

Please pray for those key workers still having to go out to work, including Liam and Claire (scout leaders) and Cavan O'Connor a doctor in London.

Prayer for the Keane family after the death of Orlagh on the 9th May.

Prayers for Sue and the Luff family after the death of her mum Piggy Vidler

Access Church services online

A number of places are offering closed services online. If you are able why don't you try one of the following.

Holy Trinity Brompton – Nicky Gumbel

<https://www.htb.org/sundayonline>.

Freedom Church – Sim Dendy

<https://www.freedomchurch.uk>

All Souls Langham Place

<https://www.allsouls.org>

Watch on TV

TBN (Freeview 65 / Sky 582)

Hillsongs TV (Sky 595)

Resources for children and young people

Primary

VeggieTales (Netflix)

Superbook (Amazon Prime & Youtube)

Hillsongs: <https://www.youtube.com/user/hillsongkids>

Rend Collective: <https://rendcokids.com>

Bethel Kids

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUmTiGOxKUOhwpvDtOI62mC4bs9JEUyFP>

Secondary

Bible society short videos - <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/study-the-bible/gnb-youth-edition/videos/>

Bible Game for Apple or Android - "The Guardians of Ancora"

<https://guardiansofancora.com>

What you're up to. – Pictures and messages



Carol O'Connor

In Bursted Woods with a large squirrel on her back!



Faith Beazley-Long

Trying out some Jackson Pollack style art for school.



Bob Lindridge

Cooking Ann's Cottage Pie.



Joshua Beazley-Long

Learning to use tools



Marg Peaper

Isolating with her family in Bexleyheath during lockdown. She sends her love and prayers to everyone.



Michelle "Owl" & Nick "Badger" Ewell

Our new form of guiding - we are doing our Communication Badge and finished with a game of bingo tonight.



Clair & Noah Gill

First day of paddling pool action for Noah. I even got in too!



Clair Gill

I have a new hobby, riding my bike. Done my longest ride yet to Danson park and back and thoroughly enjoyed it!



Claire (Oliver's Mum)
Sparrow

When you are doing messy play and then Oliver wants a cuddle with his Mum

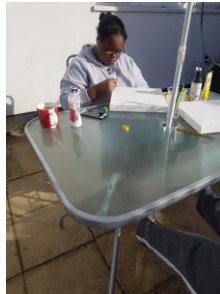


Suzanne Bray & friends
Zoom meeting from home



Linda Mayes

Me and my home-made mask. Made from a sock!



Lavinia Agaba
Working on her art



Peter Mayes

Husband Peter and the azaleas at Hall Place- they are really beautiful (the flowers that is!!) Linda



Leon Agaba
Helping in the garden

This week “best in show “ goes to Linda Mayes. for the pictures of her beautiful husband! And her line in facial masks. She will receive one of this week recommended books (pg20)

Please send me your pictures and messages to each other. Let's encourage each other and stay in touch. It will be good to see familiar faces each week.
revclive@hotmail.co.uk



We've put together a special edition of **Spring Harvest Home** for half-term starting on Bank Holiday Monday 25th May!

You can look forward to an episode of **Virtual Sunday School** on Monday at 9:30am, two brand new editions of **Big Start Extra** on Tuesday and Wednesday at 9:30am, a '**Thought for the Day**' from **Bob Hartman** Tuesday to Friday at 10:15am, **Bible Buds** for toddlers on Thursday at 9am, **Doug Horley** on Friday at 11am and much more.

We have lots of new and exciting content planned and all still for free, so we do hope you can join us for some family fun. Look out for more information on our social media channels soon.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/SpringHarvest>

Or search "Spring harvest Home"

All Age worship

Cheryl, Laura & Sarah from the Diocesan team have sent some ideas for worship at home.

Ministry @Home



These resources are to help equip & enable worship together as "family". They are intentionally intergenerational to allow space, conversation, activity & response together as the family of God. We encourage all ages to be participative & open, being responsive to God and each other.

Gather.....

- As you gather find a place that is comfortable and have the resources ready for the activities, prayer or response times ready.
- Choose 3 members to light the 3 candles (engage all ages)

Opening words of praise with lighting of 3 candles -

I will light a light in the name of the Maker, who lit the world and gave everything life.

I will light a light in the name of the Son, who saved the world and stretched out his hand to me.

I will light a light in the name of the Spirit, who is present everywhere in the world and gives me strength.

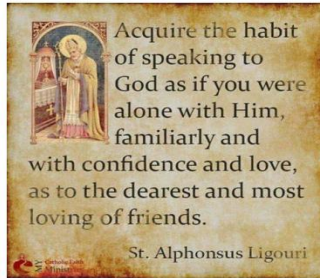
**Together:
We will light three lights for the trinity of love:
God above us,
God beside us,
God beneath us;
The beginning,
The end
and the Everlasting one.**

Welcome.....

**Song: Father of Creation
(can be sung or listened to)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UnnHSxW3N0w>

Reflection time:



Read the saying by St. Ligouri, reflect and/or share with those who you gather with the following?

- Do you have a habit, if so what is it?
- Did it start suddenly or did it gradually happen?

It is now 40 days after Easter when Jesus died and rose again. During those 40 days Jesus has been appearing to all his disciples at different times and in different places but on the 40th day he appeared for one last time. They were friends and spent a lot of time together before and after Jesus death, do you think the disciples had pick up habits from Jesus, if so, pause and wonder what they would be?

Bible passage: Luke 24.44-53

AND/OR

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4cJtafGUVno>
End at 1min 2 secs

Interactive Learning.....

When we spend time with people we often pick up their habits or we notice their habits, it becomes part of them part of their personality and we love them for it. Jesus often spoke to God or spoke of God with the tone or knowing God, being familiar with God and being able to come before him with confidence as if he was sitting right next to us. Just as the disciples saw Jesus as a close friend and learnt "Holy Habits" from him and also thinking of how St Alphonsus encourages us – let us acquire a habit of being with Him, with confidence and being with someone very close so we don't feel alone and more like the disciples who had a very important mission to tell people and Jesus..... As we look forward to Pentecost let us practice those "Holy Habits".

Ascension Bubbles: Activity and Prayer for Ascension Day

You will need: A plastic bottle or glass jar, water, vegetable oil, food colouring, Alka seltzer tablets



Fill a bottle or jar halfway full with water and mix in some food colouring.

Now fill the rest of the bottle with oil, leaving a small space at the top.

The oil will separate from the water into a separate layer.

Drop an Alka Seltzer tablet (or try a quarter or half at a time if they are large tablets) into the bottle and watch as bubbles of coloured water start to ascend into the oil layer in the style of a mini lava lamp!

Watch the bubbles rising and think about the sight of Jesus ascending and what that might have meant for the disciples. What might they have been thinking/ feeling? What does it feel like to wait for something, as the disciples had been told to go and wait for the Holy Spirit to come?

Re in act the following version of 'the Great Commission' with the suggested actions:

Go (*point forward with one arm and finger outstretched*)

Into all the world (*describe a tiny circle with your outstretched finger and then make that circle bigger and bigger*)

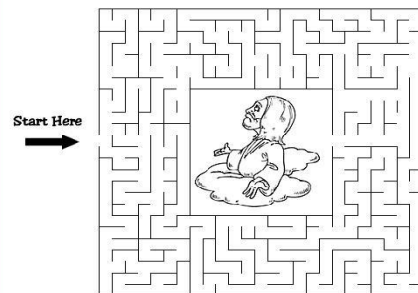
And share the good news (*cup hands together and offer 'the contents' around to people left and right*)

With everybody, everywhere (*rapidly point to everyone in the whole group and beyond*)

And I will be with you.

Just wait, stop in Jerusalem until you receive the promise.

Sermon4kids.com



Whilst creating chat about the following questions & Share stories.....

- What "Holy Habits", behaviours or how to act did Jesus teach about? (Remember the parables too)
- Is there a habit you need to stop in order to take up a new habit? think about how you are spending your time
- Think of a habit you can practised this week to be part of Jesus important mission?

Reflection & Prayer Time.....

Song: He is Alive

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f8TkUMJtk5k>

(can be sung/read aloud or listened to)

Encourage members to silently name their habit they want to practice or to share out loud. Other prayers can be said at this time, concluding with the Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**



Song: We want to see Jesus Lifted High

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

(can be sung/read aloud or listened to)

Closing Responses.....

Song: I'm Gonna Jump up & down

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WodvOf0Jo9s>

can be sung/ read aloud or listened to)

From where we are
to where you need us.

Jesus, now lead on!

From the security of what we know
to the adventure of what you reveal.

Jesus, now lead on!

To make this world
look more like your kingdom,

Jesus, now lead on!

**Ask different members to blow out the
candles.....until you meet again**

Celebration....

**If any of your members
celebrate a birthday within the
next week – sing**

Happy birthday to you
To Jesus be true
May God's richest blessings
Be showered on you.



Closing.....

The Grace (with "Messy" actions)

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus
Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy
Spirit
be with us all,
now and evermore. Amen.**

Extra Ideas

- <http://www.aprilshomemaking.com/2011/06/jesus-ascension-craft.html>
- <https://ideas.brf.org.uk/messy-mission-acts-1-12>
- <https://lifeovercs.com/fr-ee-jesus-ascension-craft-and-scripture-printables/>
- Recreate the story using



TOGETHER WITH
tearfund

Big Church Day Out PRESENTS

Big Church Day in



SATURDAY 23RD MAY

Tim Jupp and Gemma Hunt tell the story of BCDO plus some of the **best bits** from the Main Stage.

PREMIERING: 11:30am & 8pm on **TBN^{UK}**

BCDO SPECIAL WITH UCB^{COUK}

10am-2pm on UCB1 with Steve Best
2pm-5pm on UCB 2 with Samuel Ball

SUNDAY 24TH MAY

An extravaganza of BCDO artists performing **from lockdown** over the bank holiday weekend from 12pm onwards. Watch exclusively from  www.youtube.com/bigchurchdayout

We mentioned that we would be working on some short videos for children and young people that would bring them some encouragement and hope in these strange times. The exciting news is that these are now ready and are now available for viewing. We have created four for Primary age and four for Secondary. You can see them here -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GTgwPkZ5qqI&feature=youtu.be>



I hope you enjoy these - and please pass them on to children/grand-children and anyone else you think might benefit from them. Above all, please pray that they will bring some gospel hope to the children and young people who view them.

With all good wishes

Mark

Mission

Another update from our mission partner Beryl Baker



Beryl is a nurse who works in Paraguay. She has been on the mission field for over 50 years and we have supported her as a mission partner throughout that time.

A message from Beryl's friend Eileen Hollingsworth

Paraguay has been in lock down like us since the end of March and Beryl was unable to leave the ranch in the Chaco. She was able about two weeks ago to travel a shorter distance to Lomo Plata where she was able to pick up medical supplies from the retired Doctor Trudy who normally helps Beryl with medical trips to the Indian villages.

The villages are shut down and only the men who have motor bikes can travel to Beryl's clinic on the ranch. Beryl told me she can see patients there and provide medicines for blood pressure, diabetes and epilepsy.

I think she was legally able to visit the capital Asuncion because she brought down with her a patient who needed to go to the hospital.

The difficulty that Beryl had was that her 20-year-old vehicle had old spark plugs that no longer started the vehicle. A car mechanic on the ranch called Tito was able to start the engine but Beryl had to drive to Asuncion by keeping the engine going for the whole journey.

Paraguay has been able to stop the Covid 19 virus spreading and have only had 10 deaths. The businesses in Asuncion are all closed apart from Food shops and chemists and Beryl is hoping that today Saturday 16th May 2020 a friend who is a car mechanic will be able to put new plugs into the vehicle and get it going normally. The same safe guards for health are being used In Paraguay like facemasks and social distancing but they are also using disinfectants to keep shoes clean and entrances to buildings safe.

Beryl has been able to get help for the villagers in the Chaco thanks to the help of a man called John Holland who created a charitable Christian organisation in Paraguay a number of years ago. This man has been unable to leave Paraguay since the lock down and is living with other expatriates in a hotel in Asuncion and he organised food to be sent up to the Chaco where Beryl with the help of one of her health promoters get food distributors in Sombrero Piri. Beryl has a two-way radio which helps her to contact the health promoters that she works with in the villages.

There is a church office for St Andrews Church in Asuncion, but like all our offices is closed but Beryl is in touch with Miriam who works from home at present. Fortunately, she has been able speak to the Ranch owner Rhett Butler by phone and he will be able to help Beryl settle all her outstanding accounts. Beryl at present can use her ATM in Asuncion but she is unable to do any online banking as she can only access her account by landline phone calls to the UK as the bank does not seem to accept what's app calls from Beryl's iPhone for security reasons.

Despite all of these difficulties Beryl sounded very cheerful and full of faith for her safety and wellbeing. The government were doing their best to help those unable to work with cash

pay outs and her house and Jordy the young man who is looking after house was supported by Sharon the 80-year-old American Christian friend who has always supported Beryl in her work for many years. This was because Beryl could not get to town for over two months.

Now we know that life for Beryl has had all the extra difficulties of the virus but she has been well supported by all the prayers that have¹⁶ been offered for her and she has been very certain of God's presence during this difficult time for everyone.

Poet's Corner

This week's poem has been sent in by Rev Ann Norman

I cannot tell why grief and sadness linger
Why jobs are lost, and people face despair;
When this will end, if vaccines come and rescue,
Why isolation stalks the earth again.
But this I know, Christ feels the hurt upon the cross;
The Spirit weaves our lives together still.
And some glad day, through Providence, the Father
May turn this wave of loss to glory by his will.

I cannot tell how long this time of fear will last
If there'll be months, or years of damaged lives;
When once again we'll gladly throng together,
To sit and laugh, to dance and play and kiss.
But this I know, we're finding things both good and true
About our God, each other and ourselves.
So after this we'll know we've met our darkest hour
And now there's nothing we will have to face alone.

Rev Dr Sam Wells

The Other Side

By A. Soule

Now here's an interesting question, what would life be for you if you weren't a Christian? I don't mean the not going to the church kind, but having no religious belief whatsoever.

No big deal, a lot of people would say and probably add that they know many people who aren't religious, including some of their good friends and many of their family members. We all know people who believe in making a success of this life, and think of prayer as a bit of mumbo jumbo. They are usually self-reliant and make their way in life rather heroically.

How different would life be if you were with the other side – those with no belief in God. It would be, I imagine, difficult to see a noticeable change overnight. One would still get up, go to work if one works, and in general try to enjoy life as much as one can. You would in time try to develop your own philosophy of life or follow others who are similarly not religious. There is though the fact that you are in a large measure what you think, and as your view of your own existence changes so would the way you react to circumstances.

There would be ups and downs, and as it is for all of us, and at times nothing would make sense. In your quieter moments you would sometimes wonder what it's really all about. Life may feel very much as described by Shakespeare in Macbeth:

"a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing."

You wouldn't try to dwell on complex issues like good and evil as that might lead you to abstract notions. You would be looking for answers but soon realise how narrow our own vision is which cannot see beyond the immediate, how quickly your circumstances can change and how powerless the human body is against disease and death. You would realise there is really very little that you control.

Whilst you may think you have got away from moral dilemmas and judgments which people always think as belonging in the realm of

faith, one is still beset by rights and wrongs in the normal course of life. You would still be judged by yourself and the society around you. The load gets heavier - it is hard going.

There was an interesting article in the 'Independent' I read last year talking about someone (of no belief whatsoever) describing what it was to live with a Christian - an interesting observation made by him was: "when my partner panics or finds herself in a dilemma, sometimes the best thing I can say to her is, 'Let your faith guide you'. It speaks to her, calms her, and brings clarity while communicating that I trust in her decision-making faculties — whereas, if she said that to me, I'd plunge further into uncertainty."

There it is - the sense of uncertainty at the bottom of one's being in the quagmire of unbelief.

There is then the other way; of placing trust in the goodness of God. God understands the heavy burden of journeying alone; and offers a clear invitation in Christ's words;

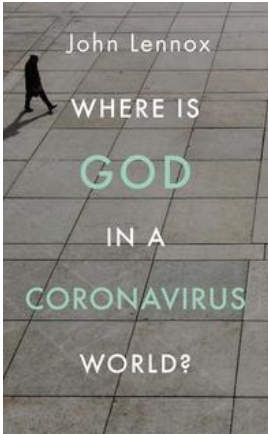
"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest". Added to that is also the gift of divine peace in our lives, "My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." It all though hinges on the choice which people make; to either accept God with them in their journey of life or to go it alone.

It all sounds simple, but life seldom pans out like a well preached sermon. People may well choose to continue on the path they have chosen, and accuse the other side of living an illusion. As a Christian, one would no doubt accept that God loves the unbeliever too, and hope they find the peace that you have found in faith. You would support them and love them as you know God has loved you too.

In the end what people really believe in their hearts, for all the different things they say, always remains a mystery. There are people who aggressively avoid the mention of church and worship, but in times of trouble say a silent prayer. There is also the oft quoted saying that not many die as atheists. Who knows what changes in thinking may come about in the fullness of time, and who's to judge a person's relationship with their maker?

Books

This week's book suggestions come from www.eden.co.uk



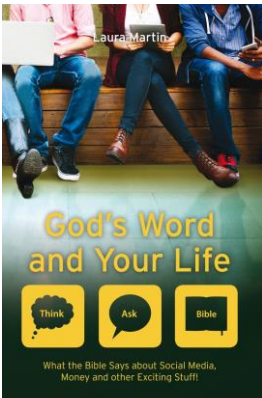
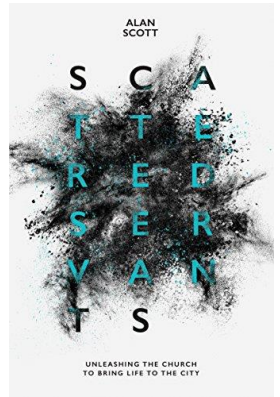
Where is God in a coronavirus world? by John Lennox

In this short yet profound book, Oxford mathematics professor John Lennox examines the coronavirus in light of various belief systems and shows how the Christian worldview not only helps us to make sense of it, but also offers us a sure and certain hope to cling to.

Scattered Servants by Alan Scott

For believers who love where they live and want to see transformation happen beyond the church building *Scattered Servants* practically explains how to unleash the church and bring life to broken cities.

Alan Scott a leader in the Vineyard Movement draws upon his years of experience to share inspiring stories of cities transformed by scattered servants.



God's Word and your life by Laura Martin

You've got a mind - use it! If you've got questions - ask them! But don't fill your mind with rubbish and it is important to ask the right questions. God's Word is the crucial ingredient. Read it - study it - learn it - think about it. God's Word will help you with your questions about social media, money and other exciting, stuff like gaming, television, movies and even education!



As we come to the end of the second month of lockdown, we as a country are starting to look tentatively towards the future, but we also still face great uncertainty in the coming weeks and months.

In this context, we, as the Evangelical Alliance, remain wholeheartedly committed to sharing the hope we have in Jesus, to being a brave and kind presence at a time of anxiety and suffering, as we seek to make Jesus known.

We have released [Talking Toddlers](#) in partnership with HOPE Together and the Church of England, which highlights the potential for sustained church growth if local churches nurture the faith of under-fives and their parents.

It is clear that this is a time of great challenge but also an unprecedented opportunity. It remains a huge privilege to proclaim the gospel, empower the UK church, and speak out in the media, government and public square, particularly in this season. However, it is only possible with your support, so thank you for all you have done in praying for and supporting us.

We believe in the power of prayer. There is nothing more exciting, or powerful, than Christians praying together. So have a look at our [prayer centre](#) and pray with us as we intercede for our friends, communities, governments and the world during this crisis.







We appreciate all your support, which enables us to unite evangelicals, resource the UK church and represent Christians to the government and the media, so that, together, we can make Jesus known.

With every blessing,

Gav Calver
CEO

Official UK Christian & Gospel Albums Chart

Top 15

Pos	LW	Title, Artist	Peak Pos	WoC
1	1	 THE SEARCH NF NF REAL MUSIC	1	41
2	New	 GRAVES INTO GARDENS - LIVE ELEVATION WORSHIP ELEVATION WORSHIP	2	1
3	2 ↓	 JESUS IS KING KANYE WEST EMI	1	28
4	4	 LOOK UP CHILD LAUREN DAIGLE CENTRICITY MUSIC	1	87
5	6 ↑	 MANSION NF CCMG	1	143
6	5 ↓	 VITAL SIGNS SKILLET WARNER BROS	2	257
7	3 ↓	 AWAKE HILLSONG WORSHIP HILLSONG MUSIC	2	30
8	8	 THERE IS MORE HILLSONG WORSHIP HILLSONG MUSIC	1	109
9	9	 VICTORY - LIVE BETHEL MUSIC BETHEL MUSIC	1	67
10	10	 AWAKE SKILLET ATLANTIC	2	322
11	7 ↓	 CHOOSE TO WORSHIP REND COLLECTIVE CCMG	1	6
12	11 ↓	 PEOPLE - LIVE HILLSONG UNITED HILLSONG MUSIC	1	19
13	12 ↓	 UNLEASHED SKILLET ROADRUNNER	1	196
14	13 ↓	 VICTORIOUS SKILLET WARNER RECORDS	3	37
15	14 ↓	 JESUS IS BORN SUNDAY SERVICE CHOIR INC	3	19

Musical Memories

During Lockdown Monica and I visit the church on Tuesdays and Saturdays to check the post box and carry out a general security check. I recently stood at the back of the church looking down the chancel at where the band stood when leading worship. It was quite upsetting. It was eight weeks since we last sang together..



I came to London at the age of 16 in 1966 to train as a Telecommunication Technician with AEI (Associated Electrical Industries). After being in digs in Woolwich I moved in with a friend's family in Plaxtol Road, Erith. Graham was a member of St. Paul's YCF – Young Churchman's Fellowship. I went with him to "Friday Nighters" which met in the curate's house (Jack McGinley) in Belmont Road. It was at that first visit that I met my future wife – Monica. It was not long before I was attending services at St. Paul's - my whole life was to change.

A group of St. Paul's YCF went to Central Hall Westminster to mark the publication of Youth Praise 1. We began to use it at our Sunday afternoon meetings in Jack's house. My very first Christian song which I sang and played on my guitar was Youth Praise 61 – "Jesus is the Saviour." Graham and I played this song over and over.

Music was important to the fellowship at St. Paul's. We had a large choir. The vicar, Chris Gane played Spanish guitar. A recent choir master and organist, Clive Simmons was co-writer of "I want to walk with Jesus Christ". This was written while on a St. Paul's House Party in Switzerland in 1964. He also wrote a sung communion service which was used regularly.

In 1950, The well-known hymn writer Timothy Dudley-Smith was curate at St. Paul's. He wrote hundreds of hymns including "Lord for the Years". He eventually became Bishop of Thetford.

In the 60's and 70's I regularly played my guitar and sung at services and meetings at St. Paul's.

In 1980, I took the starring role in "Follow the Star" This was a musical featuring the Angel Gabriel. The feature song was – "Every time you're good, you grow a bit, you grow a little bit more" At the end of the show I was wearing platform shoes. A large cast of St Paul's people performed this every night for a week to packed houses.

In the 80's we performed "The Witness". This was another musical. The curate Alan Glasby starred as Peter. This was performed all over the Deanery. There were so many people turned up to see the performance at St. Andrews Bostal Heath, that we gave two performances, back to back. It was a long evening.

In the 70's, 80, s and 90's there were a number of worship groups at St. Paul's: Wayfound, 3 in One, Quintessance and New Wine. Monica and I were in Quintessance and Bob played guitar and sang with New Wine.

Keith McGill (Alison's Dad.) wrote "Behold your King". It had a full orchestra and a large cast. It took me 6 months to grow my beard to fit the part of Peter.

It is many years since St. Paul's last had a choir. "The Band" leads worship currently. This comprises myself on guitar and vocals, Monica is our keyboard player, Alison plays flute, Ramsey is our percussionist and vocalist and Carol sings. We lead the singing at the 10.30 am service and Monica and I lead at the 9.00 am Communion service once a month. George Stafford plays the organ for the 9.00 worshipers, also once a month. Our vicar Clive encourages us to sing some of the many new worship songs that are available – we do our best.

At the age of 70, I look back over 50 years of serving God in the musical life of St. Paul's. I often say to Monica "will I be doing this when I am 80!!!!" "There must be someone out there who can take over. Before I hang up my plectrum I would like us all to sing – "Jesus is the Saviour" The chorus goes – " for God so loved the ²⁴ world that he gave , His only begotten Son. That who so ever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life"

General Knowledge

1. What was the title of the first Indiana Jones film?
2. What is the collective noun for a group of monkeys?
3. What is the only word in the English language which ends with "mt"?
4. Steptoe and Son's horse was called what?
5. How many symphonies did Mozart compose?
6. What can you do if you have scotopic vision?
7. Brontophobia is a fear of what?
8. Which author was the most borrowed author from British libraries for over twenty years?
9. With what other country does the Dominican Republic share the Caribbean island of Hispaniola?
10. What is the capital of Morocco?

Unscramble these letters to find food & drink

1.	SUGARED AMBULANCES	
2	NO HANDY CAR	
3	PINCH HIS FADS	
4	FLEECES SO BARE	
5	A LEGAL TITLE	
6	SEEMS NOT	
7	OR BET NOEL	
8	MEAN TROWEL	

Ann's simple recipes for everyone

St Paul's resident culinary queen Ann Easter shares some of her recipes with you.

Crispy Bacon & Feta Cheese Salad

Ingredients

4 rashers Bacon
1/2 Lettuce
1 Cucumber
12 Cherry tomatoes
2 beetroot
12 red grapes
Extra virgin olive oil
5oz / 150g Feta Cheese



Instructions

Fry the bacon until crispy and cut into 1" / 2cm pieces.

Shred the lettuce and place on plates.

Cut the cucumber, beetroot & feta cheese into 1" / 2cm pieces.

Slice the cherry tomatoes and grapes in two.

Put the cucumber, tomatoes, beetroot, grapes and feta cheese in a bowl. Drizzle olive oil over and mix.

The mixture can then be spooned on to the lettuce you plated earlier.

Finally add the warm bacon on top to finish the salad.

Ann's top tip

Substitute the olive oil with sweet chilli sauce for an extra kick!

Photography



Carved Tree by
Ann Clark



Azaleas at Hall Place
by Linda Mayes




Cycling at Danson by Clair
Gill



Sunset at Lesness by Ann
Clark



Fledgling starlings by Dot Turner



Gift Aid

**Do you support our mission and ministry by regular giving?
Do you pay tax?**

If you answered yes to both those questions then we can claim an extra 25% from the government at no cost to you.

It's very easy to sign up

See Charles Brooke or Dot Turner and they will help you.

Blast from the Past

From "St Pauls Church News May 1953"

Contains the farewell from Curate Timothy Dudley Smith a famous 20th century hymn writer.

THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

There are two other letters to be included in this Magazine, so mine must be necessarily brief.

Naturally our thoughts will be centring this month on the approaching Coronation of our gracious Queen, to which the Bishop refers in his letter below. May I remind you of these words of Her Majesty: "At my Coronation next June, I shall dedicate myself anew to your service. I shall do so in the presence of a great congregation, drawn from every part of the Commonwealth and Empire, while millions outside Westminster Abbey will hear the promises and prayers being offered up within its walls, and see much of the ancient ceremony in which kings and queens before me have taken part through century upon century.

"You will be keeping it as a holiday: but I want to ask you all, whatever your religion may be, to pray for me on that day—to pray that God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making, and that I may faithfully serve Him, and you, all the days of my life."

Thank God for such a Queen.

The Services on Sunday, May 31st, will be special Coronation Services, and Coronation Day itself, Tuesday, June 2nd. I am giving you an opportunity to begin that day with God in prayer for the Queen with a Communion Service at 8 a.m. I hope many of you will take this opportunity to fulfil the Queen's request for your prayers on that day.

Will you also remember in prayer this month Mr. Dudley-Smith as he starts work at the Cambridge University Mission, and Mr. Peter Barton as he prepares for his ordination on June 7th, prior to beginning his ministry here as Assistant Curate.

Finally I want to thank you all very much for your generous Easter gifts and offering. These prove a very considerable help on the material level, apart from being a much-appreciated token of your kind support and good-will. Your continued kindness encourages me in my ministry. Thank you so much.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

PETER SWINBANK.

A LETTER FROM THE REV. T. DUDLEY-SMITH

Tel. BER. 3788

Cambridge University Mission,
43, Jamaica Road,
Bermondsey, S.E.16.

Dear Friends,

I would like to have thanked each one of you personally for your magnificent present to me as I leave Northumberland Heath; but that is not really possible, so will you please accept my thanks through this letter, and be assured that they are none the less warm because they have to come to you in print. The case for my robes is a delight and one that I shall always treasure; and the money with it I have tucked away to buy some piece of furniture for my rooms here.

Thank you all, too, for many kindnesses in my two years with you. I shall hope that it won't be too long before I see you all again; and if any of you are ever passing this way, make a note of my address above and come and see me; I hope you will.

Yours very sincerely,

TIMOTHY DUDLEY-SMITH

On TV this week

Freeveiw Sky Virgin Freesat BT

Saturday

20:00: Father Brown: Drama (20 143 130 158)

Sunday

06:00: Hour of Power: Sky1 (106 110)

07:10- 22:00: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

09:00-14:00: Father Dowling Mysteries: CBS Drama (71)

11:45: Sunday Worship: BBC1

13:15: Songs of Praise: BBC1

20:00: Call the Midwife: Drama (20 143 130 158)

Monday

11:00 & 17:00: Father Dowling Mysteries: CBS Justice (39)

13:30: Father Brown: BBC1

14:00- 22:00: Father Brown: Drama (20 143 130 158)

22:00: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

Tuesday

09:00 & 22:00: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

11:00 & 17:00: Father Dowling Mysteries: CBS Justice (39)

14:15: Father Brown: BBC1

22:05: Derry Girls episode 1: E4 (13 135 106 122)

Wednesday

09:00: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

11:00 & 17:00: Father Dowling Mysteries: CBS Justice (39)

14:15: Father Brown: BBC1

Thursday

11:00 & 17:00: Father Dowling Mysteries: CBS Justice (39)

14:15: Father Brown: BBC1

Friday

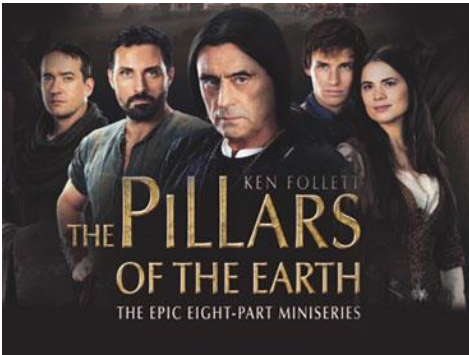
09:00 & 22:00: Father Brown: Alibi (132 126 312)

11:00 & 17:00: Father Dowling Mysteries: CBS Justice (39)

14:15: Father Brown: BBC1

Times correct at publication, but do check to avoid disappointment.

Streaming & Box Sets



The Pillars of the Earth – My5 & Sky Box Sets

The Pillars of the Earth is an adaptation of the historical novel by Welsh author Ken Follett. A multifaceted saga about the building of a cathedral in the fictional town of Kingsbridge. Based on historical evidence of the building and politics of Salisbury in medieval England.

Do you have any TV or Streaming suggestions? Let us know.

Radio programs

Prayer for the Day daily at 5.43am on Radio 4

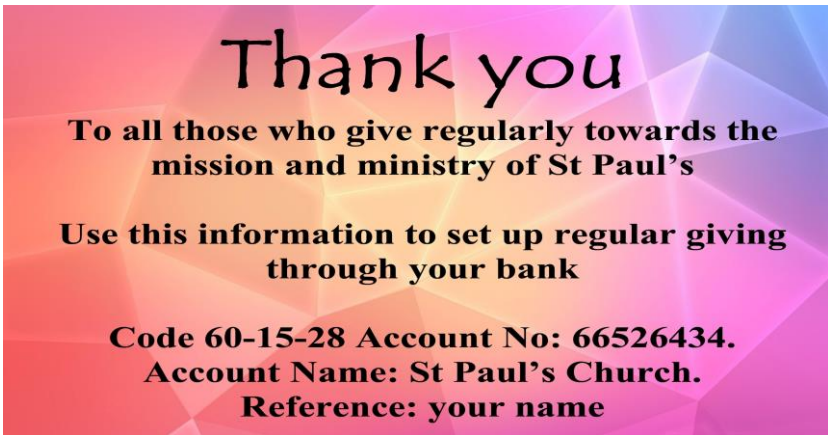
Sunday Worship Sundays at 8.10am on Radio 4

Daily Service Monday to Friday at 9.45am on Radio 4

Longwave and DAB

Lent Talks Wednesdays at 8.45pm on Radio 4

Choral evensong- Wednesdays at 3.30pm and the same service is repeated Sundays at 3pm on BBC Radio 3



Quiz answers

General Knowledge

1. Raiders of the Lost Ark; 2. A troop; 3. Dreamt; 4. Hercules; 5. 41; 6. See in the dark; 7. A fear of Thunder; 8. Catherine Cookson; 9. Haiti; 10. Rabat.

Food & Drink

1. Cumberland sausage; 2. Chardonnay; 3. Fish and Chips; 4. Beef Casserole; 5. Tagliatelle; 6. Eton Mess; 7. Toblerone; 8. Watermelon.

