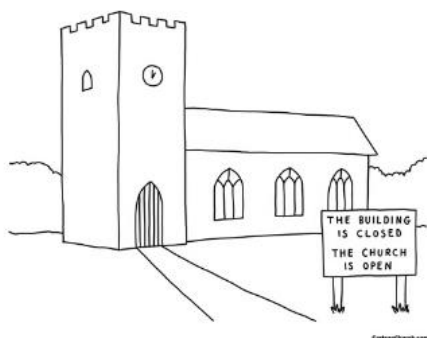


St Mary the Virgin, Great Brickhill



The Church continues to be alive and active, but our buildings must close.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES THIS SUNDAY 26th APRIL:-

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER:

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41; 1 Peter 1: 17-23; Luke 24: 13-35; Psalm 116: 1-3, 10-17

REFLECTIONS FROM THE RECTOR:

The Rector has written a brief reflection and prayer for this Third Sunday after Easter – the document is attached.

SUNDAY SERVICE - Revd Val Plumb, Rural Dean for Mursley Deanery

The Rural Dean will be recording a 15-minute service on Sunday. The you tube link will be on the website as soon as it is available.

EASTER PILGRIM CONTINUING:

Archbishops Justin Welby and John Sentamu are inviting the whole Church to take 40 days this Easter season to explore the Lord's Prayer as the world endures the coronavirus pandemic.

Each day for the 40 days of Easter, from Easter Sunday 12th April to Ascension Day, Thursday 21st May there is:

- A short Bible reading that explores part of the Lord's Prayer and what it tells us about the Christian vision for human life,
- An invitation to reflect on the reading,
- A prompt to pause and consider what this might mean for you, your life and your discipleship,
- A suggestion of how to pray,
- Full audio for each day's entry, with a daily hymn.

Pilgrim Journeys: The Lord's Prayer is available as a free app with new content from Bishop Steven for 2020. Alternatively sign up for a daily email or listen to the daily reflections. To find out more follow the link below:-

<https://www.chpublishing.co.uk/apps/easter-pilgrim>

RADIO 4:

Sunday Worship at 8.10am. "We had hoped....."

"But we had hoped..." The words of two of Jesus' disciples to a stranger on the road to Emmaus. In times of grief and disappointment, there is one thing left to cling to; that thing is hope.

Professor Jennifer Strawbridge of Mansfield College, Oxford and the Revd, Dr Steve Nolan, Chaplain at Princess Alice Hospice, lead a reflection on where we find hope in times of despair.

They explore Jesus' appearance to his two disciples on the Road to Emmaus and how that encounter speaks to us today.

BBC TELEVISION:

Sunday Worship BBC 1 at 10.45am Third Sunday of Easter

A service from Hereford Cathedral led by the bishop of Dover, the Right Reverend Rose Hudson-Wilkin, with hymns recorded for Songs of Praise in 2017. The service was filmed before the closure of all church buildings.

The Order of Service can be downloaded from the BBC website: -

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000hrf1>

Songs of Praise BBC 1 at 1.15pm Christian Pilgrimage

Sean Fletcher introduces highlights of journeys Songs of Praise has made to ancient places of pilgrimage. He looks back at his own journey, walking barefoot across the sands to the breathtaking abbey of Mont St Michel in northern France, where he discovered why it has been one of Europe's most important sacred sites for well over 1,000 years.

Further south in France, there is another chance to see Kate Bottley joining the six million pilgrims who visit Lourdes each year. She learns more about the visions of the Virgin Mary that first began drawing people to the site in the 19th century and shares a special experience with a pilgrim who has come to bathe in the waters.

Claire McCollum learns more about the spiritual significance of pilgrimage as she climbs Crough Patrick in western Ireland, and Pam Rhodes discovers the unique story of Walsingham – a place of deep spirituality for both Anglicans and Catholics.

With wonderful hymns and songs recorded before the current restrictions, celebrating the theme of pilgrimage.

OXFORD DIOCESE LIVE STREAMING:

Bishop Olivia will be presiding at the next online Diocesan service at 10am on Sunday 26th April. To watch the service live, or at a later time, follow the link:-

<https://www.oxford.anglican.org/coronavirus-covid-19/livestream/>

From this week it is also available to people dialling in by phone. The number to dial each week is 01865 920930. Press zero for the short service and 1 for the full Church at Home service. After a few seconds to retrieve the recording the service will start.

Bishop Steven has today begun a regular series of reflective podcasts aiming to resource the Church in this period of lockdown. The first is an exploration of Psalm 1: Like a tree planted. To listen to the podcast, click on the following link:-

<https://blogs.oxford.anglican.org/podcast/like-a-tree-planted-by-streams-of-water-reflections-for-a-church-in-lockdown/>

CHURCH OF ENGLAND LIVE STREAMING:

For information about possible worship opportunities, follow the link:-

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/stories-and-features/how-church-england-adapting-plans-holy-week-and-easter-meet>