

Sue's News

Sundays in Lockdown

Readings and prayers have been emailed each week and a special service was sent out for Remembrance Sunday which included the names on the war memorial. These were also put on the website and were also read out a=by the handbell ringers.

There have been links to follow up with Danny Pegg from St Richards and St Lukes.

We are hoping and Praying that Church will open after 2 December so that we can plan for Christmas services but we have to be prepared for the eventuality that we won't be able to have Services in Church and if we do they will not be like any previous Christmas that I can remember

Some items from the PCC meeting via ZOOM on Monday 16th November

Appointment of Officials

Chairman & Vice Chairman: Sue and Val until Revd Gillard is in post
Secretary: Amanda Jakes
Treasurer: David Featherstone
Assistant Treasurer: Joy Ward
Electoral Roll Officer: Hazel Stephanou

Warden's Report

David Gillard has retired as rural dean. Work on vicarage completed mid-January in preparation for David's arrival. Church to pay for decorating (David and Ann can pick colours). Garage is being emptied and garden will be dog proofed. Due to move in by mid-February.

All very exciting!

Christmas

- It was agreed to have a Christmas tree outside the church
- Christmas Eve and Christmas morning service was discussed. JH suggested we wait until end of second lockdown to see what happens before making a decision to know what is/isn't possible as Christmas services may not be allowed. SD agreed to leave this for the time being. Another meeting after lockdown may be needed (if restrictions still in place not needed but if lifted then meeting to discuss Christmas services)

Thank You from the Family Support Work for

Your prayers, gifts and support helping FSW sustain its work supporting children and their families in Sussex.

Pevensey and Westham School News

It has been a busy month at Pevensey and Westham School as the children continue to work hard to build on the work they did at home during the school closures.

In the build-up to Remembrance Day, children in Year 1 created beautiful poppy sun-catchers for the class windows and Year 3 children created some fantastic 3D poppy artwork. Year 6 children thought about the reasons for different coloured poppies and sewed their own using a chosen colour.

This month we have also run our antibullying week. Our theme was 'United Against Bullying' and we considered the positive power we all have to tackle bullying. We started the week by all wearing odd socks to highlight and celebrate our differences.

As always, please contact me though our school office if you feel there is anything we can do as a school to support our community.
admin@pevenseyschool.org.uk

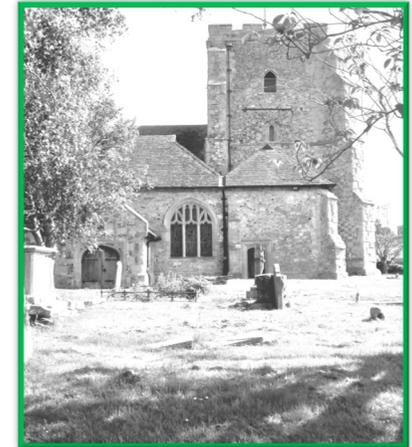


Final date for copy for the **January** newsletter:
wednesday 16th December

Email: eddiemeg@outlook.com

website: stmary'swestham.org.uk

ST MARY'S CHURCH WESTHAM DECEMBER 2020



**For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given
And the government will be upon his shoulders,
and he will be called
Wonderful Counsellor**

Mighty God,

Everlasting Father

Prince of Peace

Isaiah 9:6,7

Sunday services for December

(depending on what the current restrictions are)

Sunday 6th *

9.45 am Service with Holy Communion

Readings; Isaiah 40:1-11 [Psalm 85:1,2 & 8-end](#)

2 Peter 3:8-15 Mark 1:1-8

Sunday 13th *

9.45 am Service with Holy Communion

Readings: Isaiah 61:1-4,8-end [Psalm 126](#)

1 Thess 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28

Readings for Evensong

Mal 3:1-4 & ch 4 [Psalm 68:1-19](#)

Phil 4:4-7 *Gospel*: Matt 14:1-12

Sunday 20th: *

9.45 am Service with Holy Communion

Readings 2 Sam 7:1-11,16 [Psalm 89:1-4,19-26](#)

Rom 16:25-end Luke 1:26-38

Sunday 27th: *

9.45 am Service with Holy Communion

Readings: Isaiah 61:10 -62:3 [Psalm 148](#)

Gal 4:4-7 Luke 2:15-21

*** please be aware that things may change and make sure you let Sue Davies know if you plan to attend**



With best wishes for a peaceful and happy Christmas and New Year

what kind of Greatness

what kind of greatness can this be that chose to be made small, exchanging untold majesty for a world so pitiful. That God should come as one of us I'll never understand. The more I hear the story told the more amazed I am

*Oh what else can I do
But kneel and worship You
And come just as I am
My whole life an offering.*

The One in whom we live and move in swaddling clothes lies bound. The voice that cried "Let there be light" asleep without a sound. The One who strode among the stars and called each one by name, lies helpless in a mother's arms and must learn to walk again.

what greater love could He have shown to shamed humanity? Yet human pride hates to believe in such deep humility. But nations now may see His grace and know that he is near when His meek heart, His words, His works are incarnate in us here.

*Oh what else can I do
But kneel and worship You
And come just as I am
My whole life an offering.*

(Graham Kendrick)

Prayer and Praise

A Prayer for Advent

Compassionate and holy God,

We celebrate with joy your coming into our midst; we celebrate with hope your coming into our midst; we celebrate with peace your coming into our midst for you have come to save us.

O God our Father who by the bright shining of a star led the wise men to the city of David:

Guide us by the light of your Spirit, that we too may come into the presence of Jesus and offer our gifts and worship to Him, our Saviour and Lord

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer

Heavenly Father as we continue to struggle with the pandemic and all the restrictions that the situation brings give us the strength to endure all the changes in our lives.

Help us to support those who are really suffering - those with mental health issues, those who are feeling isolated and cut off from family and friends.

Help us to find a way to reach out to them and offer them comfort and to bring your loving presence to them.

Support all those who are carers professionally or otherwise and be with us all as we look to a brighter future

Loving Lord we thank you for our church family here at St Mary's and we pray that we will soon be able to meet in church again.

We thank you for guiding David Gillard to us and we look forward to the time when he and his family join us.

Meanwhile we ask you to continue to support the PCC and Frances and our visiting preachers and we thank you for their continued support.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer

Heavenly Father

within our prayers we bring to you

Friends we know who need your healing touch

Friends we know who need your comfort in their grief

Friends we know who are struggling with problems of day to day living in this pandemic

May we all know your presence and peace sustaining and strengthening us

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.