

Notices

We all need to pray for so many things, wisdom for our Government, safety for our families but as Christians let us also be beacons of light to those around us. Help us share what we have and shop sensibly. Help us to be the ones to look out for our neighbours.

Once again if you need anything please do not hesitate to contact me. My prayers will be with you.

We are not people of fear: we are people of courage. We are not people who protect our own safety: we are people who protect our neighbours' safety. We are not people of greed: we are people of generosity. We are your people God, giving and loving, wherever we are, whatever it costs for as long as it takes wherever you call us. Amen

If you are not familiar with technology please ask a younger member of the family to show you. It is a way we can worship together in our homes, just as the early Christians did thousands of years ago.

Instructions to access the live stream for services:-

- Navigate to the main St Mary's Woodkirk Facebook page.
www.facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk.
- All scheduled lives will be pinned at the top of the page and you can join them by clicking on them at the time that they start.
- Alternatively a link to the live will also be published on our **A Church Near You** page
- Find the event taking place and click on "More about this event" this will automatically take you straight to the live service on Facebook.

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CHRISTENINGS can be booked by contacting:

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WEDDINGS can be booked by contacting our:

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CHURCH WEBSITE: www.stmarywoodkirk.org

FACEBOOK: regular updates about life at St Mary's can be found on our Facebook pages:

*St Mary's Church, Woodkirk,
and Friends of Woodkirk Churchyard.*

TWITTER: tweet us and follow us @stmarywoodkirk



WELCOME TO ST MARY'S WOODKIRK

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds

*Engaging with God
Engaging with Each Other
Engaging with the Community*

Sunday 29th March 2020 – Lent 5

10.30am Holy Communion (streamed via Facebook live)

Instructions to Connect given in column 4

Services for the week

Mon 9.00am Morning Prayer (streamed as above)
Tues 6.00pm Evening Prayer (streamed as above)
Weds 10.00am Holy Communion (streamed as above)
Thurs 9.00pm Night Prayer (streamed as above)
Fri 9.00am Morning Prayer (streamed as above)

Next Sunday's Services are as follows: -

10.30am Palm Sunday - Holy Communion (streamed via Facebook live)

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

From our Parish Prayer Diary: Prime Minister and his Team of Advisors

From our Church Prayer Diary – Lydgate Lodge – staff and residents

For those whose Baptisms have been postponed.

For those whose Weddings have to be changed

For those whose Funeral arrangements are not what they wish.

Those who have asked for **prayers for healing:**

Kevin; Richard; Grace; Ben; Betty; Gethin; Lionel; Queenie; Nancy & Philip, Frank, Nicole, Ethan, Barbara, Diane, Harry and Ollie, Margaret, Jerry, Louise, Simon, Chris.

We remember all those who we normally visit but cannot at the moment particularly remembering Audrey Gill who is not well.

The family and friends of those who have recently died: -

Tony Bathie

And those whose **anniversaries** fall at this time: -
Margaret (Peggy) Hill

Scripture Readings for the coming Week:-

Sunday 29th – Lent 5

Ezekiel 37:1-14

John 11:1-45

Monday 23rd Morning Prayer

Psalm 73

Hebrews 11:17-31

Tuesday 24th Evening Prayer

Psalm 61

John 11:45-57

Wednesday 25th Holy Communion

Daniel 3:14-20, 24-25, 28

John 8: 31-42

Thursday 26th Night Prayer

Psalm 139

Zechariah 12:10

Friday 27th Morning Prayer

Psalm 22

Hebrews 13:1-16

For those who have joined in with Services on line – I thank you very much and hope that you are finding them beneficial at this time and hopefully meeting some of our needs for communal worship in this present climate.

If you are getting this pew sheet for the first time and have a computer at home please ask a younger member of the family to instruct you how to access our facebook page (Facetime, skype etc).

I have held you all in my prayers – please let me know if there are people you know that would appreciate a telephone call from myself and/or Gail. Either Gail or myself will ring you each week to check in with you and see how you are doing.

I miss our worship time together and it has been very unusual in delivering services to a camera and even more difficult to preach a sermon especially as you all know how I like to walk around and be amongst you. It is very hard to stand still! However, it is a good thing to critique yourself and things I have learned so far are

- a) Do not lick your finger to turn the page.
- b) Do not rock back and forth when preaching.
- c) Do not wring hands when preaching.

On Wednesday of last week we celebrated the Annunciation of our Lord Jesus Christ to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The story of the Annunciation or Announcement of the birth of Jesus Christ is only recorded in the Gospel of Luke, and Luke not only announces the birth of Jesus Christ but he dates it precisely in the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy with John the Baptist, as well as precisely locating this event to a small town in Galilee called Nazareth which at that time really was of no interest to anyone.

So even in these small details we see how in the coming of Jesus, God makes an eternal home in the midst of ordinary life.

Mary received this message, and we are told it was only in a moment, from an Angel. Yet after she had been told, Mary must have pondered this many times, and for Mary it became a new opportunity to serve God.

Today our own lives contain annunciations or announcements. We have had many in the last two weeks with the Coronavirus and on Wednesday we were told to shut up shop, self-isolate, and stay home for the good of Society.

Today I would ask you to ponder on that announcement not just because our actions will affect ourselves and others but because we can either choose to feel trapped in our homes by all this extra time we have been given in self-isolation or we can choose to see this time as a bonus and opportunity to reflect on our lives and to perhaps to try things within the confines of our home. We may read more (including scripture), we may write poetry or paint to express how we are feeling. We can contact those people via the telephone that we keep meaning to catch up with, as well as speaking with our families and friends.

So we need to ponder what are we going to do with this time we have been given? How is this time going to make us a better person, a better Christian? What is our role during the next few months as undoubtedly people will suffer, they will lose loved ones, they will lose jobs, and they will lose homes? But what of those whose motivation is not there to try something new? What about those who need some support? some telephone calls? some food packages? some care? How can we do that safely?

The most important thing is that we keep ourselves safe and if we do that then we keep other safe too and however, we help others we have to think about keeping safe when we choose to help others.

So ponder, ponder about what we can do with this time to reflect on our own lives. How can we help society at large to cope with what is undoubtedly going to be a very serious future for many of us.

During our Lenten journey we remarkably now have time to pray and study scripture, to walk closer with God.