



Chet Valley Churches

Weekly News 22 March—Mothering Sunday

Welcome to this church. We hope you will find the service thoughtful, prayerful and a chance to meet with God. If you are new to the church, or are a visitor, do introduce yourself to the person taking the service or to someone near you. The churches in our group have different facilities. The person handing out books can tell you such things as if there is a hearing loop, and if the building has a toilet.

Readings for today

Exodus 2. 1-10
2 Corinthians 1. 3-7
Luke 2. 33-35

Psalm 34. 11-20



Prayer for today

God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Dates for your diary

This section is only useful if you tell us what's on! The contact details for this newsletter are on the back page.

There are no meetings or services at the moment, but there are some dates and events that can go in your diary.

- Each Sunday service will be available by email, so we can join in worship even if we can't meet together. (See inside for details)
- Each evening at 7pm we are encouraged by the Archbishop to light a candle and pray for those who are affected by the Coronavirus in whatever way. That includes people who are ill, those who are fearful and those who care for others. It also includes people who are struggling financially. And of course it includes all who are trying to co-ordinate the way forward and those whose research may lead to overcoming the virus.

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.

Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen

Prayers Please...

Please pray for people and situations in the locality and beyond...

Especially let's pray for people we know who are fearful about the coronavirus. Let's also pray for those who are responsible for issuing guidelines and for those who organise their implementation. On a wider scale let's pray for research scientists who continually work to develop vaccines to combat so many diseases.

Use the Prayer Shower

We have a 'prayer shower' for urgent prayer requests. Contact Ros Hoffmann email roshoffmann2011@gmail.com tel 01508 548200. Also contact Ros if you would like to pray for urgent needs as part of the shower.

Time for Prayer

On Tuesday evenings from 7.30 to 8.30pm we meet at St John's Chapel in Loddon for 'Time for Prayer and Space for Reflection'. On the third Tuesday of the month this takes the form of an informal communion service with blessing. Just turn up or contact Jill Haylock on 01508 520248.

Morning Prayer in Church

Clergy are continuing with Morning Prayer at 9am as follows:

Mon & Thurs:	St John's, Loddon
Tues:	St Margaret's, Hardley
Wed & Sat:	All Saints, Chedgrave
Fri:	St Mary's, Sisland

News and Events

Everything's Off?

With the churches closed for public services of worship and our regular events cancelled, you might think there's nothing happening. But our Sunday service outlines are available by email from the Weekly News, including links to hymns and a reflection in place of a sermon. Why not use the outline at the time you would normally join together for worship on Sundays? If you don't usually receive the News by email, we'd encourage you to sign up now. All you have to do is send an email to news.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com asking to be on the mailing list.

Sponsor Ros and Toby—Walkies must go on!

Ros Hoffmann and her dog Toby are on their way to walking between 5,000 and 10,000 steps a day in March for Cancer Research, under the heading of Woof all over Cancer. If you can sponsor Ros and Toby see Ros (Toby isn't good with forms) or phone her on 01508 548200. Alternatively you can give via JustGiving, by typing the following into your internet address bar <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/ross-woof-all-over-cancer-fundraising-page>

Archbishop's Challenge for Lent

This year for Lent the Archbishop of Canterbury has issued a 40-day challenge to Christians to engage in God's plea for us to "Care for Creation". As part of the #LiveLent challenge, there are 40 short actions, reflections and prayers to help us become more environmentally conscious. You can sign up at www.churchofengland.org/livelent.

Good News—Eco Award

For the past few months Chedgrave PCC has been looking at our contribution to the fight against climate change. We found it helpful to use the Eco-Church materials and to complete the online survey, which assesses how we care for God's earth. The survey covers the areas of Worship and teaching, Management of church buildings, Management of church land, Community and global engagement and Lifestyle. We are pleased to report that we have just reached bronze award level! To find out more, or to try the survey yourself, visit <https://ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk>. (If you're reading this on screen click on the link.)

Finance and Coronavirus

Some people are facing financial problems if they have been stopped from working for any reason, and finding helpful advice is tricky. There are three important websites where reliable information is available in an easy to understand format (If you're reading this on screen, click on the links):

- Martin Lewis, often seen on TV and champion of managing money wisely, has excellent information on <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/>
- Citizens Advice has helpful information and you can contact them by phone if you need further advice. <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk>
- If you think you may need to claim benefits you can find out what you might receive on this website - anonymously! <https://benefits-calculator.turn2us.org.uk/AboutYou>

Finance and Church

One of the effects of closing the churches for public worship is loss of income. Obviously we still need to pay our Parish Share and insure and maintain the buildings even when we are not meeting together. We are not receiving money in rents and fees, and these are a significant part of any church's income, but the biggest loss is in weekly giving. If you don't give by standing order, would you consider doing so? If you give by envelope, would you consider doing so each week, even if you are not currently going anywhere? If you usually just give when you come to church, would you consider putting a donation aside each week? If you want to discuss this, talk to your treasurer or any of the clergy team.

Things to Note

Practical Helpers—Let People Know

We are probably all aware of people who are staying away from direct social contact during the Coronavirus. If you're receiving the News by email you will find an attachment that you might want to print and put through the door of elderly/isolated people near you. It's a way of offering help without turning up on their doorstep, which could be useful if you don't have a phone number or email address. If you've picked up a paper copy of the News in one of the churches you should find there are a few cards with them. If not, contact David or Nina Owen.

Information

Licensed Clergy

Rev. David Owen 01508 522993
david.chetvalley@gmail.com (Not Thur)

Rev. Ros. Hoffmann 01508 548200
roshoffmann2011@gmail.com (Not Mon)

Rev. Alison Ball 01508 528126
ball880am@btinternet.com (Not Fri)

Rev. Jill Haylock 01508 520248
jillhaylock@aol.com (Not Mon)

Rev. Louise Morrissey 01728 830733
delilah.morrissey@googlemail.com (Methodist)

Church Office

To contact the Church Office call 01508 521179 or email office@chetvalleychurches.org
The Church Office is just inside the door at St John's Chapel, Loddon. It opens Mon & Fri 10am-4pm and Tues, Weds & Thur 10am-1pm .

Prayer Shower

For situations that need urgent prayer, or to pray for others, contact Ros Hoffmann: 01508 548200, roshoffmann2011@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Send items for the Weekly News to news.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com (preferred) or on paper to the Church Office or by phone to the Office on 521179, by Wednesday mid day. Please include your name and phone number or email address.

Newsletter By Email?

Would you like to receive your Weekly News by email, making sure you get the news even if you can't be in church on Sunday? If so, send an email to news.chetvalleychurches@gmail.com

Website, including events diary

(www.chetvalleychurches.org)
To submit information for the website, email david.chetvalley@gmail.com

Food Bank Contributions

To donate items to the Norwich Food Bank put them in the collecting boxes in Chedgrave church or St John's Chapel, Loddon.

Services and readings next week—29 March Passion Sunday

The service is available by email and will be sent automatically to those who usually receive the Weekly News by email.

You might take time to look at next week's readings:

Ezekiel 37. 1-14, Romans 8. 6-11, John 11. 1-45, *Psalm 130*

Tailpiece	It has been noted that it takes 20 seconds to say the Lord's Prayer at a sensible speed. That's the length of time we're recommended to wash our hands. Try it!
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