



# Chet Valley Churches

## Weekly News 17 January—Epiphany 3

Welcome to the Chet Valley Churches. Just now we are making connections with one another by phone and online, and we can also share updates via the Weekly News. Please let the News have any good news stories/items of encouragement that we can share. All our services can now be found on the churches' website at [www.chetvalleychurches.org](http://www.chetvalleychurches.org)

### Readings for today

1 Samuel 3.1-10  
Revelation 5.1-10  
John 1.43-end

*Psalms 139.1-5, 12-18*



### Prayer for today

God of all mercy,  
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,  
release to the captives,  
and freedom to the oppressed:  
anoint us with your Holy Spirit  
and set all your people free  
to praise you in Christ our Lord.

## Dates for your diary

**Due to lockdown the decision has been taken to suspend public worship in the Chet Valley Churches. However, that doesn't mean that there is no church!**

- Each Sunday there is a service online, so we can join in worship even if we can't meet together. (See inside for details) If you are not able to get online, a paper copy of the service can be delivered to you. Phone/email David Owen to arrange—contact details on back page.
- During the summer lockdown we were encouraged to light a candle each evening and to pray for those who are affected by the Coronavirus in whatever way. Let us do so again, and particularly to pray for our community (wherever we are). Let's pray for people who are ill, those who are fearful, those who care for others, and also those who are struggling financially. Let's also pray for the successful roll-out of the vaccine.

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 Covid-19 or who are ill. Let's also pray for health carers, those who have to issue guidelines and 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 usually meet at St John's Chapel in Loddon for 'Time for Prayer and Space for Reflection', led by Jill Haylock. During the time when we cannot meet together, could you take time to light a candle and pray at home? If you wish, you can let Jill know (01508 520248)

### **Morning Prayer, but not in Church**

Clergy are continuing with Morning Prayer at 9am at home. You may like to join in. Use your own copy of Common Worship or the old prayer book, or you can find the service at <https://tinyurl.com/MornPray>. Scroll down and click on Morning and Evening Prayer.

# **News and Events**

## **Service Online this Week**

Alison Ball is leading our online service this week, which is a service of the Word. We are suspending worship in our church buildings for the time being, but are continuing with full services online, which are on our website at [www.chetvalleychurches.org](http://www.chetvalleychurches.org) You can also catch up with hymns and songs and recent services by going to our YouTube channel at <https://tinyurl.com/chetvalleychurchesyoutube>

## **Tuesday Prayers**

The 'Time for Prayer' meetings held at St John's can't now take place on Tuesday evenings, but we all have lots of time in which to pray. Jill is continuing to send out an email on Tuesday evenings which usually includes prayer, a reflection, Bible verses or poetry. To join in, send an email to [jillhaylock@aol.com](mailto:jillhaylock@aol.com)

## **Churches Open for Prayer**

Some of the churches in our group are open for prayer, provided you use the hand sanitisers and maintain social distancing if there happens to be someone else in the building at the same time. Holy Trinity in Loddon is open in the mornings, with afternoon lock-up times being dependent on weather and other commitments. Hardley church is open, and Sisland is open on Wednesdays and Sundays for a few hours. (It may be best to check Sisland's timing with Rowena Bryce.)

## Food Bank—Annual Roundup

Barry Gibson manages our links with the Food Bank. He writes: “During the past year we have collected 132 trays of food, each of which have 30lbs of food in them. This is enough to feed 264 people facing crisis, for three days. From our distribution point we have helped 122 local people during the year—single people, couples and families. The increase on 2019 was 60% almost entirely due to Covid. Thank-you to all who have given to the Food Bank over the last twelve months.” Please continue to donate food. You can leave donations in the box just inside the door at the Co-op in Loddon.

## Help Needed—It’s getting urgent!

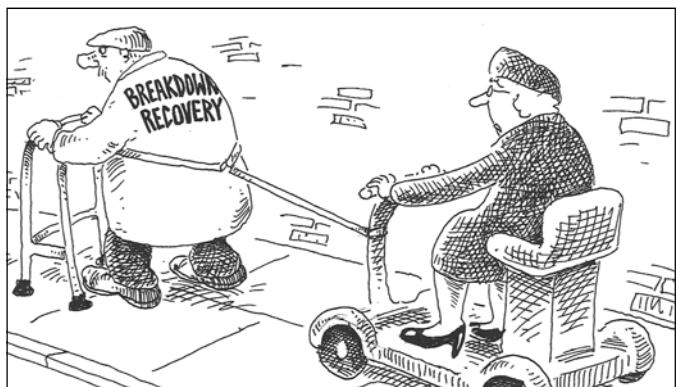
Can you or someone in your family use Word and Excel to create a mail merge? If so could you lend a hand to the Contact team? Please have a word with David in the first instance.

## NHS—Prayer Needed

Revd Helen Garrard from Rockland benefice works as a Chaplain at the hospice. She writes: “I have been in meetings all day today indicating the current crisis in our health and care industries. The infection rate in Norfolk and elsewhere in the country is currently very high and there is massive strain on all NHS acute and community services and other care providers. I am holding a 24 hour vigil of prayer this Sunday (17th) from midnight to Monday midnight. If you would like to take an hour’s slot please let me know and I will add your name to the rota and send a link to the 24 hour zoom room in our barn for fellowship.” To take part, contact Helen on 01508 53 8014 email [broadsidecurate@aol.com](mailto:broadsidecurate@aol.com), or simply take up this opportunity to pray for the NHS and all who work to care for others who are sick.

## Smile of the Week

Roadside recovery takes on a whole new meaning...



# 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 01502 717797  
delilah.morrissey@googlemail.com (Methodist)

## Church Office

The Church Office is just inside the door at St John's Chapel, Loddon. To contact the office email ohetvalley@btconnect.com. The office is currently not staffed, but email is regularly checked and post is collected on a weekly basis.

## 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 phone to 01508 522993, by Wednesday evening if possible. 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 when the churches are closed, put them in the collecting box at the Co-op in Loddon.

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## Services and readings next week—24 January Unity Sunday

The service is available by email and will be sent automatically to those who usually receive the Weekly News by email. It is also available to download from [www.chetvalleychurches.org](http://www.chetvalleychurches.org)

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

John 15.1-17, 1 Corinthians 1.10-13a, Revelation 7.9-12

Tailpiece “What do you think is the greatest waste of time?” asked the boy. “Comparing yourself to others,” said the mole. (from <i>The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse</i> by Charlie Mackesy)
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