



Chet Valley Churches

Weekly News 24 January—Unity Sunday

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

Readings for today

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



Prayer for today

God of heaven,
you send the gospel to the ends of the earth
and your messengers to every nation:
send your Holy Spirit to transform us
by the good news of everlasting life
in Jesus 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

David Owen is leading our online service this week, which celebrates the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. 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 You can also catch up with hymns and songs and recent services by going to our YouTube channel at <https://tinyurl.com/chetvalleychurchesyoutube>

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.

Sisland Church

Sisland church is now able to be open all day on Wednesdays and Sundays. If you have a particular need to be in the building at other times do have a word with Rowena Bryce.

Chedgrave dates in optimism

Chedgrave PCC recently met by Zoom and, with a fit of optimism, has made provisional plans for a spring fair and concert in May and for a flower festival in September. As all last year's plans were either cancelled or severely restricted, let's hope these can go ahead!

Chet Valley Churches Diary Dates

Our services and events, including occasional services, are all listed on the website calendar (www.chetvalleychurches.org) but when individual churches are making their plans it would be helpful also to have details of provisional events, set-up days and in the case of Chedgrave and St John's, any external bookings. This is information that has previously been written in the Church Office bookings diary. We are working on the possibility of using an online calendar, but need to find one that will work for us. Ideas welcome.

Looking ahead to Lent

We are unlikely to be able to meet face to face for Lent groups this year. If you are making plans to study a Lent course with friends by Zoom, Face Time or phone, do let David Owen know as it would be good to have an overview of what we're doing. David may be leading an online/Zoom series himself.

Things to Note

Contact & Chet News Online

Both Contact magazine and Chet News are regularly available on the Chet Valley Churches website. Do take a look.

Churches Open for Prayer

Some of the Chet Valley churches 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.

Smile of the Week

No vaccination? No problem!
Freda knew how to deal with a mouse, so she opted to use the same method to deal with the coronavirus...



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.

Services and readings next week—31 January Presentation of Christ

The service is available on our website and a link will be sent automatically to those who usually receive the Weekly News by email. There will be Last Sunday Praise with this month's reflection by Jill Haylock. Services are available to download from www.chetvalleychurches.org

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

Malachi 3. 1-5, Hebrews 2.14-end, Luke 2. 22-40, *Psalm 24*

Tailpiece	How old does the New Forest have to be before we can call it the Forest?
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