

PEWTALK 50_P

March 2021

What does the Lord
require of you
but to



do
justice
love
kindness
and
walk
humbly
with
your God

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice,
to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?
Micah 6: verse 8

EAST & WEST TILBURY AND LINFORD PARISH MAGAZINE

Parish web site: www.stcatherinesthurrock.org.uk

BITs AnD PiECes

Once again my apologies for the delay in producing this edition of PEWTALK but we wanted to get the latest information regarding the impact of COVID-19 on worship at St. Catherine's.

100 Club - In a similar fashion the corona virus has disrupted our usual schedule for the 100 club draw. The usual number of draws will take place and hopefully we will be able to record three lucky winners next month as we will be back at St. Catherine's for the draws to take place.

The Leprosy Mission operates around the world to fight leprosy transmission, disability and discrimination. In a recent mailing they explained that there is an incredible opportunity to support "*The Unconditional Appeal*" to help rid Mozambique of leprosy. Donations to this cause will be doubled by the UK government through "UK Aid Match" when you buy selected gifts for life or just make a donation. More information on their website

www.leprosymission.org.uk

A message from Hazel Green - "I would like to thank everyone for their cards, flowers, telephone calls and good wishes during my recent illness and stay in hospital. It has been a very difficult time and your support has been greatly appreciated.

Best wishes to you all"

Hazel

Shopping at the Co-op - I am told that during the lockdown the Stock Quality / Level has greatly improved. I know that many of us shop on line but if you use the Co-op in East Tilbury please ask me for a discount card. The Church will receive a donation for all purchases. We currently receive about £20. Any increase would be very much appreciated.

Dart Charge - The local TV reported recently that some people who had not used the tunnel for sometime had had their account cancelled without a refund. I have checked my account and we still have £17 but it might be worth checking yours if you have one. *Norman*

British Summer Time - starts overnight on 27th / 28th of March and we need to remember to "spring" our clocks forward one hour that night particularly if planning to be at the Palm Sunday morning worship.

You will read in Kathy's report that St. Catherine's has been subject to criminal damage in that the kitchen windows were used as targets by somebody with a "BB" gun. While nobody was in the building and therefore no one was hurt, it has cost the church £250 (being the insurance excess) and a great deal of time by our volunteers - such a waste!

Little old lady seeks handsome young man

An advert appeared in a student newspaper of a university: "Sweet little old lady wishes to correspond with good-looking university student – especially a six-footer with brown eyes, answering to initials J.A.D." It was signed: "his mother."



Reflections from The Rectory

'All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well,'

so said Mother Julian of Norwich.

And with the Governments 'roadmap' out of Lockdown having recently been announced it does feel as if 'all shall be well' once more. We must, of course, be careful and cautious and maintain all the guidelines that are in place but there is a sense that life may just return to normal sometime this year.

For those of you who haven't heard of Julian of Norwich here is just a brief note about her.

Julian was an English [anchorite](#) (someone who, for religious reasons, withdraws from secular society so as to be able to lead an intensely prayer-orientated life) of the [Middle Ages](#). Julian lived practically her whole life in the English city of [Norwich](#). During her lifetime, the city suffered the devastating effects of the [Black Death](#) of 1348–50. In 1373, aged thirty and so seriously ill she thought she was on her deathbed, Julian received a series of [visions](#) or "shewings" of the [Passion of Christ](#). She recovered from her illness and wrote of her experiences. She wrote the best known surviving book in the English language written by a mystic called, [Revelations of Divine Love](#). The book was the first written in English by a woman and many copies are still sold and read today.

For much of her life, Julian lived in permanent [seclusion](#) as an anchoress in her [cell](#), which was attached to [St. Julian's Church, Norwich](#). Although set apart from society she would have been permitted to make clothes for the poor, provide advice and counsel to the people who came to seek it, pray for all and everyone and serve as an example of devout holiness.

Like Mother Julian, we have also known a time of being set apart from others, disruption, pain, sorrow, seclusion and heartache over this last year. Each of us will have found different ways of coping and many have helped others during lockdown and difficulty. For many people comfort has come from joining in with church services online or when open by visiting a church. Sacred space, wherever you have found it, offers us that sense of peace which can only come from God. It has been a long road but hopefully the end is in sight now.

And this month the joy of worshipping together on a Sunday morning will be known. The PCC, after careful consideration, have decided that we will restart public worship at St. Catherine's. During March there will be a service of Morning Worship (a Service of the Word) at 10am every Sunday. The church will also be open every Sunday afternoon through Lent 12-3pm for private prayer. And don't forget that on **14th March 'Mothering Sunday'** marks the half-way point in our Lenten journey and an opportunity to say 'thank you' to all those who care for us and 'mother us'.

As Lent draws to end and we move into Holy Week there will be services or time to pray on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Eve. On Easter Sunday we will have our first service of Holy Communion since Christmas Day. What a celebration that will be! Details for the services in Holy Week will be confirmed nearer the time.

And on Easter Sunday the church will be full of colour once more as the purple of Lent is replaced by the white and gold of Easter. We will bring back the Gloria's and alleluia's to our liturgy and floral arrangements will adorn the window sills alongside the Easter Garden. Keeping with tradition there will be the opportunity to donate £3 for an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one. *(Please contact Kathy Bird or Pam Painter if you would like to do this).*

So, there is much to look forward to after what has been a very challenging year.

In conclusion I offer you another quote from Mother Julian. She said, 'He (God) did not say, 'you shall not be perturbed, you shall not be troubled, you shall not be distressed,' but He said, 'You shall not be overcome.'

Stay safe, take care,

Every blessing to you all,

Revd Michèle.

Eco Church approves 1000th award for environmental responsibility

Conservation charity, A Rocha UK has announced that Hereford Cathedral is the recipient of its Eco Church scheme's 1,000th award for creation care.

A spokeswoman for A Rocha UK said: "Hereford Cathedral demonstrates that even historical buildings can make great progress towards being more sustainable. The Cathedral land includes both gardens within the cathedral complex and some farms in the local area which are managed in a sustainable way."

Hereford Cathedral, one of over 3,000 churches to register for Eco Church, shares eco-lifestyle tips during school visits and in its weekly church notices, including suggestions on personal consumption and carbon footprint reduction. They have made alterations to the heating and lighting across the church buildings to improve efficiency and are actively researching how best to install water harvesting systems in the future.

This is a critical year for the climate, ahead of the UN COP26 climate negotiations scheduled to take place in Glasgow in November.

Eco Church is a free online award scheme and is an A Rocha UK project. Churches can join the Eco church community by registering at <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/> and completing a simple survey.

Church Warden Report

Dear friends,

February has been and gone and lock down continues.

I'm sure like me you are relying on technology to help get through the quiet days.

Did you know St. Catherine's has a Facebook page? There was an old page which hadn't been used for a long time, we didn't have administrative access and we didn't know any passwords. So on 23rd February 2017 we started a new Facebook Page. If you search for St Catherine's Church, East Tilbury you will find up to date information on church activities, special services and local community events.

Revd. Michèle has joined the administrative team and regularly posts church information and the significance of specific church calendar events.

During Advent Michèle has posted beautiful photographs taken in church with a short paragraph of uplifting news on where we are in the ecclesiastical calendar. This has continued throughout February. Epiphany, The wedding at Cana, Candlemas, now leading into Lent.

We have 158 people who follow our posts. Which makes us realise that we are reaching our local community.



Our posts are usually like by 40-100 people but..... Michèle's post on 18th December 2020 was liked by an amazing 1,039 people. This was pictures of our advent wreath which was beautifully decorated with winter greenery and berries by Brenda Gowers and details of our Christmas Services.

So please join our Facebook page, share with your family and friends and enjoy our regular posts.

Since writing my report, another mouse has meet is demise at St. Catherine's

The kitchen windows have been damaged and we are waiting on their repair.

And the Prime Ministers update on Lock down has finally brought us light at the end of our tunnel.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love endures forever.

With Blessings,

Kathy



More from Norman King's lockdown diary

Both Sheila and I have birthdays in February.

2021 was to be a special birthday year as both our ages ended in a zero and we had planned three weeks in Madeira. Plans were discussed with our friends in Orsett and as they were scheduled to be on a cruise calling in Funchal. We decided on a celebration lunch in a lovely fish restaurant. That was before Covid intervened and the result was a socially distanced meeting on our garden path when I collected a specially labelled bottle of Prosecco which had been left by the front door. Obviously things were going to be different but I had a really good day.



It started a bit early on the Tuesday when my friend who is 93 phoned at 9am to sing Happy Birthday which he sang remarkably well and my neighbour and Golf partner delivered a card and a bottle of English sparkling wine. Both a Day early !

I didn't say anything. Like many of us I have to sometimes had to ask What day Is It?

The next day was my birthday. Being in the middle of February the day has a terrible reputation and is expected by family and friends to be one of the worst days of the year for weather. This year it certainly lived up to reputation. We had some snow and it was bitterly cold but I had a great day. A record number of cards despite the restrictions on shopping. It included one from Moon Pig (I wondered who they were) but it was a massive card from a friend, ordered on line. Apparently they advertise on TV . Too many of the cards had a big number on the front but one from our careful SNP friends in Scotland featured Boris outside No. 10 saying that he had prorogued my birthday and I would get a present in 2022. I did however have a number of presents - mainly food and drink plus phone calls from friends both in Yorkshire and local as well as friends I worked with at Mobil. Sheila made me a special meal and it was a really memorable day. We ended the week with a Rick Stein meal from friends for our birthdays. I hope that I can make Sheila's day special.

I am very lucky to be blessed with good friends who are so special at this difficult time for us all.

Norman

We have just received (Friday 19th) an afternoon tea box, a joint present from our family, so Sunday we will be enjoying quiche, sausage rolls, scones with jam and cream and cakes. A few years ago for I treated Norman to afternoon tea at Reids Palace Hotel in Madeira on his birthday (the last special one 10 years ago) so as we cannot be there this year we are going to pretend.

Sheila

and from Geraldine Riddle's

I have been in a childcare bubble (and will be going back) for my 7 year old grandson Ignacio, the youngest of my grandchildren. I am used to the slow pace of my own home, certainly not in a hurry, after all, we are going nowhere. My grandson is one of those nonstop talkers, I don't think I was quite prepared for this new pace of life. It was such an emotional moment when I arrived, their little family had been nowhere and seen nobody, apart from deliveries of course, which were ceremoniously disinfected before use.

At first my grandson could not believe I was standing there, he was momentarily struck dumb, an exceedingly rare thing. When he realised it was really me standing there, he just ran and jumped up at me shouting nanny, nanny, nanny, with his legs around me, what an emotional moment for both of us. Well, that moment soon wore off, when next he was saying, nanny, do you know I can run so fast even round corners, do you want to see, no time for an answer, he was gone. So that was it, peace and emotion gone, no more cuddles, just record breaking everything, as far as Ignacio was concerned.

My daughter and her partner Carolina live in Deptford in a Victorian terraced house, so have a few steps down to the kitchen and a few steps upstairs between two of the bedrooms and the other bedroom and bathroom. The passageway at the front part of the house turns a corner before going down a few steps to the kitchen. I have to confirm with you, that indeed, I do think Ignacio could be a record breaker when it comes to running the full length of the house including corners and steps.

I should like to add that they also have two Burmese kittens around six months old, who also had their own thing going on. Once they had checked me out, I was their go to lap of choice and when one came to visit, quite often the other was going to join in whether the first one liked it or not. One cat lying lengthways then the other feeling jealous or left out, then lays across on top of his brother and edges his way in, so two cats sound asleep, cute though. The only trouble with this was, me being on the older side of life would soon need the loo and didn't like to disturb them, even though I was told to 'just get up, they will move'. So, I did have to be rescued a few times, more so, because the couches are a bit low and I couldn't get up, well not with cats on my lap, and that's my excuse anyway.

New house rules are, keep bathroom door closed because they can be down the toilet or knocking things all over the place. kitchen door closed when not in there, or when the cats are chucked out for being naughty, and boy could they be naughty if left to their own devices. Cats are not allowed on the table, work surfaces or cooker, but of course they just don't understand the rules and often just get chucked out, peace restored, except for Ignacio of course. Oh, I didn't tell you the names and characters of the cats. They are brothers of the same age but are so different. We have Freddie who officially is chocolate in colour and is bigger and more laid back, can't be bothered and loves his food, unless they are having a fun brotherly playing moment together. Tiger is officially lilac but doesn't look lilac. He is smaller and thinner and they are giving him a bit extra

food on his own. He is the troublemaker and is very clever, he even looks like his mind is thinking of his next mischief.

Now we have the real reason that I am in a childcare bubble, Ignacio and schooling. Ignacio has to watch a video of his teacher explaining maths and English, and is given a choice of one, two or three star papers to complete. His attention span when he is surrounded by things that he would rather be doing is questionable. Maths is not too bad because he enjoys it and does quite well, but English is a subject he moans about at school, he really can't be bothered, so having to do it at home is never going to work well. Trying every encouragement I can think of, except out and out bribery, the sooner you get it done, the sooner you can play with your lego or do what you want. He acts tired, he acts stupid, he doesn't want to do it. Have a drink of water that will make you feel better! I start off helping a bit with the spelling, Ignacio, what do you think that says and he sounds it out. Do you think that's right, can you see something that might make it sound better. In the end, I give up on helping him see the errors of his spelling, which is so frustrating because I know he knows, he just can't be bothered. I am sure his teacher can understand and is used to the mishmash of spelling from the children, but of course you want your child to do it right, WRONG, just do it how you want, I give up, I am at screaming point in my head, I can't take it anymore. His main character is a superhero who saves the day with his team, all set in the Arctic of course. They need a beginning, middle and end of the story using certain types of words or phrases in each section. I did have to interfere when he said about his character, Tiger Boy not being seen when doing his good deeds. I had to remind him that it was set in the Arctic, and I am happy to say he did see the funny side of that one and changed it. I am so glad I am not a teacher; they must have the patience of a saint and I really admire that. I have never heard of some of the words they use, I tell you, if it wasn't for Google I wouldn't have known what he had to do and if I didn't understand, how could I help. Teaching has changed so much, but it's a bit much when you have to Google the work of a 7 year old.



An easy way for fathers to feel closer to their children

When fathers work with their children on puzzles, it helps them grow closer, because their brains 'synchronise'. This leads them to being more 'psychologically in tune' with each other.

A study at the University of Essex said that "the synchronising of brain activity is interesting, because we knew it happened between mothers and children, but didn't know if the same was true with fathers.

"This is important for two reasons. It shows that men *are* biologically wired to provide off-spring care; and second, dads are increasingly being recognised as care-givers and attachment figures to their children."



Mouse Makes

Who is my mother?

Look up the Bible verses then find the mother's names in the word search

CAIN and ABEL
Genesis 4:1-2

JOSEPH
Genesis 30:22-24

ISHMAEL
Genesis 16:15

TIMOTHY
2 Timothy 1:5

RUBEN
Genesis 29:32

GAD
Genesis 35:26

SAMUEL
1 Samuel 1:20

OBED
Matthew 1:5

ISAAC
Genesis 21:3

Jesus was **loved** by his mother Mary, she looked after him, worried about him and prayed for him. She **cuddled** Jesus when he was born, cried when he died and **rejoiced** when he rose from the dead.

SOLOMON
1 Chronicles 3:5

JOHN
Luke 1:57-60

ESAU and JACOB
Genesis 25:24-26

JESUS
Acts 1:14



R	A	C	H	E	L	M	A	R	Y	A	V	Z
E	L	I	Z	A	B	E	T	H	H	E	V	I
B	Z	D	R	E	B	V	S	U	A	U	O	L
E	T	M	U	M	L	E	A	H	N	N	L	P
K	M	O	T	H	E	R	R	T	N	I	E	A
A	I	S	H	H	A	G	A	R	A	C	G	H
H	S	T	A	B	A	T	H	S	H	E	B	A

There are two other words in the word search, can you find them?



PARISH DIARY FOR MARCH
Our Sunday services are at St. Catherine's



As a result of the Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic there will be no public worship at St. Francis. This month we plan to resume Sunday worship at St. Catherine's. However to find the latest information please look at the weekly newsletter, copies of which can be found on the gate at St. Francis and St. Catherine or on the church website.

3 Mar	No services and no community support "drop in" at St. Francis	
4 Mar	Foodbank at St. Francis (N.B. no coffee morning)	11.00am - 1.00pm
6 Mar	Church cleaning at St. Catherine's	10.00am - noon
7 Mar	3 rd Sunday of Lent	
	Morning Worship	10.00am
	St. Catherine's open for private prayer	12noon - 3.00pm
10 Mar	No services and no community support "drop in" at St. Francis	
11 Mar	Foodbank at St. Francis (N.B. no coffee morning)	11.00am - 1.00pm
13 Mar	Church cleaning at St. Catherine's	10.00am - noon
14 Mar	Mothering Sunday	
	Morning Worship	10.00am
	St. Catherine's open for private prayer	12noon - 3.00pm
17 Mar	No services and no community support "drop in" at St. Francis	
18 Mar	Foodbank at St. Francis (N.B. no coffee morning)	11.00am - 1.00pm
20 Mar	Church cleaning at St. Catherine's	10.00am - noon
21 Mar	5 th Sunday of Lent	
	Morning Worship	10.00am
	St. Catherine's open for private prayer	12noon - 3.00pm
24 Mar	No services and no community support "drop in" at St. Francis	
25 Mar	Foodbank at St. Francis (N.B. no coffee morning)	11.00am - 1.00pm
27 Mar	Church cleaning at St. Catherine's	10.00am - noon

***** **N.B. British Summer Time begins overnight - clocks forward** *****

28 Mar	Palm Sunday	
	Morning Worship	10.00am
	St. Catherine's open for private prayer	12noon - 3.00pm
31 Mar	No services and no community support "drop in" at St. Francis	

Occasional Offices during February

Baptisms

None

Weddings

None

Committal of ashes

26 Feb Phyllis Cunningham at St. Catherine's

Funeral

23 Feb Steve Hearn at East London Crematorium

14th March: Mothering Sunday, 4th Sunday in Lent

The Fourth Sunday in Lent was called 'Mid-Lent' or 'Refreshment Sunday', when the rigors of Lent were relaxed more than was normal for a feast day. It is called Mothering Sunday as a reference to the Epistle reading for the Day (Galatians 4:21-31). The Lenten Epistles follow from each other with teaching about our life as Christians and how we are to follow Christ.



On Mid-Lent Sunday the Epistle talks of bondage and freedom; the bondage of the Law and the Old Covenant as compared to the freedom in Christ, "the promised one", and the New Covenant. Verse 26 reads "But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all." We gain our freedom from Christ and, as it was seen before the Reformation, the Church.

Thus, Mothering Sunday is about the freedom that we gain through the promise of Jesus Christ delivered through our Mother the Church. People were encouraged to go to their 'Mother Church' (their home church or their home Cathedral) to worship and give thanks. Hence apprentices, and others, went home for the weekend and often brought gifts (or accumulated pay) home to their family.

On the other hand, Mother's Day is a secular festival invented in 1904 and is celebrated on the 2nd Sunday in May in most countries in the world. The UK seems to be the exception. In recent years Mothering Sunday has been hijacked to take the place of a special, secular day to give thanks for our mothers.

A prayer for all those affected by corona virus

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

The Parish

The Priest in charge

REVD. MICHÈLE MARSHALL

The Rectory

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Stanford-le-Hope

Essex, SS17 0QA.

Telephone: 01375 671754

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The Services - *when not under COVID measures*

Sunday 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion service at St. Catherine's
Except 1st Sunday of the month when we have
"The Family Service"

Wednesday 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion at St. Francis
For Baptisms, Weddings or Funerals please contact the Priest in Charge.

The Churchwarden

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St. Francis Centre

The centre is *currently not* available for hire for regular events when not used by the Church. To check availability please contact:

PATRICIA STRONG

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Copy Dates for Pewtalk

24th March 2021

24th April 2021

24th May 2021