

# Winkfield Parish News – November 2020

This is a stop-gap Parish Mag, with a shortage of regular material. It is likely that the December and January mags will be similar.

With a new Lockdown starting on 5/11/20, please check any implied plans with the benefice or Friends' websites:

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/welcome.htm>

<https://www.fosmw.com>

**This edition is dated Thursday 5 November 2020,**

## *A word from Patrick: Gratitude in the Pandemic*

"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you". (Philippians 1:3-6)

One would think when reading such words that the author was in a wonderfully comfortable place with no trouble around them. These words were written from a Roman prison where Paul the Apostle was incarcerated.

He finishes this letter to the beloved Philippian Church that he had founded with "Rejoice. And again I say rejoice." Strange sentiment for one who had suffered many a shipwreck, flogging, physical and psychological attacks, plus he had a tenaciously malignant ailment that he referred to as "A thorn from Satan."

Paul had a lot to moan and complain about, and could have become a self-pitying discouraged person. Yet all these buffetings simply squeezed gratitude and joy out of him. He gives thanks for the flourishing of the Philippian Christians, and looks ahead for the 'the day of Jesus Christ' when Christ returns to complete the 'good work' that He began by fully establishing God's kingdom.

Gratitude helped Paul to remain positive during his imprisonment and suffering

At best, life is filled with numerous reasons to be anxious, to worry and complain. The current Corona Virus Pandemic has taken anxiety to exceedingly high levels. How shall we survive?

The Psychologists seem to have discovered Paul’s lessons, and tell us that gratitude is one of the most powerful tools for staying healthy, and remind us that ‘anxiety kills’. Apparently limiting worry about Covid-19 may actually improve your outcome should you contract it The more we train our mind to find people, events and situations to give thanks for, the better able our ability to cope.

Gratitude is not based on naïve optimism that ignores real problems. It is a proper estimate of our situation and then making the choice to see what to give thanks for. It is a struggle but helps us remember God our help in Ages Past and our hope for years to come. It reminds us that God is in ultimate control of our lives. It protects our souls from bitterness and self-pity and stress and mental illness.

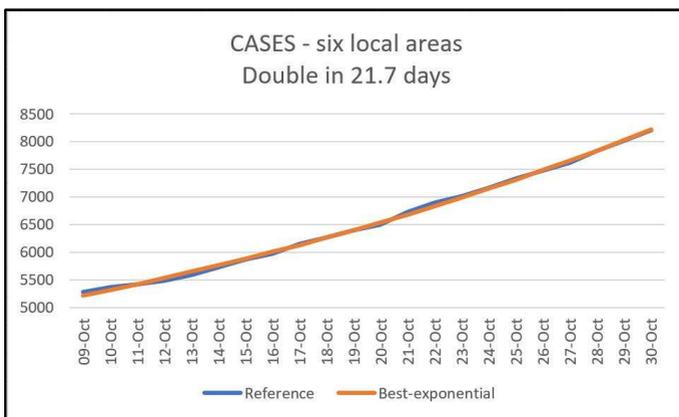
Perhaps Brian had some idea of this when he said, “Always look on the bright side of life”. Rejoice always! And again I say rejoice.

Patrick Mukholi, Interim Minister

## A note from the Editors

We have been recording and analysing Covid-19 cases within six Thames Valley areas from Slough to West Berkshire, and we are fortunate that the level of cases in our area is relatively low. (Of course we must be aware of and pray for those who are in higher-risk area.)

Taking a look at the whole area (comprising Bracknell Forest, Reading, Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead, Wokingham and West Berkshire), the chart below shows how cases in total have risen during October.



The blue line shows the total reported cases in the six areas, but the most visible line is the exponential curve that best fits the measured information. This curve shows a doubling of new cases every three weeks. This rate of expansion is surprisingly stable, and has been approximately maintained ever since July 2020.

The bad news that this curve tells us is that (if maintained), by Christmas day, the daily rate of cases will be six times what it is now. The Government is actively seeking to put pressure on the rise of Covid cases, despite the economic costs, and this will certainly entail measures that may go as far as lockdown again. Not a happy situation.

So let us pick up Patrick's theme. We are fortunate in Winkfield that we have been able to continue Parish worship and we are particularly fortunate in our church leaders that we have not only been able to meet for worship by Zoom, but have enjoyed live church services in St Mary's church - and we have even been able to enjoy music, too, in St Mary's.

Life is not normal, and yet people shop, drive and walk; they maintain a level of normal business and social activities. Our schools are active and open both physically and by electronic means. We are not yet controlling Covid-19, as the chart above shows, but many people have confidence in their statistical safety, despite the actual cases of Covid-19 in our local geographical areas, because we know that for the most part people in our part of the world, understand and accept collective responsibility for restricting the disease, rather than quibbling with the details. We need to be thankful to our communities for this and the freedoms that we have, because most people take statistical responsibility seriously.

There are now glimmers of light ahead: the careful work on vaccine development should begin to be deployed in a time-frame of weeks – the vaccines may not give immunity for as long as we would wish, but they represent a huge step forward. People who would refuse vaccination have clearly never encountered personally the terrible effects that the disease can bring even to those who survive it.

Almost as important is the hugely improved treatment regimes that reduce the incidence of death and the severer (and sometimes life-changing) effects of the disease.

So, although the next few months are going to be tough, there are some glimmers of hope that we will pull through it. Take courage, and rejoice at the big and small moments of successful endurance.

## *The Promise of Advent*

Stir up our hearts, we beseech you,  
to prepare ourselves to receive your Son.  
When He comes and knocks, may He find us not sleeping in sin,  
But awake to righteousness,  
Ceaselessly rejoicing in His love.  
May our hearts and minds be so purified,  
That we may be ready to receive His promise of eternal life.

*from The Gelasian Sacramentary, c. 500 (the oldest official prayer book of the Western Church)*

## *Services within the Parish*

**NOTE. LOCKDOWN STARTED 5/11/20, SO PLANNED SERVICES AFTER THAT DATE MAY NOT TAKE PLACE. PLEASE REFER TO THE BENEFICE WEBSITE FOR CURRENT SERVICE PLANS.**

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/welcome.htm>

**Sunday services in our churches or virtually -  
November 2020**

**WEEK 1 - Sunday 1st November 2020 - Martin, Bishop of Tours, c. 397**

**8am St Peter's, Cranbourne**

Service: Holy Communion (BCP)

Minister in charge: Revd. Patrick Mukholi

**10:30am St Martin's, Chavey Down - In the Church Hall**

All Together - Holy Communion

Minister in charge: Revd. Patrick Mukholi

Notes - 10:30am Patronal Holy Communion (CW) in the Church Hall (reserved ticket entry only). Please attend the 10:30 St Martin's Patronal service from home by attending the 10:30am Live Zoom service using the following link -

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/livestreamsundaysservices.htm>

### **10am St Mary's, Winkfield**

Notes: No 10am Service in St Mary's church today. Please attend the 10:30 St Martin's Patronal service from home by attending the 10:30am Live Zoom service using the following link -

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/livestreamsundaysservices.htm>

### **11am St Peter's, Cranbourne**

Notes: No 10am Service in St Mary's church today. Please attend the 10:30 St Martin's Patronal service from home by attending the 10:30am Live Zoom service using the following link -

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/livestreamsundaysservices.htm>

## **WEEK 2 - Sunday 8th November 2020 - Remembrance Sunday**

### **8am St Mary's, Winkfield Holy Communion (BCP)**

Minister in charge: Revd. Patrick Mukholi

### **9:30am St Martin's, Chavey Down**

No 9:30am service at St Martin's today. You are most welcome to attend the 10:55am Family Remembrance service in St Peter's or the 10:55am Civic Remembrance service in St Mary's church or worship from home via the live Zoom service also at 10:55am. Please use the following link -

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/livestreamsundaysservices.htm>

### **10:55am St Mary's, Winkfield Civic Remembrance**

Minister in charge: John Kimbell

Notes: 10:55am Civic Remembrance service in St Mary's church or worship from home via the live Zoom service also at 10:55am. Please

use the following link -

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/livestreamsundayervices.htm>

### **10:55am St Peter's, Cranbourne & St Martin's**

You are most welcome to attend the 10:55am Family Remembrance service in St Peter's or the 10:55am Civic Remembrance service in St Mary's church or worship from home via the live Zoom service also at 10:55am. Please use the following link -

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/livestreamsundayervices.htm>

### **WEEK 3 - Sunday 15th November 2020 - The Second Sunday Before Advent**

#### **8am St Peter's, Cranbourne Holy Communion (BCP)**

Minister in charge: Revd. Patrick Mukholi

#### **9:30am St Martin's, Chavey Down**

No 9:30 service in church today - please visit the 9:30am Family Praise or the 11am Holy Communion (BCP) service in St Mary's church or you are welcome to worship from home by virtually attending the 11am Live Zoom Morning Prayer service - St Martin's & St Peter's style using the following link -

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/livestreamsundayervices.htm>

#### **9:30am St Mary's, Winkfield Family Praise**

Notes: 9:30am Family Praise Service in St Mary's church. Led by Patrick Mukholi.

#### **11am St Mary's, Winkfield Holy Communion (BCP)**

Minister in charge: Revd. Patrick Mukholi

#### **11am St Peter's, Cranbourne**

Notes: No service in church today - please visit the 9:30am Family Praise or the 11am Holy Communion (BCP) service in St Mary's church or you are welcome to worship from home by virtually attending the 11am Live Zoom Morning Prayer service - St Martin's & St Peter's style using

the following link

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/livestreamsundayserives.htm>

**WEEK 4 - Sunday 22nd November 2020 -  
CHRIST THE KING / The Sunday Next Before Advent**

**8am St Mary's, Winkfield**

**Holy Communion (BCP)**

Minister in charge: Revd. Patrick Mukholi

**9:30am St Martin's, Chavey Down**

Note. No service in church today - please visit the 9:30am Crafty Church service in St Mary's church or the 11am Morning Prayer service also in St Mary's church or you are welcome to worship from home by virtually attending the 11am Live Zoom Holy Communion (CW) service - St Martin's style using the following link -

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/livestreamsundayserives.htm>

**9:30am St Mary's, Winkfield**

**Crafty Church**

Note. Crafty Church team - Service in St Mary's church including 'Activity in the Pew'.

**11am St Mary's, Winkfield**

**Morning Prayer**

Minister in charge: John Kimbell

**11am St Peter's, Cranbourne**

Note. No service in church today - please visit the 9:30am Crafty Church service in St Mary's church or the 11am Morning Prayer service also in St Mary's church or you are welcome to worship from home by virtually attending the 11am Live Zoom Holy Communion (CW) service - St Martin's style using the following link - [click here](#)

**WEEK 5 - Sunday 22nd November 2020 The First  
Sunday of Advent**

**8am St Peter's**

**Holy Communion (BCP)**

Minister in charge: Revd. Patrick Mukholi

### **9:30am St Martin's**

No service in church today - please visit the 9:30am Family Praise service in St Mary's church or the 11am Advent Carols service also in St Mary's church or you are welcome to worship from home by virtually attending the 11am Live Zoom Holy Communion (CW) service - St Peter's style using the following link:

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/livestreamsundaysservices.htm>

### **9:30am St Mary's**

#### **Family Praise**

Minister in charge: Church warden

### **11am St Mary's**

#### **Advent Carols**

Minister in charge: John Kimbell

### **11am St Peter's**

No service in church today - please visit the 9:30am Family Praise service in St Mary's church or the 11am Advent Carols service also in St Mary's church or you are welcome to worship from home by virtually attending the 11am Live Zoom Holy Communion (CW) service - St Peter's style using the following link - click here

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/livestreamsundaysservices.htm>

### **Please join us in a service of Daily Prayer -**

<https://www.winkfieldandcranbourne.org.uk/joinusinaserviceofdailyprayer.htm>

## *Flower Rota for St Mary's*

6th Nov Jane Hodgson and Anna Clayton

13th and 20th Nov Esther Bond and Doreen Potter

27th Nov Penny Cardwell and Nyla Heighes

## *Small crocus and dwarf iris bulb bowls*

Andrea Stephens and Penny Stringer have some small crocus and dwarf iris bulb bowls for sale. If raised indoors they could flower for Christmas. There are also some unusual tulip bulbs in pots for sale that will flower

in the spring. £3-£5. All goes to the church.

Please contact either Penny ([pstringer51@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pstringer51@hotmail.co.uk)) or Andrea ([Wychwoodstephens@gmail.com](mailto:Wychwoodstephens@gmail.com))

## Local reports

### **Bell-ringers Report for October 2020**

Greetings from the bell ringers - we hope you are all managing in these difficult times.

The tower bells continue to ring for just 15 minutes before the Sunday service –with just 3 or 4 bells in line with the current regulations – so the bells are silent on Monday evenings – how we miss our bell ringing!!

Four of us did ring to commemorate VJ day on Saturday 15th August, along with many other church's in the country; then the same four people rang the same ropes on Sunday.

We all enjoyed our annual BBQ, though not in the usual way!! It was moved to a lunchtime garden party in the hope of better weather, and it was mostly dry and warm – just a brief spell with us all scuttling under trees and umbrellas – it wouldn't be England without rain at an event!!! We remained socially distanced throughout, with our own picnic and drinks and the BBQ was a triumph – thanks to Debby and Chris for hosting.

The hand bells continue to practice, carefully distanced of course. We had to purchase some new music stands so that we all had our own music and can ring spaced out – no more tables at the moment, which does present problems when we need to ring more than two bells each!!!

We did ring the hand bells for an hour when the church was open for Heritage Day but were unable to open the tower for any visitors.

This was followed by Bell Sunday and again we were not allowed to take people up the tower – usually such fun!!

Tony gave a very interesting talk on the history of bells and how they have been used throughout history and we introduced the youngsters to bell-plates. These are lighter and easier to manage than bells and

make a lovely sound – I hope to do something with the children and these in the future!!

The hand bells rang 'Belfry Praise' which we all love and had practiced really hard as it is such a tricky piece.

Our annual ringing outing also had to be adjusted to comply with the Covid-19 regulations.

We went to Weymouth to meet up with Jane who had moved there this year – she has rung in the tower for many years and is a big loss! We could not visit towers to ring so met up in a car park and walked along the cliff top in beautiful sunshine but a fierce wind – very exhilarating and with wonderful views, before heading to the local pub for lunch.

Lastly we went to see Jane's lovely new house and enjoyed tea and delicious cakes – all socially distanced, of course.

Take care and keep well,

Jill Glennerster 01344-884071

### **St Mary's Choir**

St Mary's opened for public worship at the beginning of August but unfortunately without either choir or congregational singing. However, singing with a small group in the choir stalls is now allowed and we have welcomed several visiting choral singers who have very kindly joined with us for several services. We do hope this is able to continue.

Our organists Jonathan Holl, Anthony Hodson, George Nicholls, William Taylor and Harvey Linn have all supported us during these past three months and we are indebted to them all.

### **St Mary's Women's Guild**

The Guild has continued to meet although all speakers and outings have been postponed until next year. The church was once again beautifully dressed for Harvest and a video of the flowers was posted on the website. The September Fayre, originally changed to November, is now to take place on March 27 in Carnation Hall. All outside stall holders have been advised and most of them have agreed to support us. Please make a note of the date.

## **Friends of St Mary's Winkfield (FOSMW)**

The next project is still an improved Sound System and enhanced Electrical System. Several Sound System companies have visited the church and examined the Sound System. The suggested way forward for the improved Sound System is to purchase additional and bigger speakers. These will be positioned carefully around the church. Once the quotations are received and accepted the work will commence. As soon as that is achieved the work for an improved electrical system will commence.

Unfortunately there will be no Music and Merriment concert this year.

## **Crafty Church and Family Praise**

It was obvious to several of us that, once Lock Down ended in July, Messy church could not continue in the way we were used to. There would have been too much movement and no social distancing. Two members of the Messy Church Team came up with the idea of 'Activity in the Pew'. The idea is that a family works on the activity together and in the pew!! There have been three of these new services now called Crafty Church and they have been very well received. Many thanks to Anna and Jane.

Family Praise continues on the third Sunday of the month and is well supported. For all of the 0930 services and Family Matins at 10.00 young members of the congregation play the piano or another instrument during the hymn slots and the youngsters always take the readings.

## *We Will Remember – 80 years on*

*Canon Paul Hardingham considers how we cope with an uncertain future.*

This year we've been remembering the Battle of Britain, described by Winston Churchill in August 1940 as '*one of the decisive battles of the war... never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few.*' It was a dramatic turning point in the history of the Second World War. The occasions for Remembrance this month will provide us times of gratitude for what was achieved in the darkest moments of war.

However, this year we are very aware of our own struggles with the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic. We face an unseen enemy, but the effects on our lives and society are almost as devastating as world war.

Remembering is not just about focusing on past events. It is also about making present past events, as we give thanks for all that took place. The Battle of Britain was fought by the Few and won in the skies over the Channel. In our battle with the virus, we can call to mind the victory of Jesus: *'Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David.'* (2 Timothy 2:8). Jesus secured the victory of death by His cross and resurrection, so that we don't need to fear death, but trust in His loving purposes for our lives.

Currently we can't see clearly what the future holds for us; it may be very different from what we might expect. However, we can pray for God's will to be done and that we will play our part, just as each of those airmen did so many years ago.

*'They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.'*

## St James the Least of All

### **On the ferocity of the church's Bridge drive**

The Rectory

St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

Your suggestion that we should hold a sponsored hymn-singing bicycle ride through the village as a way of raising money was well-meant, but I am not wholly convinced it would suit our clientele here at St James the Least of All.

You may have musical bike rides, but we have Bridge drives, although socially distanced at the moment, of course. But even at two metres apart, our Bridge games are generally as amiable and peaceful as bear baiting. Half of those attending will see the afternoon as an opportunity to catch up on local gossip and to exchange knitting patterns, the game of cards being a minor hindrance to these other activities. The other half arrive primed for a battle to the death, reluctantly conceding that eye-

gouging is not allowed. They will demand total silence – which is wholly ignored by those at the tables discovering what Mrs Trumpington confided to Lady Driver halfway through ‘Onward Christian Soldiers’ at last Sunday’s Mattins. The congregation is eternally grateful to Mrs Mitchell, who as a former mill worker is able to lip read.

Refreshments have been hit hard by Covid-19 of course, and the fact that everyone has to bring their own sandwich and drink has rather spoiled the fun. Usually half our players regard lunchtime as an opportunity to put jam on the cards, spill tea on the score cards and make sure that the other tables get the egg and cress sandwiches while they corner the boiled ham; the others usually see it as an unwelcome interruption to the serious business of slaughtering their opponents. It is so sad that Covid-19 has halted this merry comradery.

As for drawing the raffle, it is the adult equivalent of ringing the school bell at going-home time. Half the players will immediately dash off to relay newly mined seams of gossip throughout the village, leaving the others holding reproachful post-mortems with their partners over their bidding mistakes.

Reproaches are never too violent, however, since the chances are that they will all be meeting again the following afternoon round a socially distanced card table at another location, for yet another re-enactment of the slaughter at Agincourt. The only difference will be that the French and English were not entertained with tea and sandwiches at half time.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

# Children's Corner

The tale of  
the  
Tower  
Builder



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ON ONE OCCASION JESUS EXPLAINED HOW IT WOULDN'T ALWAYS BE EASY TO FOLLOW HIM.



JESUS BEGAN, IF ONE OF YOU PLANS TO BUILD A TOWER....

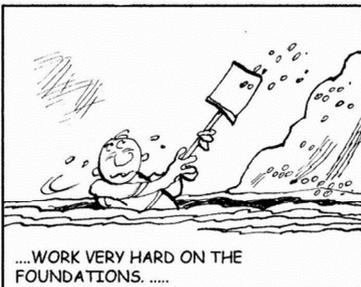
...YOU'LL FIRST NEED TO WORK HOW MUCH IT WILL COST.



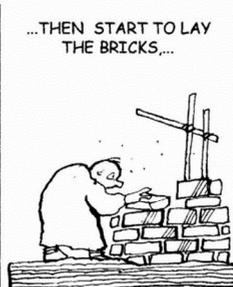
IF YOU DON'T DO THE SUMS....



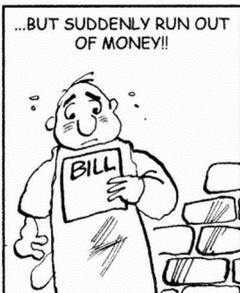
...YOU MIGHT MAKE A START, ....



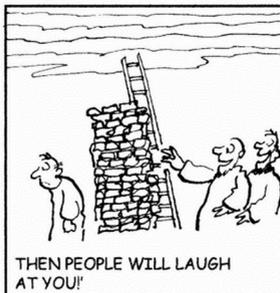
....WORK VERY HARD ON THE FOUNDATIONS. ....



...THEN START TO LAY THE BRICKS,....



...BUT SUDDENLY RUN OUT OF MONEY!!



THEN PEOPLE WILL LAUGH AT YOU!



WE NEED TO REALISE THAT ALTHOUGH FOLLOWING JESUS IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO, IT'S ALSO A GREAT CHALLENGE.