

# NewsLink

26 April – 2 May 2020



Churches of North  
Bradford on Avon  
& Villages

Dear friends



***The Supper at Emmaus, by Caravaggio***

Our online service for this Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> April included the Gospel reading of the disciples' walk to Emmaus. The link for the service is [here](#) .

This Eastertide, we could describe ourselves as walking a road to Emmaus. The world around us is unsettled and fearful; we have questions we can't answer; and every time we listen to the news we hear about the latest numbers of people who have died.

Yet we also hear of stories that are so life-affirming; stories of heroism, sacrifice and care for others. The news that Captain Tom Moore has raised over £28 million for the NHS has captured the imagination of the nation and is heart-warming. He has raised this enormous sum of money by walking 100 laps of his garden before his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday next week.

We have had to cancel our plans to remember VE Day but I understand that there will be a new documentary produced for VE Day with Captain Moore telling the story of his part in the Second World War; his memories of the conflict in Burma.

## **Staying connected in prayer as we break bread at home....**

The following prayer is the one I referred to in this Sunday's service.

Breaking bread when we share in Holy Communion is always a very special, precious moment; however, we are unable to gather together at the moment. One way we can remain connected to each other, and to the heart of Christ where there is no separation, is to pray a prayer that connects us. I discovered this prayer recently that deeply moved me. Why not pray it at home, every time you break bread and through it know you are connected to us all and to Christ.

We break this bread for those who love God and seek after truth.

For those who follow the path of the Buddha and worship the God of the Hindus; for our sisters and brothers in Islam, and for the Jewish people from whom we come. We pray that one day we may be as one.

We break this bread for the great green earth; for the great seas, mountains plains, and deserts and for the creatures that inhabit them. For the forest, field and flowers which we are destroying, that one day with the original blessing, God's creation will be restored.

We break this bread for those who have no bread; the starving the homeless and the refugees, that one day this planet may be a home for everyone.

We break this bread for the broken parts of ourselves, the wounded child in all of us, for our broken relationships, that one day we may glimpse the wholeness that is of Christ.

Though we are many we are one body because we all share in one bread.

*Written by Donald Reeves former Rector of St James, Piccadilly*

## Local charities

### The Hub and the Food Bank

I have received a letter from the Hub thanking us for our generous contributions to the local food bank. Our contributions of food and monetary donations are gratefully received and go towards helping those families in our communities who are struggling at the moment.

### The Winsley Village Project

The Winsley Village Project has had to cancel events on their fundraising programme but have been in contact with their two charities - *Jamie's Farm* and *Just a Drop*. It is a particularly tough time for them and so the Project's Chairman, James Colquhoun, is taking the 'pop up' opportunity to engage in the 2.6 Challenge:

### **The 2.6 Challenge**

To mark what would have been the London Marathon's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Sunday linked to a massive fundraising moment, charities have come together and created the 2.6 Challenge as an alternative opportunity for the public to get involved.

### **Sponsoring the Project**

The WVP is £500 short for the hand dug well project in Nicaragua. Can you sponsor James as at 11.00am today, 26 April, he walks up and down the public footpath adjacent to his house - 26 times and carrying 26 pints of water? It means that he will walk a total of 2.6 miles – not uncommon for those in the world searching out water - and hopefully raise some funds for the Nicaragua project. Social distancing and all current restrictions will of course apply.

## **Invitation to Sponsor**

The fundraising page can be found on Just Giving by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/james-s-2-6-challenge506>

For further details of the charities supported by the WVP, see the letter from James on the Benefice website.

### **Finally.....**

The Church Times is producing each week ***Lift up your hearts*** which includes reflections on Bible passages, book reviews, prayers and articles. They are producing them for us to download and to share with you so do please look for them on our website. They're well worth reading.

Let's use this time at home as an opportunity to rediscover who we are called to be and learn afresh something of God's ways with the world.

Stay safe and stay well. Please keep in touch. God Bless you.

*With my love and prayers*  
*Ann*

## Benefice on-line services and resources

*The link to this Sunday's online service, the Second Sunday of Easter, is available here – it will take you to the Youtube channel.*

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=Q8SCFXfhd2w>

*It will also be available on the Benefice website [www.nboachurches.co.uk](http://www.nboachurches.co.uk).*

*Each week we will also publish your photos, Bible verses that have spoken to you, reflections and poems in Newslink or on the website, please continue to send these to Ann Keating.*



*Spring comes to St James' churchyard. Sent in by Jean Atkin*



## Funerals

**Dorothy Youell**, a former resident of Avon Park and a member of St Nicholas Church, Winsley died on Easter Sunday. Her funeral will be held at Haycombe Crematorium on Tuesday 28 April at 14.30. A memorial service will be held for Dorothy in church when possible. Ann will take the funeral.

**Jean Branch** only moved to the area a month ago to be close to her family and lived at Fitzmaurice Place. Her funeral service will be held at Bradford on Avon Cemetery on Wednesday 29th April 2020 at 12-00 noon. Ann will take the funeral.

**John Hancock**, a former resident of Dane Rise, Winsley and the burial of ashes of his mother Wenda Hancock. His funeral service will be held in St Nicholas Churchyard on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May at 12.00 noon. Ann will take the funeral.

**David Gerrish**, a resident of Monkton Farleigh died on Easter Sunday and his funeral service will be held at Haycombe Crematorium on Thursday 7th May at 10.45 am.

With so many restrictions surrounding funerals at this time, this is an extremely painful time for families making arrangements. Please hold these bereaved families in your prayers at this difficult time. Thank you. Ann



*Views from daily walks sent by Vicky Button  
Wild Garlic near Conkwell (above)*

*The Canal near between Dundas and Avoncliffe*



## **The Bible in One Year App** – a recommendation from Denise Button

If like me you have often intended to try to read the Bible from cover to cover, (ideally in one year), but never quite managed it, then maybe the Lockdown will provide you with the opportunity to start again.

To help you on your way I would recommend the 'Bible in one Year' App.

It is free to download from <https://www.bibleinoneyear.org/> or from app stores. You can use it on your computer or your phone.

Each day there is a reading from the Psalms or Proverbs, an Old Testament reading and one from the New Testament. Although the daily readings for the Year started on Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, you can start at any time.

Each reading is followed by a commentary by Nicky Gumbel, Vicar of Holy Trinity Brompton and pioneer of the Alpha course.

Better still, there is a free audio version of the Bible readings and commentary with readings delivered by the actor David Suchet.

This makes it perfect to listen to the Bible in one Year and enables us to walk with God in new ways as we undertake our daily exercise! As someone who doesn't naturally sit still and read I have really appreciated the audio version.

I have to confess I still haven't managed to read or listen everyday but do catch up listening whilst walking, or sitting in the garden. I have found it fascinating to hear some of the Old Testament readings that we don't always focus on, and to compare the Gospel accounts of Jesus' life in a way that I haven't done when only reading small extracts.

Nicky Gumbel and his wife Pippa add excellent commentaries which help bring the scripture alive in a very relevant way.

This is an excellent free resource that I would thoroughly recommend.

## **Nature related activities for Young Children**

In the last generation we've seen forces such as commercialism, academic pressure, and a "too hurried" lifestyle crowd out the space and time it takes to cultivate a sense of wonder in the natural world. Suddenly this has all completely changed. Perhaps parents and children spending more unscheduled time together at home will have time to watch, wonder, and appreciate the small, everyday spring miracles happening right outside the door.



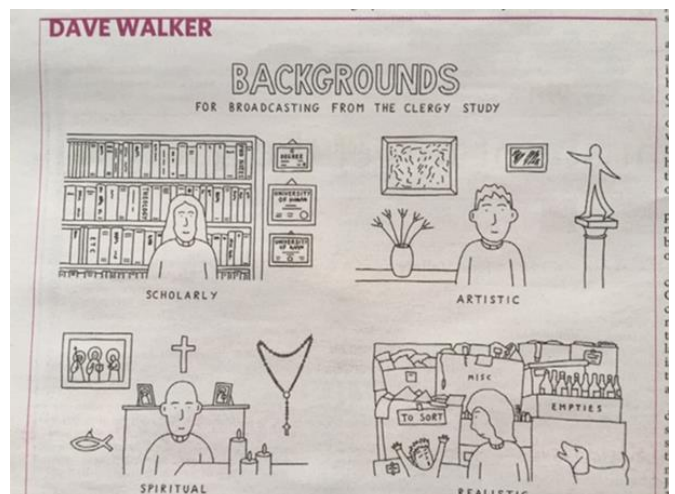
There are many nature-related activities you can do with young children that require little more than stepping outside. Dr. Ruth Wilson offers some suggestions to get you started. [Read here.](#) Wishing you courage for the challenges you are facing,

*Caitlin*

## **community playthings**

Community Products (UK) Limited  
Darvell, Brightling Road, Robertsbridge  
TN32 5DR  
Phone 0800 387 457 Fax 0800 387 531  
[www.communityplaythings.co.uk](http://www.communityplaythings.co.uk)

Cartoon from  
Church Times



## Stop Press! Something to brighten up your day.....

Some of you may know Henry Barrington, he is our young Crucifer at St Nicholas church. Henry lives in Bradford on Avon and during the lockdown he has decided to produce his own newspaper, detailing what he and the family have been up to.



His mother agreed that we could share this with the wider church and so you can read the full version on the benefice website. For safeguarding we have removed images of the children, but hopefully you can still appreciate the excellent work that Henry has done in producing such a fine document.

It looks like he and the family are making the best of these restricted times. We look forward to reading the next instalment.... Well done Henry!!

### Ministry Team

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### Children's and Families Worker

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Do check the **website** as resources are added regularly and check Instagram and Facebook for all our latest news.