



**Parish of Wiverton in the Vale:
One flock, One Shepherd, Six Pastures
Notices 5th April 2020**

PALM SUNDAY

Message from the Rectory

This afternoon as I was thinking about what to write to you today the following verse came to mind from John 16:33

³³'I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.'

Jesus had shared one last meal with his disciples, one last time.

He sits as their rabbi and teacher, once more teaching them, but this time it is the last time.

Soon he will pray for them, one last time.

And then, they will leave together to cross the Kidron Valley to go to the garden to pray... and to wait for the betrayer and the soldiers to come to Gethsemane.

It is in this context that Jesus tells his friends, *'In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.'*

It strikes me that here is confidence. Jesus, yet to face the agony of the garden and the horror of the cross, knows that even at this point he has overcome the world. As we remain united in Jesus, we can have an inner peace and a quiet joy that can bring us strength and courage even at these strange and troubling times; confident in our knowing that Jesus has overcome. Jesus has won the victory over sin and death.

As we move through one of the strangest seasons of Lent some of us have known let's continue to take the opportunity to connect in all the ways available to us.

There will be opportunities to meet online throughout Holy Week when there will be short services posted on our web site at the following times:

Palm Sunday 5th April 10.30am

The Reading will be Matthew 21:1-11

Maundy Thursday 9th April 7pm

The Reading will be John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday 10th April 2.45pm *(Please have paper and pen ready)*

The Reading will be John 18 verse 1 to the end of chapter 19

Easter Sunday 10.30am

The Reading will be John 20:1-18

With love,
Rev'd Rachel

Also visit The Diocesan Website if you wish to join in with 'Holy Week at home' with services and reflections each day of Holy Week 5th – 12th April. Available at southwell.anglican.org.

You will be pleased to know the services include a 5.30 am Christ is Risen! Proclaiming Easter, live from Vicars' Court at Southwell Minster. You can also email Bishop Paul with prayer requests at bishop@southwellanglican.org



Our church buildings are now closed until further notice.

The Archbishops have written to clergy requiring that our church buildings are now closed for public worship, private prayer and all other meetings and activities except for vital community services until further notice.

Further information is available on the following link:

www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-parishes

Non-delivery of the Wiverton News

“Some studies suggest that Coronavirus COVID-19 can live on paper and cardboard surfaces for up to 24 hours, and so any paper delivery represents a transmission risk. Local hand-deliveries also mean a volunteer will touch gates and post-boxes and may come into close proximity with those who may be shielding.”

Church of England Coronavirus (COVID-19) guidance for churches

For these reasons the [Wiverton News](#) and [Weekly Notice sheets](#) will not be delivered door to door, however they continue to be available on the parish website, www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk

Farewell service postponed

Although Bishop Tony’s farewell service was postponed, there is a video of Bishop Tony and Lucille talking to Bishop Paul at 3.30pm on Sunday. You can view it on our website at www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/interview or, go directly to the diocesan YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/user/diocesefsofsouthwell

Songs of Praise Sunday 5th April at 1.15pm on BBC1. Sean Fletcher visits Glasgow Cathedral to discuss Holy Week and hears how this historic building plays a prominent role in the Christian life of the city, together with hymns and songs.

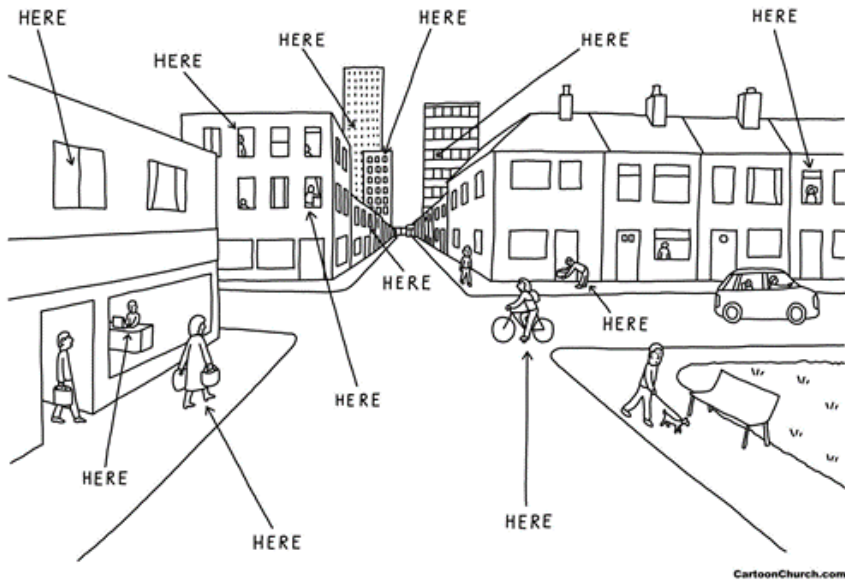
Bishop Paul daily video - A new video will be posted at 9.30am each day up to, and including, Easter Sunday. You can view them on the [diocesan YouTube account](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). You can also email Bishop Paul with prayer requests at bishop@southwellanglican.org

Prayer course - “Unanswered Prayer”

In [session 5](#) the challenges and realities when our prayers aren’t answered is tackled.

You can still follow this at home. The resource "How to Pray" by Pete Greig - can be [bought in hard copy](#) or [the course may be downloaded](#) from www.prayercourse.org.

WHERE THE CHURCH IS



From Julie Coles

For Robin & I, the reading and your talk, transported us back to Bethany 2008 - the Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Jordan. with our then Archdeacon, Peter (& Ellen) Hill. I pictured again the day we stood outside the house of Lazarus and went down into a nearby stone tomb. It was immaterial whether or not it was the actual tomb because it would have been just like it. Prior to that visit, I had no idea what such tombs were like and no conception of the streets or layout of the little town of Bethany nor the other Biblical places we visited. For me, that Pilgrimage was an enormous privilege. Yes, there had been changes and developments since the time of Jesus and the modern sat alongside the ancient - but here and there each of us KNEW we were treading where Jesus had actually walked - and that was the most wonderful feeling. Near Jerusalem, an example of such a moment was when we used the ancient and very worn steps up from Gethsemane in the valley to the house of Caiaphas. It definitely was the route Jesus was taken after his arrest, since it was and is, the only route up there.

From Josie McGuirk;

Josie's message comes a with photo of her 'prayer space'

Dear Rachel and Sid,

Thank you for the wonderful, inspirational and comforting service which brought God directly into our home at this extremely difficult time.

I set up the kitchen table (see photos) before 10:30 with the video on pause, stood an icon 'The hospitality of Abraham' next to the computer, placed a vase of flowers from the garden on the table, and lit a candle. It was special and I wanted to feel in the right 'zone' or mood for prayer.



I really felt that you were talking directly to us, it didn't have the feel of something recorded a time ago. Well done.

From Sue Macdonald

At our last Joy! service before the coronavirus outbreak, we learnt about pipe-cleaner prayers. Each person bent their pipe-cleaners into various shapes as we asked God for forgiveness from our sins and prayed for the church, the world and other people. At the end we bent our pipe-cleaners into the shape of a person, as we prayed for ourselves and any worries we might have. Just two weeks later, we had to prepare Dominic to spend many weeks away from us in his care home. Before he left, we suggested that he take some things to remind him of home. His immediate reaction was to ask for his pipe-cleaner person. It's a comfort to know that he has a symbol of God's care for us all in these difficult times

The pub in Langar has opened up as a village shop.

Just go round the back, there is an honesty box.

Great village initiative. Pass the message on!

What would you like to read about that would lift your spirits during this challenging time?

Please send anything you would like to contribute and could be included in the next notice sheet, including messages of hope, expressions of thanks, prayers, puzzles, recipes etc to the Parish administrator on administrator@wivertoninthevale.co.uk or 07592 873751.

PRAYER MATTERS: *Please remember in your prayers this week:*

Our observance of Holy Week.

That we might find time to stop and connect with the way of the cross and the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We pray for;

Ourselves as we begin to adjust to what is to become our new 'normal'. Help us to be kind to ourselves and to take time to grieve for the loss of our freedoms and ability to be close to loved ones. Help us also to find new ways to connect with each other.

For all who are anxious, stressed and confused by events that are continuing to unfold at such an alarming rate...

All who are self-isolating.

For those with existing and chronic health conditions.

For those already feeling the weight of isolation and loneliness.

For those facing the financial impact of these times.

We continue to pray for our Government and leaders, our NHS, all who are working to ensure our shops are stocked with food each day, and all key workers.

We give thanks for;

The beautiful Spring sunshine; God's creation once more revealing his glory and faithfulness.

The thousands of volunteers who have come forward to support our NHS

The community support groups in our villages.

Our homes.

We remember;

Those we know and love who are sick at this time in body, soul and mind. And, we also remember the family and loved ones of those who have died recently.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

IN

Ana Lisa de Jong, Living Tree Poetry, March 2020

We are all in.
God has called us home,
from the fields, the hunting
grounds.
Each fishing boat moored,
each gatherer returned
with baskets stored.

We are all in.
Now there is no-one
but ourselves,
no-one but our own souls,
in which to dwell in deepest
communion.

Even in our homes,
with the sounds
of children stirring,
and another's arms enfolding,
we have not been more aware
of our inner cells -

our cloistered beings -
the place in which we hear
but an echo of the other,
and the memory of what was
fades out,
the residue of dreams.

Only the now existing,
the very air,
with currents strange, alive,
in this time of imagining.
and the drawing down
of heaven.

Yes, we are all in.
But not only to rest,
and discover new ways of
being.
But to hold the world sorrows,
as the elements
of all our possibilities.

Each of us apart,
cloistered in our quarters,
but with equal measures gifted,
and concoctions each
intrinsic
to the healing of the nations,
integral to a world restored in
Christ.

DID YOU KNOW? The Church of England receives no government funding other than some tax concessions, and our churches are dependent upon money given or raised locally to fund their ministry and upkeep, including heating, insurance and maintenance.

HOW CAN WE GIVE? Most of our worshippers and wider supporters give regularly by standing order. This is usually supplemented by offerings ('collection') in services, which is a lovely way of demonstrating commitment in response to God's loving generosity to us. Now that we are not able to host services, then if you are not already contributing by standing order, this might be the right time for you to consider this. *If you would like to find out more about this, or to change an existing order, please contact Max in confidence via treasurer@wivertoninthevale.co.uk*

Keeping in touch; staying informed

These notices are posted week by week on the Parish website:

www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk

To receive a copy of these notices by email every Saturday, please subscribe to the website notification service at

www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/subscribe

Key Contacts

Rev'd Rachel: email: rector@wivertoninthevale.co.uk
phone: 07944 992178 **N.B Rachel's day off:** Friday

Parish Administrator

Anna Hemati Kang Sofla: 07592 873751

Email: administrator@wivertoninthevale.co.uk

Anna can direct enquiries to the most appropriate person.

Safeguarding Officer / Coordinator

Gareth Parker the Safeguarding Coordinator for the Parish, and any concerns regarding a safeguarding issue should be directed to him. 07738 091338 or gareth.parker@wivertoninthevale.co.uk

Further information and contact details can be found on the parish website at www.wivertoninthevale.co.uk/whos-who