

Parish Church of
St. Edmund King & Martyr
West Kingsdown



Rector:

The Rev'd Sarah Corry, The Rectory, School Lane, West Kingsdown TN15 6JL
Tel: 01474 852265 E-mail: revsarahcorry@gmail.com

Newsletter 22nd November (7)

Our Patronal Festival



This Sunday we celebrate our Patronal Festival the nearest Sunday to St. Edmund's Day which is the 20th November. It is so sad that we are unable to meet together as a congregation to share in a service of celebration with representatives from groups and organisations from the village. Then enjoy delicious pastries and conversation in the Millennium Room. However, the service I have prepared this week is in celebration of St. Edmund. It has been recorded and will, if all goes to plan, be on the website on Sunday morning. Do take a look if you are able.

As I was preparing the service on Friday there was a ring on my doorbell and on answering it I got a lovely surprise – Rev Harriet & Simon with a gift for us all. The beautiful picture top left is of St. Edmund, such a thoughtful gift. You will see it placed on the altar during the recording of the service. We will find a good spot to hang it for all to see, a reminder not only of our patron saint but also St. Edmund's first curate.

PCC Meeting

On Tuesday we held our first PCC meeting since January. It was planned that we would meet in church all socially distanced but with a second lockdown in place that couldn't happen and so we held a virtual meeting via ZOOM instead. For some it was their first time meeting in this way and although not the same as being able to meet in person we were able to get some much needed business done. During the meeting Kim Johnstone our treasurer gave a financial report. As you can imagine it has been an extremely difficult year. At the beginning of the pandemic we drew on £8,000 from our reserves and this along with £5,988 reclaimed from gift aid, a 2019 budget surplus of £6,000 and your generosity has helped us make it through lockdown so far. **Thank you all so much.** It costs on average £3,865 a month to keep our church running and by the end of December it's estimated that we will need to pay out £14,400 in bills, so keep selling those Grand Draw tickets. I thank Kim for all her hard work during this time.

Advent

It doesn't seem possible but next Sunday is Advent Sunday. Advent the beginning of the church year and a time of preparation, preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas. This year, as with everything else, things will be different but our Advent wreath will be put up in church and the first candle lit which will give a point of reference for all those that come into church for private prayer. I am hoping that we might be able to hold a virtual Advent Course run by a guest leader – watch this space – more details next week.

Church Opening

The church will be open on a Sunday morning from 9.30-11.30am and a Wednesday afternoon from 1.30-3.30pm for private prayer. All are welcome. It will be good to see you.

Morning Prayer Readings for the week

Date	Psalms	Old Testament	New Testament
22.11.20	29, 110	Isaiah 4:2-5:7	Luke 19:29-38
23.11.20	92, 96	Isaiah 40:1-11	Revelation 14:1-13
24.11.20	97,98, 100	Isaiah 40:12-26	Revelation 14:14-15:8
25.11.20	110,111, 112	Isaiah 40:27-41:7	Revelation 16:1-11
26.11.20	125, 126, 127, 128	Isaiah 41:8-20	Revelation 16:12-21
27.11.20	139	Isaiah 41:21-42:9	Revelation ch 17
28.11.20	145	Isaiah 42:10-17	Revelation ch18

Birthdays



This week we wish **Rita Ashby** a very **Happy Birthday** for the 26th. I know you may not be able to celebrate in the way you wish **Rita** but I hope you have a lovely day whatever you do.

Christmas



We still await guidance as to what will be allowed at Christmas. Whatever that guidance may say the church will be decorated for Christmas. If things continue as they are then the church will be open for private prayer and the lighting of candles on Christmas Eve from 10am – 4pm. If we are allowed public worship there will be a 10am Eucharist Service on Christmas Day, for which you will need to book a place. More of that in the next couple of weeks.

Christmas Draw

Thank you so much for your amazingly generous donations for the hampers. We now have plenty to fill them. **Thank you too** to those of you who have already sold draw tickets. We still have plenty to sell and so if you are able to help out by buying or selling some tickets please do.

Tickets are a £1 each, come in books of 10 (individual tickets can be bought) **and are available from the Rectory or by calling Don on 07769708251**. We will deliver books of tickets to you. Stubs and money can either be returned to the Rectory or we will pick them up from you if you are not able to get out.

There are **10 prizes**. 1st prize is £50, 2nd 10 bottles of Wine, 3rd Christmas Hamper (1), 4th Chocolate Hamper, 5th Christmas Hamper (2), 6th Bottle of Champagne 7th Christmas Floral Arrangement, 8th Bottle of Southern Comfort, 9th Fat Face: Ocean Escape Gift Set, 10th Tub of Chocolates.

This (hopefully along with our **Christmas Tree festival**) is our **ONLY** fund-raising event this year so **please sell as many tickets as you can**.

Christmas Tree Festival



As long as we are out of lockdown the **Christmas Tree Festival** will run from Tuesday 8th December through to Saturday 12th December. All totally risked assessed. Help us to make it the biggest and best yet by decorating and exhibiting your own tree, this can be on your own behalf, your family or a club or group to which you belong (even if that group isn't meeting at present). Your tree must be artificial, no taller than 4 feet high and have battery operated lights. Choose your own theme for decoration.

Please contact Geraldine Mullen on 01474 852201 to let her know you are preparing and exhibiting a tree.

Go on why not give it a go.

If we are able to go ahead the church will be open on **Tuesday 8th 2-6pm, Wednesday 9th 10am-1pm, Thursday 10th & Friday 11th 2-6pm and Saturday 12th 10am-4pm**. Just turn up, no booking required. Depending on numbers you may have to wait a few minutes to go it to view. There will be spiced fruit juice, Mulled wine and mince pies to keep you warm. Visiting is free but we are hoping that people will feel able to make a generous donation towards the work of the church.