

Parish Church of  
**St. Edmund King & Martyr**  
West Kingsdown



**Rector:**

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**Newsletter 21st March 2021 (22)**

Dear Friends

**National Day of Reflection**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> March it will be one year since the first UK lockdown. I don't think any of us thought then that we would still be under lockdown conditions a year on. However, here we are, older, wiser and changed people. During that time millions of people have been bereaved both as a result of Covid-19 and other causes. As a church family we have lost a number of faithful members and we remember Margaret Lane, Derek Kirby, Valerie Wesley, Angie Barnes, Brian Jones as well as others connected to us David Murphy and Victor Johnson. The restrictions that we have been living under have meant that many people have had to grieve without the comfort of having friends and family around them and we have indeed not been able to say farewell to our friends as we would have liked.



Marie Curie, a charity which supports people around the event of a terminal diagnosis, has organised a National Day of Reflection to acknowledge grief and loss over the last year. The Church of England is one of several organisations supporting it. **There will be a minute's silence at 12noon** to create a moment that shows support for the millions of

people who have been bereaved. I have included a prayer postcard in this weeks mailing for you to use at home. You might also like to tie a yellow ribbon to an outside tree or railing in your garden as a sign of prayer and support for all who are bereaved. You may also like to take a moment at **8pm to 'share the light' by placing a lighted candle or lantern in your window.**

**Re-opening for worship**

Next Sunday is **Palm Sunday the beginning of Holy Week** and the church will be re-opened for worship. I am greatly looking forward to being able to share worship in person once again. You must book your place by phoning Angela Beale on 01474852513. Sadly, places are limited to 24 and we must keep to the strict Covid guidance of wearing a face covering, sanitising hands and keeping a social distance. The church will be open from 9.45am for a 10am service. Please could I also ask that you don't linger inside the building at the end of worship. Palm crosses

will be distributed during the service, delivered out with the mailing, and left on a table outside church for anybody to come and collect.

### **Holy Week**

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March** the church will be open between 2 and 4pm for Private prayer.

**Maundy Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April** the Chrism Eucharist at which all deacons, priests and bishops renew their ordination vows, and the oils are blessed for the coming year will take place at 11am at Rochester Cathedral with very limited numbers physically present. The service will be livestreamed through both Cathedral and Diocesan Facebook pages. Please do link into the service if you can.

[www.facebook.com/CofERochester](http://www.facebook.com/CofERochester)  
[www.facebook.com/rochester cathedral](http://www.facebook.com/rochester cathedral)  
[www.rochester cathedral.org/worship-online](http://www.rochester cathedral.org/worship-online)

The Mass of the Last Supper will take place at 7pm in church. This year, sadly, there will be no foot washing, no Altar of Repose, Watch or Compline. It will, however, be wonderful to be in church as last year the building was completely closed for the whole of Holy Week and Easter.

**Good Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April** a service of Meditation will take place at 10am

**Easter Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April** Eucharist at 10am

You must book your place at any of the services taking place in our church and remember to keep to all Covid-19 guidance rules.

### **Worship in the coming weeks**

This week I have once again, with the help of Mike Wesley recorded a short service of the word for you. It will go live on the website [www.st-edmund.co.uk](http://www.st-edmund.co.uk) at 6am on Sunday morning. The recorded service follows exactly the printed order of service that is sent out with this letter and can also be downloaded from our website. If you are unable to access the recording do take time to pray the service through for yourself. A service will no longer be recorded once we are back in church for worship but the order of service for the week will still be mailed out and put onto the website.

If you are without internet remember that you can watch **Songs of Praise on BBC1 at 1.15pm each Sunday. On Sunday Morning on BBC 1 at 11am, for the 6 weeks of Lent, there is Lent Worship hosted by Rev'd Kate Botley.**

### **Weekly mailing**

From next week I will continue to email out information. It will delivered out to any on the delivery list after morning worship.

## Morning Prayer Readings

Date	Psalms	Old Testament	New Testament
21.03.21	107:1-22	Exodus 24:3-8	Hebrews 12:18-end
22.03.21	73, 121	Jeremiah 21:1-10	John 11:28-44
23.03.21	35, 123	Jeremiah 22:1-5, 13-19	John 11:45-end
24.03.21	55, 124	Jeremiah 22:20-23:8	John 12:1-11
25.03.21	111, 113	1 Samuel 2:1-10	Romans 5:12-end
26.03.21	22, 126	Jeremiah ch 24	John 12:20-36a
27.03.21	23, 127	Jeremiah 25:1-14	John 12:36b-end

## Easter Flowers

A message from Pauline Jenner -

We plan to decorate the church with Easter flowers.

If you would like to give a small donation in honour, memory or celebration of loved ones, please give name(s) and donation to Tricia on 01474 852664 or Pauline on 01474 852536/ [paulinejenner28@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:paulinejenner28@yahoo.co.uk) **Before 28<sup>th</sup> March please**

## Easter 'Draw'

Once again your generosity is truly amazing – thank you so much for all the donations we have received for the Easter Draw.

**Tickets are £1 each** and can be purchased individually or in books of 10. **Please contact Don (07769708251)** if you would like some. They can either be picked up from the rectory or delivered to you. The draw will take place on Easter Sunday.

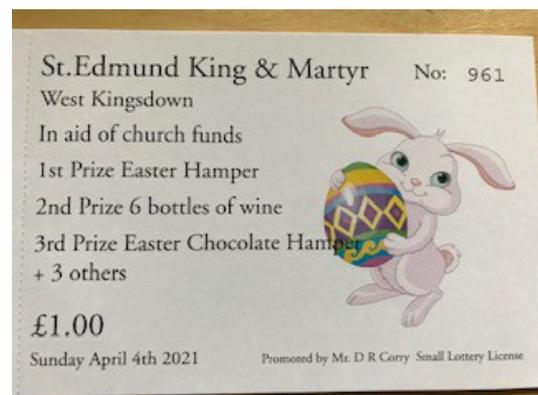
## APCM

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place at 12noon on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2021 in church and via ZOOM. More information will follow in the coming weeks but please do put the date in your diary. In preparation for the meeting a **revision of the church electoral roll** has to take place. Notice has gone up on the church boards giving all the information you need. If you have any questions please contact the electoral roll officer Pauline Jenner. **You only have to apply to have your name added if you are not already on the roll.**

## Jean Hawes (R.I.P.)

Jean's funeral will take place at Eltham Crematorium on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 3.15pm. The funeral cortege will leave from her home on Clearways. When I have more details on timing I will let you know.

## Birthdays



We have no birthdays to celebrate this week except to say that on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2001 our Millennium Room was dedicated it therefore has an official 20<sup>th</sup> birthday this coming week!

**Two new projects instigated by Geraldine Mullen** Thank you Geraldine

**St Edmund's Church Calls All Knitters  
The West Kingsdown Corona Quilt**

Please contribute a square to our West Kingsdown Corona Quilt. If you would like to be part of this massive project, please knit a 5inch x 5inch square and decorate it to show a significant event/emotion/memory from the last year for yourself, your household or the country at large. The decoration could be knitted into the square or extra pieces knitted and sewn on or embroidered on with more wool. Please embroider your name on the back. Please bring your squares to St Edmund's church when we open again. Eventually we will meet in the Millennium Room to sew them all together prior to an exhibition.

Feel free to do more than one square if you have the inspiration but do not feel obliged to do so. We will be happy with quality over quantity.

Thank you for your help with what promises to be our most amazing project since the poppy extravaganza of 2018.

PS Please do not dispose of last year's knitted hedgehogs and rabbits. Their time will come.

**A question from St Edmund's: Have you taken pictures during the last year?**

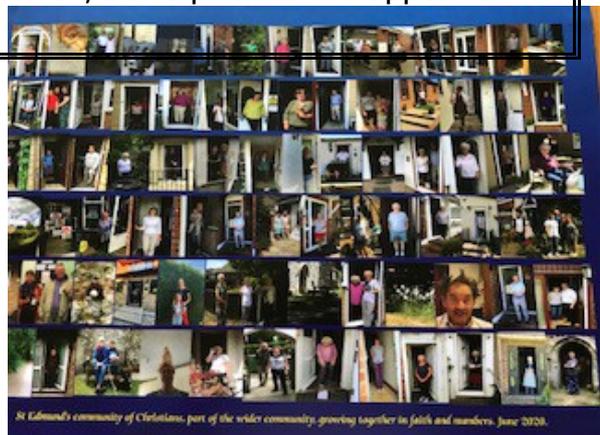
**West Kingsdown - Lockdown in Pictures**

Do you have a picture that really represents the struggles we have all been through?

Or maybe the successes or laughter or pain? If you are willing to share your masterpiece, please e mail it to [revsarahcorry@gmail.com](mailto:revsarahcorry@gmail.com) with the subject as "Lockdown in Pictures". Please include your name and a caption for your picture if it needs one. When we are allowed, you will be invited to an exhibition of all our moments and emotions. Periodically, before then, some pictures will appear on the Millennium Room windows.

**Another photographic Project**

Do you remember this photographic montage, created by Jon Battershill during the first lockdown? He took pictures of us all on our doorsteps. As we begin to ease out of this lockdown, hopefully not to return once more, he has another project in mind. You may see him out and about, camera in hand once more.



The end result will be a few months away. Good luck Jon and thank you. Have  
a good week.

**Every Blessing Rev'd Sarah**