

# 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



## Dear Friends

I hope you like this photograph of our lovely 'church in the woods'. It was taken recently by Jon Battershill whilst on one of his daily exercise walks. I am drawn to it because initially what I see is the world, the greens and blues of the earth and the sea, Gods creation, and then I see our church, our spiritual home right at the heart of the picture. I then imagine God holding his world in his hands and as he holds the world he holds all of us and I am reminded of the words to the song, 'He's got the whole world in His hands'. Remember that at this time of great uncertainty, we are not alone, God is carrying us through.

## Candles and Rainbows

Both candles and rainbows are for Christians signs of **hope** and my goodness we need that in our lives at this time. After the flood God sent the promise of a rainbow, a promise of His **love** to the world. How wonderful that this has become the sign of thanks for the NHS and **hope** for those who



have contracted COVID19. If you are able to go out on a daily walk you won't have to go far before you see beautifully drawn rainbows shining out from the windows of homes, out into the world. Last week I also sent a message to all those who attend our Toddler Church asking if they could send in pictures of rainbows that I could put up on our Millennium Room door. I've only had a couple back but I hope that I might receive some more over the coming days. Perhaps some of our younger people from church and the community might like to send some through to me that can also be put up. Another sign of **hope** and **light** in the world is that of the candle, as shown here in the photograph of our 2020 Paschal Candle. Back at the very beginning of lockdown the national Church asked that on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 7pm we all place a lighted candle in our window as a sign of the **light** and **hope** of Christ. Since then I have left my candle in the window and have lit it each evening. I now light it at 8pm because the



evenings are much lighter. In these times we need to know of that **hope** and **light** and that Christ is always with us.

### **Togetherness**

That feeling of togetherness continues to permeate through our village and this week I send many congratulations to the **Community Cupboard** on receiving **the Community Hero of the Week Award** for their unstinting work at providing food for the many people that find themselves in very difficult financial situations brought about because of the lockdown. They have asked me to say a massive thank you to all those that continue to support it both with food and monetary donations.

This week Rev Harriet and I have also taken part in ZOOM meetings with our children from Sapphire and Topaz classes in West Kingsdown CofE Primary School. It's always so good to be able to see and share in all that our children have been doing. On Friday we took part in a virtual VE Day party with Topaz class where the children shared some of the things they had made and learnt, including what looked like some scrummy scones and cakes and which the children, in their own homes, seemed to enjoy tucking into. Everybody either had to wear 1940's dress or wear red, white and blue. Here is a picture of me in my red, white and blue in my front garden waving a Union Jack. Rev Harriet wore a medal that, I believe, was her grandfathers and a very heavy tin helmet. We also shared a ZOOM Act of Worship on the theme of Community which appeared to be received well by the children and adults alike.

**SEKAM** – During lockdown we are unfortunately unable to deliver printed copies of SEKAM to every household. You can find an online copy of the May edition on our church website [www.st-edmunds.co.uk](http://www.st-edmunds.co.uk). Those who receive a hard copy of this letter will also receive a printed copy of SEKAM.

This week we say **Happy Birthday** to Robert Cashman and Hannah Powell. Hope you both enjoy your days. Next week we have another very momentous birthday to celebrate!

Thank you for all the lovely pictures and photos you have sent me. I will use them over the next couple of weeks.



### **Prayer and Worship**

Sadly at the moment the church must remain closed, we await further instruction from the government, national Church and the diocese. This week we were told that only members from one household are allowed to go in, here that will be me and my husband Don. We are going in to keep a check on things, **no other persons** should enter the building. I'm so sorry that I have no more positive news on that front.

I continue to send out an Act of Worship for each Sunday and a mailing to the families of any young people. Isabelle Herbert wrote a beautiful prayer based on last weeks theme of The Good Shepherd, which, due to lack of space I will share with you next week. We have again tried something new and my Homily is now on our own YouTube channel <https://youtu.be/xYqiOX8pKlw> click on link and it should work. Here's hoping! It might take

a while to load. You all remain in my thoughts and prayers. Keep safe and well.  
Every Blessing **Rev Sarah**