

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



**Rector:**

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Newsletter 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021 (17)

Happy St. Valentines Day 

Dear Friends

Well, the weather forecasters were indeed right last week, the snow did come and come in abundance. As I sit here today the snow still covers the garden and the field beyond. It has also been extremely cold and latterly very icy. I hope you have all been able to keep warm and if you have been out that you have been careful not to slip and fall. I had done very well up until yesterday when I took a tumble. I had my snow boots on, that have a very good sole with thick tread, and there I was, one minute standing upright and the next flat on my back. Nothing really hurt except my pride of course!

I walked down to church, through the woods, on Tuesday morning so that I could change the notice boards and it was truly glorious albeit very cold. The woods and the church looked absolutely beautiful. I thought I would share some photographs with you, especially for those who haven't been able to get out.



On Tuesday the sky was still full of snow whereas by Friday when I went down to church to record this Sunday's service the sun was out and the sky was blue. (See the photo on the next page) However, it was still freezing cold. We are so lucky that our church is



set in such beautiful surroundings. It truly is a hidden gem.

### **Our new curate**

On Thursday it was good to be able to catch up with Mandy Clampin via a ZOOM call. She is extremely busy with college work and assignments preparing to finish theological college at the end of June and begin

working here with us in early August before her ordination as deacon in Rochester Cathedral on 25<sup>th</sup> September. Hopefully by then things will be getting back to some sort of normality. Mandy is looking forward to coming to St. Edmunds to begin ordained ministry amongst us.

### **Church Wood Trust**

Next Sunday is the Annual General Meeting of Church Wood Trust. It will take place at 12noon via ZOOM. If you would like to attend the meeting please contact Pat Bosley on 01474 852924 or [patbosley13@gmail.com](mailto:patbosley13@gmail.com) who will send you the ZOOM log in details for the meeting. Church Wood Trust oversees the management of the diocesan owed part of Church Woods. The Church Wood Trust is an independent trust and consists of three trustees, the archdeacon of Tonbridge, an independent trustee, who at this point in time is Pat Bosley, and myself as rector. We are very fortunate that the day-to-day maintenance of the woods is undertaken by the Church Wood Management Committee of which I as rector and Roger Beale as the church representative are part of. I thank Roger for the work he undertakes on behalf of the church and the diocese.

### **Worship**

This week I have once again, with the help of Mike Wesley (thank you Mike), 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.

Another reminder of other sources that you can link into - Rochester cathedral, (which is closed for worship) is live streaming worship twice a week, a Sunday Eucharist at 11am and Choral Evensong at 5.30pm on a Thursday.

[www.rochestercathedral.org](http://www.rochestercathedral.org) On the top left-hand side of the Home page there is a box 'Online service', click here. The Church of England also hold online services on a Sunday and throughout the week [www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org)

If you are without internet remember that you can watch Songs of Praise on BBC1 at 1.15pm each Sunday.

### **Ash Wednesday**

This coming Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the season of Lent. There will be a pre-recorded Eucharist Service on our website on Wednesday. The service will include a time of confession and penitence with a virtual signing of the cross. I do hope you will set time aside in your day to

participate in this act of worship. The order of service will be emailed and delivered out on Tuesday.

### **Morning Prayer Readings**

Date	Psalms	Old Testament	New Testament
14.02.21	27, 150	Exodus 24:12-end	2Cor 3:12-end
15.02.21	44	Jerimiah ch 1	John 3:1-21
16.02.21	48, 52	Jerimiah 2:1-13	John 3:22-end
17.02.21 <b>Ash Weds</b>	38	Daniel 9:3-6,17-19	1 Timothy 6:6-19
18.02.21	77	Jerimiah 2:14-32	John 4:1-26
19.02.21	3, 7	Jerimiah 3:6-12	John 4:27-42
20.02.21	71	Jerimiah 4:1-18	John 4:43-end

### **ZOOM Worship**

I'm one step further to sorting this out and am hoping I might have something sorted for next week. I will let all those know who have already emailed me when I'm up and running. If you are interested in taking part please just let me know.

### **Prayer**

A reminder that the Archbishops are encouraging people to spend a short time in prayer and reflection at 6pm each day throughout February, praying for the victims of the pandemic, those on the front line and the public bodies and private businesses that make up our common life. They ask that as many people as possible join in this venture. You can find all the resources you need at: [www.churchofengland.org/resources/prayer-nation](http://www.churchofengland.org/resources/prayer-nation) I used the resources this week by clicking on the above link and they were easy to find and to follow. Each day there is a different theme to pray on and it provides prayers for you to use if you so wish.

For those of you unable to access the internet for the resources I print a new prayer for you to use this week if you so wish.

**Loving Father God,  
be with us in our distress;  
be with our families, friends, and neighbours,  
our country and our world.  
Give health to the sick,  
hope to the fearful,  
and comfort to mourners.  
Give wisdom to our frontline and key workers,  
insight to our Government,  
and patience to us all.  
Overcome disease with the power of your new life,  
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## **Lent 2021**

Lent is a time for growing in our faith. It is a time for penitence and reflection, and a time of preparation and looking ahead. As part of our Lenten observance Rev Harriet has kindly offered to lead **ZOOM Lent Course**. From Rev Harriet

### **Your Mission (should you choose to accept it) ....**

Mission doesn't just mean knocking on doors asking people if they have been saved, but is about the whole of our Christian lives. This Lent, we'll be looking at what this really involves, based around what the Anglican Church has called the 'Five Marks of Mission'. We'll refer back to the Bible as we consider what each 'Mark' means for us and how we can be involved, both as individuals and as a church community that, in the words of our Diocesan plan for the future, is 'Called to Grow'.

Rev Harriet will send out a link to the Zoom meeting – all you will need to bring is a Bible and a willingness to participate. Each week will be stand-alone, so you don't need to be able to come to all of them. **It will run on five Tuesdays throughout Lent, 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> March. There will be two groups, one at 4pm and the other at 8pm.** It is open to all. Please let me know if you are interested in joining one of the groups.

The Church of England also have some resources online, #LiveLent God's story, Our Story. Go to their website [www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org) click on resources, in the drop down box click on #LiveLent2021 church resources. There is a free app for your phone. Those of you without internet I have ordered you a booklet, which I will deliver once it arrives.

Rochester diocese are supporting the national church's Lent campaign with weekly reflections to complement the national material they can be accessed via the Diocesan Vimeo and YouTube channels.

### **Easter 'Draw'**

We are intending holding an Easter Draw, for church funds [do be drawn on Easter Sunday, April 4th], full details to be released soon, but donations for an 'Easter' Hamper [biscuits / cake / eggs etc.] and an 'Easter' Chocolate Hamper would be gratefully accepted. These will have to be delivered to The Rectory or I can collect [Don 07769708251]

Can any one make a large Simnel Cake? Call me! Don [Corry] 07769708251

### **Birthdays**

This week birthday wishes go to **Maureen Southgate, Steve Gray** and **Brenda Holder**. I wish you all a very **Happy Birthday**, hoping that you are all able to celebrate in some way.

Have a good week everyone.



**Every Blessing Rev'd Sarah**