

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



**Rector:**

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**Newsletter 23rd May 2021 (31)**

Dear Friends



Doesn't everywhere look beautifully fresh and green. Most trees are now in full leaf, the hawthorn is in full blossom and the grass lusciously thick. See the photograph to the left, a picture from my study window as I write this letter. However, there is always a downside isn't there? It's like this because of the persistent rain of the last few weeks. We all know how important the rain is for growth, but wouldn't it be wonderful if it just rained during the night and left the day for the sun to shine. I have to admit to being rather fed up with the cold, grey, wet days we are experiencing at the moment. I was speaking to somebody on Friday and they referred to the month of May as 'Mayember', comparing the weather, especially the high winds, with that

usually experienced during late Autumn around November. We only have one more week of meteorological spring and on the 1<sup>st</sup> June, meteorologically speaking, summer begins. Will it see a rise in temperature do you think?

Would you believe that as I write we have just had an extremely heavy rain shower and now the sun is shining.

That's enough about the weather. I hope you are all keeping well and beginning to enjoy seeing family and friends, although I know for some this is still difficult, and understandably so.

I am trying to look ahead and begin to plan for the future when we will hopefully begin to start a few more things up once more.

We are now, once again, allowed to offer lifts to those who need them to attend church. If you would like to be picked up to come to worship, please give me a ring (852265) and I will do my very best to arrange this. It would be wonderful to see you again. For many of you I know it is over fourteen months since you have been able to attend worship in person.

Today we are once again serving refreshments after the service, all carefully risk assessed. We continue to aim for Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June as being the Sunday of

celebration, but I am waiting for further news from government before planning anything in detail.

### **Prayer and Worship**

Today's service is once again being livestreamed via ZOOM thanks to Jenn Abel and Jakki Haysom. Next week is Trinity Sunday. Please remember to book your place by phoning Angela on 01474 852513 from tomorrow, Monday 24th May. Let's hope we won't have to continue to do this for very much longer. If you haven't yet felt able to come back to church, for whatever reason, it would be lovely to see you.

### **Morning Prayer**

Morning Prayer will be said at 9.30am on **Friday** and **Saturday** mornings this week. The church will continue to be open on a Wednesday afternoon, 2-4pm, for Private Prayer.

You only need to book for the Sunday Service.

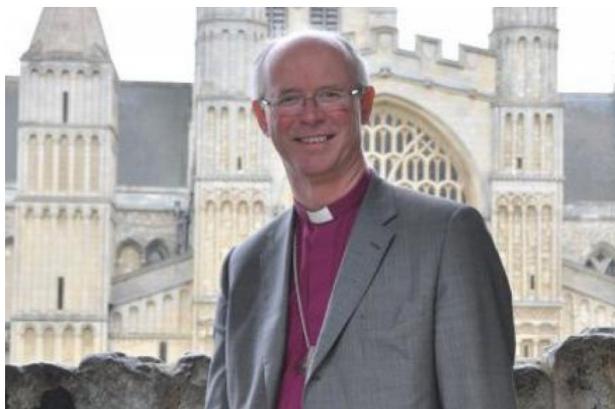
### **Morning Prayer Readings**

Date	Psalms	Old Testament	New Testament
23.05.21	145	Isaiah 11:1-9	1 Corinthians 12:4-13
24.05.21	123, 124, 125, 126	Job Ch 1	Romans 1:1-17
25.05.21	132, 133	Job Ch 2	Romans 1:18-end
26.05.21	119:153-end	Job Ch 3	Romans 2:1-16
27.05.21	143, 146	Job Ch 4	Romans 2:17-end
28.05.21	142, 144	Job Ch 5	Romans 3:1-20
29.05.21	147	Job Ch 6	Romans 3:21-end

### **This Week**

I am out of the parish on a training course for three days this week from Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> through to Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>. In an emergency, please contact one of the churchwardens (Angela 852513, Mike 853653).

### **Bishop James**



As many of you may know Bishop James retires as our diocesan bishop at the end of July after eleven years of faithful service. Parishes have been asked if they would like to make a donation towards a retirement gift for him and his wife Bridget. There will be a collection box at the back of church for the next three Sundays should you wish to make a contribution. Due to COVID restrictions Bishop James has not been able to say

many goodbyes in person and so all parishes have also been asked to make a short 30-60second video to say our goodbyes to him. If you have any good

ideas as to what eye-catching thing we could do please speak to me or one of the wardens.

### **Christian Aid**

As a church we raised £125 for Christian Aid. Thank you so much for your generosity. Sue Haveacan from St. Bernadette's will let us know the total collected from Churches Together in West Kingsdown once she has it.



### **Community Cupboard**



Hub phone: 07526 823122

Email: [communitycupboard19@gmail.com](mailto:communitycupboard19@gmail.com)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/thecommunitycupboard19](https://www.facebook.com/thecommunitycupboard19)  
Twitter: [TheCommunityCu1](https://twitter.com/TheCommunityCu1)

I know that many of you have been taking food and toiletries to the Community Cupboard throughout the pandemic. Thank you so much. From next week there will once again be a box at the back of church for you to pop any goodies into and we will make sure these get taken to the foodbank each week.

### **Reg Endres R.I.P.**

Reg passed away on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May at the home of his daughter Jackie in Bromley. Until just before the beginning of the pandemic Reg was a regular member of our congregation. Driving from his home Swanley each week at the grand age of 93. Reg always had a smile on his face and a good story to tell. He will be missed. His funeral will take place in church at 11.15am on 10<sup>th</sup> June. Sadly, there will only be room for his family in church as family bubbles will still need to keep socially distanced, but friends and members of the congregation may like to gather in the churchyard (weather permitting). He will then go to Eltham Crematorium for cremation. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

### **Tomato Plants**

Ann Munro is once again growing tomato plants and she tells me they are doing really well. She doesn't put a set price on them but asks for donations for church. She says that if anyone in the church wants to be sure of getting what they want, the following are available:-



**Money maker.** The old faithful, medium sized fruit  
**Shirley.** A good outdoor as well as indoor. Medium size fruit.

**Gardener's Delight.** Small red. Usually a good cropper.

**Sun gold.** Small sweet orange tomatoes.

All about 4 inches in height, 8 cms.

She will continue to care for them until we have better weather but anyone with a greenhouse can have them now. **Please contact Ann on 01474 852140**

## **Summer Fair**

Thank you so much to all those who have responded to Don's message about the Summer fair (see the attached flier). We are both delighted by the response. Don is still looking for volunteers to run the Raffle, Tombola, Children's, Books/DVD's, Beer Tent/Refreshments. Please give him a ring if you can help. It will make him a very happy man.

## **Hymns Ancient & Modern**

A couple of weeks ago Angela & Mike, our churchwardens, and I spent a morning clearing out and tidying up the choir vestry. As part of that clear up we have over 100 Ancient & Modern Hymn Books that we no longer require. Sadly, the books are now out of date and haven't been used for a very long time, well before my time here and that's almost 7 years. Unfortunately, we do not have the space to store things no longer used. I have asked other churches if they would like them, and no one is interested. Many of the books were donated in memory of somebody. If you remember donating a book(s) and would like to claim it/them please contact me (852265 or revsarahcorry@gmail.com) by 31<sup>st</sup> May. Thank you.

## **1662 Book of Common Prayer**

During our clear out we also found some old copies of the Book of Common Prayer. If you would like one please help yourself from the table at the back of church.

## **Birthdays**



There are two people celebrating a birthday this week **Steve Garrett** on the 26<sup>th</sup> and our wonderful churchwarden **Mike Wesley** on the 29<sup>th</sup>. We wish you both a very **Happy Birthday**.

## **Coronavirus Quilt Update**

We have had some more amazing squares given in and we are slowly getting nearer to the 100 decorated squares needed. Thank you all so much. Please keep the squares coming in. Geraldine has a number of plain knitted squares that need decorating. If you are able to help her with this, please contact her on 852140.

Have a great week.

**Every Blessing Rev'd Sarah**