



The Buzz

February 2021



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Monthly information for the Parish of Ifield

Thought for the Month



Several years ago during my Lent retreat I choose to read about and study Teresa of Avila. I discovered that Teresa of Avila, a Spanish saint, was both witty and wise. Once, when she was travelling to one of her convents, she was knocked off her donkey and fell into the mud, injuring her leg. "Lord," she said, "you couldn't have picked a worse time for this to happen. Why would you let this happen?"

And the response in prayer that she heard was, "That is how I treat my friends."

Teresa answered, "And that is why you have so few of them!"

As we continue through this lock-down, a more mindful understanding of what is going on inside us could be a great help in fostering good relationships. Current circumstances put us all under a great deal of stress. If we're unaware of what is really going on inside us, that stress can emerge in unhelpful and relationship destroying ways.

Even within the church, it is possible to encounter people who are delightful and caring in normal circumstances, but when under stress can erupt in explosive anger. The strength of that has surprised even themselves, never mind the bruised recipient of the outburst. It is possible this outburst happens because of a sense of being overwhelmed by everything that is happening or a lack of coping. This overwhelming or lack isn't perceived until the outburst happens.

This month, we begin the journey of Lent. Traditionally this is a period of spiritual examination. It may be that lockdown affords the opportunity for greater self-scrutiny this year. Perhaps a meditation on the words God spoke over Jesus at his baptism could start us off.

"This is my child, the beloved, in him I am well pleased".

As people 'in Christ' these are words God speaks over us as well.

These are words to counter the narrative of inadequacy or being valued only for what we can achieve. Judgements that we may all have experienced at some time in our past or, sadly, even now from friends, family or colleagues. But they are words that take those hurts and relegate them to the past, removing their sting and ensuring that we know that we are beloved by God and are his children.

They are words that affirm God's unconditional love. They are words that transform and renew.

Whatever we manage to do towards spending some time with God may we hear those words rather than the unhelpful ones this Lent.

With every blessing

Revd Christine

CRACKED WIDE OPEN

Our Diocese has put together a Lent course which can be accessed on-line through the Diocesan website www.chichester.anglican.org for use at home or shared in house-groups via Zoom. For each of the five weeks of Lent, the course looks at how we can all share in the mission of the Church.

The course involves videos, interviews between Bishop Ruth of Horsham and Bishop Will of Lewes, Bible study and notes.

For those who do not have internet access, we can print copies of the notes each week if you would like them.

As an alternative, the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book, Living His Story by Hannah Steele, is very accessible. It explores how we can convey the extraordinary love of God to our neighbours, and suggests we can do this most effectively by being ourselves and using our natural gifts. Each of us will have different stories - of who we are, how we came to faith and why we believe what we do. By sharing our stories, we can show how the good news of Jesus is relevant in our own time and place.

SERVICES AT ST. MARGARET'S

All our services are currently on-line, and can be accessed via the parish website either live or via a recording posted later in the day.

2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th & 5 th Sundays	11.00 am	Holy Communion (said)
1 st Sunday	11.00 am	First Sunday Non-Eucharistic Service
2 nd Sunday	9.30 am	FIISH for young families
4 th Sunday	9.30 am	ReFresh

Weekly activities for children will be posted on the parish website

NEWS FROM FAMILY SUPPORT WORK

We are one of the chosen charities for the Co-op's local community fund in 2021. Co-op customers can select us as a charity to receive a donation later in the year. The amount we receive will depend on the number of people who select us as their preferred cause, so we really need your help with this to get as much as we can! In order to nominate us as your preferred charity you need to be a Co-op member, but this is very simple to do online. Please also share with any friends or family too - the more the merrier!

ZOOM COFFEE MORNINGS FROM 10TH FEBRUARY AT 10.30

To join the Zoom Meeting by computer, tablet or smartphone, click on the link below
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84151360511?pwd=VWN0NHd6RlVzNnhBVGpEcjNVaE5lUT09>

Meeting ID: 841 5136 0511

Passcode: 463277

One tap mobile

+442039017895,,84151360511#,,,,*463277# United Kingdom

+441314601196,,84151360511#,,,,*463277# United Kingdom

To dial in by telephone, call one of the numbers below and follow the prompts

0203 901 7895

0131 460 1196

0203 051 2874

0203 481 5237

0203 481 5240

Meeting ID: 841 5136 0511

Passcode: 463277

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL NOT BE A MEETING ON 3RD FEBRUARY



Supporting Our Local Community – Can You Help?

How we can better connect and serve our community, live our faith and show the love that Jesus has for everyone?
We're building partnerships with local voluntary organisations to support people who need it most.



FOOD DONATIONS

Food poverty is on the rise in Crawley and with unemployment expected to increase, more people are going to need help.

We are supporting the Crawley Food Bank Partnership who distribute food and basic essentials to people in crisis all over Crawley

Items Required:

Coffee, Sugar, UHT milk, Meat and Fish, Vegetables, Fruit, Beans, Bottles of Squash, Soup, Cereals, Pasta, Cooking Sauces, Desserts, Tea/Coffee and Biscuits but, of course, all donations are welcome.

We set-up a collection system across Iffield & Langley Green, so there is no need for you to deliver it yourselves, Sue Gilbert is co-ordinating collections.

Contact Sue Gilbert directly or via
The Parish office – office@ifieldparish.org / 01293 537578



So much more than just a foodbank...



WHO'S WHO IN IFIELD PARISH

Team Rector	Revd. Christine Spencer	561283	rector@ifieldparish.org
Curate	Revd. Jamie Gater	852763	curate@ifieldparish.org
Retired Clergy	Revd. Daphne Goodwin	886896	dapheter@aol.com
Reader	Jill Bell	521699	reader@ifieldparish.org
Parish Wardens	Rob Pudney	437038	rob@ifieldparish.org
	Chris Bell	521699	chris@ifieldparish.org
PCC Secretary	Clare Wilson	416438	pccsecretary@ifieldparish.org
PCC Treasurer	James May	529146	treasurer@ifieldparish.org
Safeguarding	Andy Cottee	202167	safeguarding@ifieldparish.org
Youth and Children	Naomi Gater	852763	ycofficer@ifieldparish.org
Lychgate Bookings	Lisa Hull	532337	lmhull@virginmedia.com

OUR RECTOR'S REST DAY

Please note that Friday is our Rector's rest day

PLEASE NOTE

St. Margaret's weekly notices can be viewed on the parish website

IFIELD PARISH WEBSITE

www.ifieldparish.org

Please send any information/photos for publication on the website to
Carl Peirce carl@ifieldparish.org

Follow us:

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1765334500346387/>

IFIELD PARISH OFFICE

Mondays-Thursdays 9.00 am – 12 noon

1 Lychgate Cottage, Ifield Street, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 0NN

Parish Administrator: Mave Eshun Tel: 537578 Email: office@ifieldparish.org

PLEASE NOTE: THE OFFICE IS CURRENTLY CLOSED.

PLEASE CONTACT REVD. CHRISTINE SPENCER ON 561283 OR JILL BELL ON 521699

Please send any updates for the March 2021 issue to Jill Bell
reader@ifieldparish.org by 22nd February