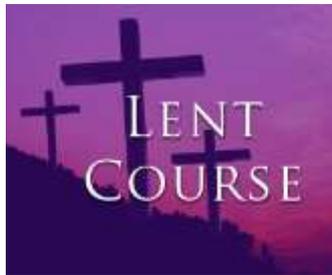


DIARY DATES / FUTURE PLANNED EVENTS

Event	Date and time	Venue
Church Mice Praise and Play for Babies and Pre-schooler and their Families. Contact Jenny Stothard / Sarah Cann (kindergymjenny@gmail.com)	Currently on Hold	St. John's Church 
Lent Lunches. See separate entry on Pew Sheet	Currently on Hold	Various
Palm Sunday. We will be celebrating Palm Sunday at the main service including processing with palm branches into the church (weather permitting) and narration of the Gospel of the Passion.	Currently on Hold	St. John's Church
Holy Week Services.	Currently on Hold	St. John's Church
Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APM). Our annual General meeting. <u><i>Please put the date in your diary and make every effort to attend.</i></u> Election of new PCC Members (volunteers welcome) and presentation of annual reports.	Currently on Hold	St. John's Church



The Risborough Team and Churches Together in Risborough will be following the same Lent Course for 2020.

Currently the remaining sessions of the Lent Course are put on hold and will be rescheduled when guidance permits their resuming.

Key Contacts:

Vicar:	Rev. Canon Tony Bundock	01844 347741
Team Rector:	Rev. David Williams	01844 346984
Licensed Lay Minister:	Mr. Graham King	01844 343910
Churchwardens:	Mrs Pat Rushmere	01844 345452
	Mrs Margaret Gray	01844 347094
PCC Secretary	Mr Mark Roberts	01296 437345

PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST



Coming to Faith, Growing in Faith

Week Commencing
SUNDAY 22nd March 2020

Mothering Sunday
(4th Sunday of Lent)

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE

During the past week the Church of England has issued further updated guidance which means that we are being advised by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to suspend holding services for the time being. This will also mean for the present postponing events such as the Lent Course, unless they can be held remotely e.g. via Skype, and the Lent Lunches.

We are asked to make Mothering Sunday a day of prayer and action. Where possible we are asked to show unity by lighting a candle in our windows at 7:00 pm.

The Archbishops emphasise that, although our usual pattern of Sunday Services and mid-week gatherings must be put on hold, this does not mean that the Church of England has shut up shop. Being a part of the Church of England is going to look very different in the days ahead. At least for the time being, our life is going to be less characterised by attendance at Church on Sunday, and more characterised by the prayer and service we offer each day. We may not be able to pray for people in the ways that we are used to, but we can certainly pray for people. And we can certainly offer practical care and support.

The Standing Committee of the PCC is in the process of drawing up an Action Plan in line with the request from the Diocese of Oxford.

St. JOHN'S CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

This week the Church will be open for private prayer on Tuesday from 9am to 10am and on Thursday from 7pm to 8pm.

COLLECT FOR MOTHERING SUNDAY AND THE FOLLOWING WEEK

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever, *Amen*.

READINGS FOR 4th SUNDAY OF LENT

1 Samuel Ch. 1 VV. 20 – 28.
Colossians Ch. 3 VV. 12 – 17.

John Ch. 19 VV. 25b – 27.



Lent Lunches

Lent Lunches with simple fare. Attendance is free with requested donations to the charity nominated by the host. *Our programme of Lent Lunches is currently on hold. We plan to hold these at some point after Easter when the current crisis over the Coronavirus is over. Further information to follow.*

- TBC – at the Vicarage. In aid of the Leprosy Mission.
- TBC – by Ann Bartlett. In aid of Marie Curie.
- TBC – by Margaret Gray. In aid of the Children's Society.

Prayer Notes

- We pray for all parts of the world affected by the Coronavirus (Covid-19), those who are ill with the virus and the souls of those who have died. We pray for those working in the NHS and Social Services who are working with the sick, the elderly and the disabled. We particularly pray for those in our parish who are isolating themselves due to age or infirmity and those supporting them.
- For those in the parish and further afield who are sick or in need that they receive peace and healing, including: Irene Foord, Ruth Barclay, Mary Mines, Helena Oecken, Ian Wilson, Ron Goodearl, Phillipa King and Barnaby Woods.
- For the recently departed, may their souls rest in peace. Also, we pray for their families at this difficult time.
- For Peace and Resolution for the peoples of those countries where there is conflict or tension including countries in the Middle East, Ukraine, Nigeria, Venezuela, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sri Lanka and Hong Kong.
- For Comfort and mercy for the peoples of those countries, where there have been natural disasters, and for the aid agencies bringing relief.
- For our Government and Parliament at this time of uncertainty, that that MP's of all parties will come together in the National Interest.
- For migrants that they may receive justice and mercy.
- Safety for Christians and peoples of all faiths in danger that there may be a spirit of peace and understanding.
- For our mission and ministry in this community.
- For our Linked Parish of St. Mary's Kuruman.
- Thanks for our church community and our shared faith
- Thanks for all who help, in any way, in our Church.
- For our successful fundraising events this year.

