

We are no longer meeting together, but we are having virtual services via Facebook. These are being live-streamed

on [Facebook](#) every **Sunday morning**

led by Stephanie, Andy, and Jess at 10.30am.

This coming Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April, there will be a service of

[Spiritual Communion](#),

Focussing on the character Ruth,

The bible readings are:

[Ruth 1: 11-22](#) & [Acts 2: 14a, 22 – 32](#)

(click on the verses to be linked to the passages)

There will also be **Service of Prayer** at 9:15am on Tuesday Morning.

You can access these from [here](#). The feed automatically becomes live if you are on the Facebook page.

After that they will be available from our YouTube channel which can be accessed by clicking on the YouTube icon below and searching for "Widford Parish" and subscribing.

Literature for each service, and much more can be found on the Church's website, so please click [here](#). If you want to print it out please do so, however if you have more than one device, you can watch on one and read from the other.

Just a reminder that anything on the digital version that is **blue** and **underlined** has an inbuilt link attached, that will take you to the relevant site or document.



Recordings available of CHS sermons [here](#)

### Collect for the Second Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

### Some words of encouragement from Andy:

#### Breakfast with Jesus

**Lately**, life has seemed strange for all of us. The last few weeks have been stretching. We have had to learn new ways of doing things, new ways of communicating and new ways of being the Church. It's seemed like a frantic rush to get many different things in place to make sure that we all stay connected.

**But** amongst all of this God has been challenging me to pause. It was a challenge that was there before the current crisis, but it seems to have been highlighted afresh. To spend at least some time each day sitting, watching and wondering, and those times have been precious. If I hadn't paused, I may have missed the trees being clothed in blossom outside, or the many birds that are now visiting my garden being provided for. I would have missed the voice of God saying, 'do not worry'.

**Upon** reading the Easter story I was struck with the fact that after Jesus' resurrection, he doesn't immediately tell them to go off and do 'church stuff'. They don't venture out on some amazing journey of ministry. Instead, he simply spends some time with his disciples. He has breakfast with them at the beach (John 21). There is a pause between the amazing events of the resurrection and what's to come. A gap between Easter and Pentecost. Perhaps there were questions that the disciples asked of Jesus, perhaps more for them to learn? We at least see Peter, having denied Jesus three times, getting to affirm his love for Christ thrice (John 21:15-19). He was being put back together after the disturbing events of his recent life.

**We** are in danger of becoming a society of Martha's. There seems to be lots to be done all the time, and I wonder if Jesus was resurrected now, whether we would try and get things 'back to normal' as soon as possible. But perhaps we need to learn to be a bit more like Mary. Perhaps, despite the fact that we are disturbed by the events around us, we need to sit at the feet of Jesus a while. Are you allowing yourself that time to just be with God a while each day? To be people of the resurrection perhaps we need to stop, breathe and listen to the voice of Jesus. Because like Peter, when events that have shake our foundations subside, we may need to allow Jesus to put us back together. A challenge for our times then: To have breakfast with Jesus as often as possible.

## News updates

**PCC meeting** is on Monday 20th at 7pm. Please pray for a successful meeting via zoom.

**APCM, has been postponed until at least October 2020**

**Hebron Hall Parish Holiday** has been cancelled for this year. Tracy is looking into the possibility of postponing this until next year. We will keep you posted.

Jess has been posting activities on the church website. Colouring Sheets and Engage worship cards please click [here](#) to access these.

If you would like to contribute something, please let us know.

**Pat Deals funeral is on Friday 17th**

**April at 11.00am.** Close family only, so please pray for them. We hope to have a Thanksgiving service later in the year, which everyone can attend.



Following Easter Sunday's Successful Zoom meeting Stephanie has invited us to join up again on Sunday morning after the morning service at 12 noon. Details are as follows  
Widford Parish church family:  
Meeting ID 762-0361-0715  
Password 6hCfrG  
Click on the icon above to access it.

I have had these words going around in my head for the last few weeks. It reminds me that although we might think that we are in control, and though we might fear what is happening around us, that we can trust in Jesus's love for us and that **HE IS IN CONTROL.** Peter

### **You hold the world**

The earth is full of fear and dread  
Confusion, chaos and despair  
You're sovereign even in this storm  
Your voice brings calm and leads me on  
When the darkness gets darker  
Your light will shine brighter  
Jesus hope for every soul  
You hold the world

I won't be afraid  
I'm carried by your peace  
I'm trusting in Your name  
When fear and doubt is all I know  
And I feel empty and alone  
I run towards my only hope  
Christ alone can heal this earth  
When the darkness gets darker  
Your light will shine brighter  
Jesus hope for every soul  
When the troubles are greater  
Our song will grow louder  
Jesus hope for every soul  
*Olly Knight - 2020*

**From Joan:** Last week sometime I was feeling stressed and tired - at that same time a friend suggested we focus on our heavenly Father.....my quiet time that morning was doing just that focussing on my precious Father, I was wonderfully renewed and strengthened. Thank-you Lord

## PARISH INFORMATION:-

**Rector:** Rev'd Stephanie Gillingham  
01245 477 818

[stephaniegillingham@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stephaniegillingham@hotmail.co.uk)

Day off Thursdays.

**Curate.** Rev'd Andy Brown

[Revd-brown@outlook.com](mailto:Revd-brown@outlook.com)

07817 553 453

Day off Fridays.

**Churchwardens:-**

Miss. Tammy Squirrel

Mrs Barbara Jones

Mrs. Sylvia Skardon

**Caretaker:-**

Miss. Tammy Squirrel

07930 940056

**The Parish Office:-**

Forest Drive, CM1 2TS

Opening times: **Closed**

Tel: 01245 355 989 - **checked daily**

Please contact the office by email or contact Stephanie or Andy as above

e: [widfordchurchtalk@gmail.com](mailto:widfordchurchtalk@gmail.com)

w: [www.widfordparish.com](http://www.widfordparish.com)

Fiona was recently in hospital. She coloured this rainbow to thank the NHS for caring for her in her recent illness. She also wants to thank her Mum, Dad and Brother Martin for their support; her taxi drivers for their help; and all her friends in church, for their prayers.



## *Let's Pray*

**Let us especially remember today,** the 19th, those living in, Nabbott Road and Parkinson Drive. Do look in the Church Directory and use it to guide your prayers.

**Please also remember** in your prayers, Ali, Keshule and family. Ali has been in the UK, for the last 4 months with her daughter Lydia who has had significant health issues. They are thankful for the progress Lydia has made so far. Please pray for further improvement. To read more go the Ali's Facebook page [here](#) .

**Jessica Brett** has also asked us to pray for her family. She lost her niece 2 years ago on Thursday (16th) - Danielle Ann Young.

**We also remember** Barbara Oxford as she recovers at home having been in hospital and her husband David and their family.

**We give thanks** that Sylvia and Fiona are much better.

**Please continue to pray** for the families of David Brown and Pat Deal as they mourn their losses.

**Please also remember** to pray for those around you who are lonely or unable to get out, they might value a phone call

**There is also a Prayer Chain via**

**Text message on 07368 136770 for specific prayer requests. Please note it has changed.**