St David's Wettenhall & St Oswald's Worleston February 2021



The Cross Country Parishes
of
Acton, Church Minshull,
Wettenhall & Worleston.



Corrie Ten Boom is a well-known Dutch Christian writer who suffered and survived the horrors of a German Concentration Camp. She grew up in a shop full of clocks. Her father was a watchmaker & she was the first woman in Holland officially licensed to follow the same trade.

In her book 'Jesus the Victor', she tells the Dutch parable of the clock that had just been made and was put on a shelf between two old clocks.

One of the old clocks said to the newcomer:

'So you have started out in life. I am sorry for you. If you'll just think ahead and see how many ticks it takes to tick through one year, you will never make it. It would have been better had the maker never wound you up and set your pendulum'.

So the new clock began to count up the ticks.

'Each second requires two ticks, which means 120 ticks per minute', he calculated

'That's 7,200 ticks per hour-172,800 ticks per day-1,209,600 ticks per week for 52 weeks, which makes a total of 62,899,200 ticks per year. Horrors!'

The clock immediately had a nervous breakdown and stopped ticking!

But the wise old clock on the other side said, 'Pay no attention to him. Just think, how many ticks do you have to tick at a time?'

'Why, only one, I guess,' the new clock answered.

'There now, that's not so hard is it? Try it along with me. Just one tick at a time.'.

Seventy five years later the clock was still ticking perfectly one tick at a time!

If we knew 12months ago, what we have had to go through, we too might have felt like giving up. However, we have hope. We have the knowledge that God ticks alongside us everyday. May this knowledge support & sustain us throughout the weeks, months & years ahead...

Ann



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Chester Cursillo

Cursillo is a movement of the Church providing a method by which Christians are empowered to grow through prayer, study & action and enabled to share God's love with everyone. During the month of February they are particularly praying for the Deanery and the parishes of Nantwich, which includes Worleston & Wettenhall.

Sunday Services February 2021

Acton		
7 th Feb 11:00 am Communion 14 th Feb 8:00 am Communion, 11 am Morning Prayer 21 st Feb 10:00 am Messy Church, 5 pm Evensong 28 th Feb 11:00 am Morning Prayer 7 th Mar 11:00 am Communion		
Church Min		
7 th Feb 14 th Feb 21 st Feb		Please Note !
28 th Feb 7 th Mar	11:00 am Communion 11:00 am Messy Church 11:00 am Service of the Word	This is a proposed schedule and is subject to change at short notice.
Worleston 7 th Feb		Wettenhall & Worleston services are unlikely to go ahead in February.
14 th Feb	9:30 am Communion	Please check the websites, notice boards or join the parishes SMS service to find out the latest
28 th Feb 7 th Mar	9:30 am Morning Prayer	information.
Wettenhall		
7 th Feb	11:00 am Morning Prayer	
14 th Feb 21 st Feb	11:00 am Communion	
28 th Feb	11:00 am All Age 6:30 pm Communion	
7 th Mar	11:00 am St David's Day	

St David's Church Wettenhall				
	Sidespersons	Cleaning & Flowers		
7 th Feb	Mrs M Drinkall	No Cleaning		
14 th Feb	Mr M Moss	or Flowers		
21st Feb	Brownies	Until		
28 th Feb	Informal	Further Notice		
7 th Mar	Mrs A Hignett			
Visit: www.wettenhallchurch.org				

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Heather Pope** on being awarded the **MBE** in the New Years Honours List for her services to Dental Treatment for the Vulnerable.

Also to **Sarah Pickering** (nee Darlington), on her **BEM** for charity work for The Christie Hospital in Manchester.

Both extremely well-deserved!

Mobile Library

The Mobile library is due at St. David's on Feb 16th, Mar 9th & 30th between 12.05 & 12.20pm. This information may be subject to change at short notice. For further information contact Alsager Library 01270 375325

Church Repairs

During the January suspension of services, **Robert Brooks & Roger Nicholas** used the opportunity to begin some essential repair work to the floorboards. A new carpet will also be necessary at some stage. Hopefully most of this will be completed by the time we resume services. We are grateful to Robert & Roger for all their hard work.

It's looking extremely unlikely that we'll be back in church for February not just because of the virus but the current state of the church. Repairs are likely to be ongoing throughout February. Please check with the Vicar or Churchwardens.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

this month to

Herbie Major Mollie Yarwood
Louie Elliott Niamh Ward
Madison Warrington Poppy Rowland
Missy Shaw

Congratulations

Special birthday wishes to **Pauline Matthews** who celebrates her 90th birthday this month. Many congratulations.



John & Ann Hignett celebrating their Diamond wedding anniversary in January.

Congratulations



Reminder

Every Sunday Chris and Heather Pope provide a WhatsApp service at 11am. If you would like to receive this please contact Chris on 07771 684000 for details. For those of you without a computer or smart phone or similar device, See Daily Hope below.



A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

"With many in our country on lockdown, it's important that we support those who are feeling lonely and isolated, whatever age they are."

Archbishop Justin Welby

Parish Mobile SMS Service

The Parish Mobile provides a method of getting important information out quickly to parishioners. If you would like to be included in any parish updates please text your name to 07486 020084.

Diary Dates

It's pancake day on Tuesday 16th February & Lent begins on Ash Wednesday 17th February.

Advance date - St. David's will be celebrating it's Patronal Festival on Sunday March 7th at 11am.

Thank you

Flying the flag for the NHS & Key Workers!

Thanks to the Moss family for donating the latest flag to St. David's.



Darnhall Brownies

Darnhall Brownies enjoyed making bird feeders.















During these long months of Covid, many people have found gardens both large and small a great source of interest and comfort. Observing the wildlife and seasonal colours of the plants and the sky never ceases to enthral. Last month I saw something amazing. A flash of iridescent blue by the pond then a dive - I rushed for the binoculars - a Kingfisher. There it was in our garden - wonderful.

Sue Heap.

Sacred Plants: Myrrh and Frankincense



Myrrh is harvested from a number of different thorny trees of the commiphora myrrha genus. The tree is wounded to release the resin, which coagulates and hardens to a glossy, yellowish resin. It is native to Somalia, the Horn of Africa and Saudi Arabia. It is known across Africa by various names, including the Balm of Gilead and African bdellium. An ancient Jewish liquid myrrh, said to have a more beautiful perfume, can no longer be identified, but may have come from a type of mimosa tree.



Frankincense is harvested from trees of the Borwellia genus, now grown mostly in Somaliland, the source of most resin used by the Roman Catholic Church. It was traded via spice routes, even to China, crossing the Mount of Lebanon. The name is related to the old French words 'franc ences 'meaning 'high quality incense', franc meaning pure or noble. The trees are now declining due to over-exploitation and clearance for animal grazing.

These sacred plant resins have an ancient history, recorded throughout Africa and Arabia. In the 5th Dynasty of Egyptian rulers King Sahure recorded a raid into the Horn of Africa to obtain large quantities of frankincense and myrrh, along with

cheetahs, the secretary bird and baboons! A relief carving in his mortuary temple shows him tending a myrrh tree, the only known record of an Egyptian King gardening. Myrrh was used to embalm the mummies in Egyptian rituals.

In the Old Testament Joseph was sold, by his brothers, to traders whose goods included balm and myrrh. In the Book of Exodus Moses uses myrrh in sacred anointing oil. The Jews also used myrrh oils to anoint their Kings and High Priests. In Exodus frankincense was used in a ritual at the sacred altar before the Ark of the Covenant.



In the New Testament frankincense and myrrh are present at Jesus's birth and death. They were given to the child, but are related to his death and burial. As Jesus went to the cross Mark's gospel says that he was given a mixture of wine and myrrh, not vinegar, to drink. This mixture had been used as an analgesic for centuries, so it may well have been given prior to a crucifixion. John's gospel tells us that Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea bought a mixture of myrrh and aloes to wrap the body of Jesus after his death. The Magi gave their gifts in recognition of Jesus' status and eventual death, something to think about in the season of Epiphany.

Heather Pope MBE

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Back of the Wagon

The phrase 'it fell off the back of a wagon' is well known in some circles, for all the wrong reasons. However, Christmas 2020 saw members of St.David's church, Wettenhall, taking to the back of a curtainsider wagon for the traditional Christmas services. The spread of the Corona virus has led organisations and individuals to seek new, safer, ways of doing things, rather than not doing them at all. In that spirit it was decided that the St.David's Christingle, Carol and Crib Services would be Drive-in services. Roger Nicholas kindly allowed the use of his wagon, and Mrs Edith Carr and the Nicholas family agreed to use their hard standing for the wagon and the parked cars of the drive-in congregation. Chris Pope, along with Heather, spent hours setting up the technical equipment - lights, speakers, screens & microphones.



The first service was the Christingle, with the Christingles to be made in the cars, no candles allowed! The service followed its usual story, but with some of the props replaced with animated images projected onto a screen and the music blasting out on speakers for those attending. There was a slow start, due to technical issues, but once it got going the service progressed in its usual informal style. It was a steep learning

curve, as with anything new. It was pretty chilly on the wagon, with bales of straw for stairs, but Rev Anne and Ann Nicholas were not deterred!

The Carol service, with nine lessons and carols, was the service most like its usual format. We had various families reading from their cars with a microphone, recorded carols for the in-car singalong, and Phillippa Moss played the cello live for 'Once in Royal David's City '. It was all beautiful and really brought home the spirit of Christmas after a difficult year.

The final service was the children's Crib service, but without the usual crowds of mums, dads and kids dressed as shepherds, Kings, angels and inn keepers. We decided to do the 'Christmas Mouse' story, with Lucy Bowes dressed in the Mouse onesie, Isabelle and Alice Edwards were the Star and the Angel. Sophie Bowes on the music deck and the rhyming couplets read over the speakers. Unfortunately this plan was nearly thwarted by IT problems, but the intrepid readers, Mouse and technical support managed to continue with the story despite the laptop going on strike. Phillippa saved the day musically by playing the carols on her cello, or on her phone, while standing close to a microphone. It's true to say that we all had rather fixed smiles on the wagon!

Would we do it all again? Let's hope we don't have to go to such chilly lengths in future Christmases. Thanks to all those who took part, in whatever way, and to all those who supported the 'back of the wagon' services, even if you did need the hot water bottles and flasks of tea.







Calveley School

The children at Calveley Primary Academy are busy learning at home this term. They are keeping in touch with their teachers and friends through daily live lessons and completing work at home. We are so proud of how well they have adapted to this change and can't wait to see them all back in school when it is safe to do so.

Our nursery setting is still open and the children have been exploring the season of winter. We have created winter pictures, been on winter walks and explored the slippery ice on the tennis court! They have also been working hard in maths, investigating numbers and counting.

If you would like your child to join our nursery or reception, please contact the school office for more information. We would love to show you our wonderful indoor and outdoor environments and welcome you to our beautiful rural school.











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Recipe

Lockdown Tuna Supper (apologies to Marguerite Patten)

Serves 4 (or 2 or 3 if you're very hungry)

Ingredients

2 cans of tuna

1 red or green pepper

1 large onion

3 or 4 tomatoes - or 2 if that's all you've got.

1 oz / 25g butter

Half pint / 275ml white sauce

Method

- · Drain fish, reserving oil.
- Mash with a fork.
- Slice pepper, onion and tomatoes.
- Heat butter with oil and fry vegetables gently until soft.
- · Make white sauce and season well.
- Put fish and vegetables into an oven proof dish.
- · Pour white sauce over the mixture.
- Cook in a moderate oven (375F, 190C, gas mark 4) for about 15 minutes until piping hot.

	St Oswald's Church, Worleston					
Sidespersons			Coffee			
14 th	Feb	Mrs A Fletton		No Coffee		
28 ^h	Feb	Mrs A Stokes		will be served		
Flowers			Cleaning			
14 th	Feb	There will be	February	Mrs C Black		
28 th	Feb	no flowers	March	Mrs C Black		
	Visit: www.worlestonchurch.org					

Flowers & Coffee

We are sticking to the rules governing Covid but will begin to have flowers in church and coffee after services as soon as we are allowed to.

Please Note

The scheduled services may be suspended if there are any changes to Covid restrictions. Please look out for notices around the village and on the website.

Food Bank

Supplies for Nantwich Food Bank are still needed. You can leave your contribution in the box in Worleston church porch. **Lisa Gater** picks them up every week, along with donations left in Acton vicarage porch, and she takes them all to the central collection point in Nantwich.

Many thanks to Lisa for doing this on our behalf. There are families in our area for whom the Food Bank is a blessing so thank you to everyone who has helped.

Keep it up!

Thanks

Our thanks to

Maisie Gater who sang so beautifully at the Words & Music service before Christmas.

Lyn Ablard who provided some beautiful flowers on Christmas Day

Claire Amson who has given us a lovely small table which belonged to her aunt, Joan Grocott

All these things are especially appreciated in these bleak times.

We hope and pray that in 2021 we will all be able to sing; that flowers will fill the church once more and that the little table will be put to good use when services resume again.

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Courage to Change

This is the title of a little book of readings which Al-Anon members are encouraged to read. Al-Anon is for the families and friends of alcoholics and on the opening page of this book it explains 'The Al-Anon Family Groups are a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength and hope in order to solve their common problemsAl-Anon has but one purpose: to help families of alcoholics.'

Before lockdown there were weekly meetings in Crewe, Sandbach, and Middlewich. Now they are all on Zoom which has turned out to be a blessing as people can join from anywhere and feel among friends. The same principles apply as those used in AA - that you need only give your first name and need not speak at a meeting unless you wish, and there are no membership dues. There are regular attenders whose alcoholic family member is no longer drinking but they still enjoy the friendship and support they find at the meetings.

If you think that Al-Anon might be of help to you then ask the vicar for the details, but your anonymity will be maintained.

Stay Aware, Stay Safe

Unfortunately in these already difficult times, staying safe is not just about observing social distancing, wearing masks and keeping our hands clean. We also need to be ever vigilant with regard to emails, phone calls & text messages. The unscrupulous out there see Covid 19 as just another vehicle to exploit, to steal from us.

The latest ploy, is phoning people up to tell them they are now eligible for a Coronavirus vaccination, which at this time sounds very plausible they will ask you for your details and then ask for bank card details. Note there is no payment required for the vaccination so at this point politely decline (or impolitely if you're that way inclined) and hang up.

Simple Rules to Follow.

Don't click on links in emails or social media unless you are 100% sure it's genuine, even if the sender is 'known' to you (email addresses of friends and businesses are easy to spoof), check by a separate phone call, that the email is genuine.

Don't give bank or card details to someone who phones you.

Don't click on links in text messages.

Follow the mantra of Watchdog "If it's out of the blue, it's not for you".

Stay Safe





Please visit our website for up to date guidelines & recommendations for your visit.

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St David's St Oswald's

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