

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



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

Dear Friends

St David: The Patron Saint of Little Things



No-one knows quite why Wettenhall Church is dedicated to St David (if you do, I'd love to know). Neither do we know if we will be able to gather together as 4 churches to celebrate St David's Day, although it looks unlikely as I write. Thankfully neither of those things change the fact that St David is a saint for these times.

St David is sometimes known as 'the saint of little things'. This comes from something which he said in his final sermon when he told the monks in his monastery to 'Do the little things, the small things you've seen me doing'.

Over the last year, we have come to value the little things. The acts of kindness as family and friends have done shopping, picked up prescriptions, dropped off unexpected treats. We have learned to appreciate bird song, walks in our local neighbourhoods and the beauty of the countryside on our doorsteps, the small changes which mark the changes of the seasons.

We have also learned how important things we previously thought were so small we barely noticed them are; seeing family and friends, the supportive hug, hand on the shoulder or squeeze of the hand; coffee and cake shared in a favourite café.

It is my hope that, if nothing else, we will have learned as a result of COVID-19 the value of the small things and the value of taking time not to rush through life so fast that we miss the things we now know are really important.

We might learn too, the value of doing the little things; the small things. Speaking about St David, Rowan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury said that St David's words appealed to modern people because: 'It reminds us that the primary things for us are the relationships around us, the need to work at what's under our hands, what's within our reach.

'We can transform our domestic, our family relationships, our national life, to some extent, if we do that with focus and concentration in the presence of God'.

None of us can transform the world single handed, but with the help of God, we can follow St David's example and 'do the little things.' After all, the only thing God asks of any of us is that we do what we can, with what we have, where we are. If we do that in the name of Jesus, we will achieve great things indeed.

Yours in the God who values the little things,

Rev Anne



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Sunday Services March 2021

Acton

- 7th Mar 11:00 am Communion
- 14th Mar 8:00 am Communion, 11 am Morning Prayer
- 21st Mar 5:00 pm Evensong
- 28th Mar 11:00 am Morning Prayer
- 7th Apr 11:00 am Communion

Church Minshull

- 7th Mar 9:30 am Communion
- 14th Mar 11:00 am Service of the Word
- 21st Mar 11:00 am Communion
- 28th Mar 11:00 am Service of the Word
- 7th Apr 9:30 am Communion

Worleston

- 7th Mar
- 14th Mar 9:30 am Communion
- 21st Mar
- 28th Mar 9:30 am Morning Prayer
- 7th Apr

Wettenhall

- 7th Mar 11:00 am St David's Day Patronal Service
- 14th Mar 11:00 am Communion
- 21st Mar 11:00 am All Age
- 28th Mar 6:30 pm Communion
- 7th Apr 11:00 am Morning Prayer

Please Note !

This is a proposed schedule and is subject to change at short notice.

Wettenhall & Worleston services are unlikely to go ahead in March.

Please check the websites, notice boards or join the parishes SMS service to find out the latest information.

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

World Book Day

Save the Date! Scholastic and Travelling Books celebrate World Book Day with a week of free events Monday 1st – Friday 5th March.

World Book Day will feel a little different this year but we are planning a whole fun-filled week of brilliant FREE events to help support teachers, parents and children who want to celebrate reading and books, wherever they are. If you are interested details are : <https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/scholastic-live-world-book-day>

Mobile Library

The Mobile library is due at St. David's on Mar 9th & 30th and Apr 20th 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

Thanks to **Robert Brooks** for half the church floor now completed! Robert has worked extremely hard to replace the timbers supporting the floorboards and renewing the boards. We look forward to meeting again in church when circumstances allow. It's looking extremely unlikely that we'll be back in church for March not just because of the virus but the current state of the church. Repairs are likely to be ongoing into March. Please check with the Vicar or Churchwardens.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

this month to

Connor Farrell	Sonny Shaw
James Rowland	Sophie Briggs
Megan Drinkall	Trudy Tomlinson
Scarlett Swain	

Congratulations

Belated birthday greetings to **Sarah Parker** who recently celebrated a special birthday. She kept it very quiet but we wish her 'Many happy returns' all the same!

Congratulations to **Graham & Brenda Tucker** on the celebration of their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on the 11th March. We wish them many more happy years together!

Captain Sir Tom Moore

St.Davids and the Cross Country Community pay tribute to a truly great man Captain Sir Tom.Moore. May his life be an inspiration to us all.

Thanks to Chris and Heather for this beautiful lighting display following the announcement of Captain Sir Tom Moore's death.

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.



"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.



Calveley School

The children at Calveley Primary have had a very busy term learning at home. We have been so proud of what they have achieved and how they have adapted to our online learning and live lessons. They have also been taking part in live PE lessons with Mr Gibbons, it's great to see the staff and parents joining in too!

This term we have celebrated National Storytelling Week. All the teachers read their favourite stories online, which inspired some of our children to record their own stories. Orlah in Reception read her favourite story "Dear Zoo" while Faye and Elizabeth in class 3 created their own story! In our celebration assembly Class 2 confidently read a page each of a story while class 3 read a ghost story they had created themselves. Future storytellers and authors in the making!

Nursery have been acting out lots of traditional tales this term. They have loved using different voices and acting out the stories with their friends. They have also been exploring the balancing blocks in our outdoor area, this was especially fun when it was snowing! All the children are now ready for a well deserved half term break.



Saying farewell to Bishop Keith

Bishop Keith Sinclair will retire as Bishop of Birkenhead on the 07 March after 14 years in the post. In a letter to the diocese, Bishop Mark invites us all to prepare for his retirement and participate in plans for his and Rosie's farewell.

Bishop Keith's final service as Bishop of Birkenhead will be at 3pm on Sunday 7th March in the Cathedral. Due to COVID, attendance will be online, but please do plan to join us if you can. Details on Chester Diocese website or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=frfGWfo2ykE&feature=youtu.be>



A poem for lockdown

I won't arise now and go to Innisfree.
I'll sanitise the door knob and make a cup of tea.
I won't go down to the sea again, I won't go out at all,
I'll wander lonely as a cloud from the kitchen to the hall.
There's a green-eyed yellow monster to the north of Katmandu
But I shan't be seeing him just yet, and nor, I think will you.
While the dawn comes up like thunder on the road to Mandalay
I'll be ordering in a pizza or collecting take away.
Give me your hands, I shan't request, albeit we are friends,
Or come within a mile of you, until this lockdown ends.

Anon.

Older readers will recognise poems hidden here which they had to learn by heart at school.

Sacred Plants: The Vine

The growth of vines, tending of vineyards, and the production of grapes and wine are referred to throughout the Old Testament and the New Testament. This is not surprising, because vines were known to be widely cultivated in Palestine before the arrival of the Israelites. The first mention of vines is in Genesis and the story of Noah, with further references in the books of Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel. The people of Israel are themselves referred to as the vine because they are faithful to God, the fruits of the vine representing their fruitfulness in God's work on Earth. However, the worthless wood of the vine is also used to symbolise the disobedient Judah, demonstrating its use as a positive or negative allegory, depending on the context.



In the New Testament, and the beginning of Jesus's ministry, His first recorded miracle is the changing of water into wine at the wedding in Cana. The huge volume of beautiful wine for the guests was created after a request from Mary, despite Jesus seeming to be reluctant to use his miraculous powers in this way. However, from then on, Jesus started to use the vine, grapes and wine to represent himself and the growing church around him. In the

Gospel of Matthew, Jesus refers to the church as a vineyard which has been planted and hedged around. In Psalm 80 the church is again compared to a vine. The grapes represent the Earthly good works of Jesus.



The painting of the Last Supper, by Leonardo Da Vinci, and the passages in the Bible referring to Jesus sharing a meal with his disciples before being betrayed, and arrested are familiar to us all. He is reported to have taken bread and said 'Take, eat, this is my body' then taking a cup said 'Drink from it, all of you. For this is my blood, and never again shall I drink from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it with you in the Kingdom of my Father' Jesus is forever linked divinely with bread and wine. The Church year is now leading us to the final months of Jesus' life on Earth, and to His fateful Last Supper, leaving the Eucharist as his symbol for all Christians.

Heather Pope

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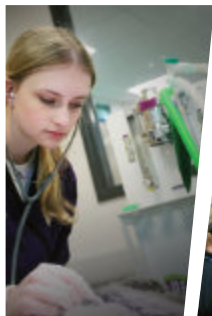
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Worleston School

The children of St. Oswald's have had a very unusual start to the year with most of them having to stay at home again with just our children of critical workers and vulnerable children in school. We are so proud of all of our children and how resilient and positive they have been over the past few months of home learning. We have continued with a broad and balanced curriculum as much as possible with lots of fun activities and projects for the children to do ranging from 'The History of Transport' in Year 1/2, Stone Age Britain in Year 3/4, World War 2 in Year 5/6.

The children have also been keeping active at home with weekly PE challenges from Mr Friel (PE Teacher for Rural Church Schools Academy Trust) as well as well-being activities set for the children to have a go at home. St. Oswald's marked Children's Mental Health Awareness Week in early February by looking at a book entitled 'Ish' by Peter Reynolds which highlights the importance of just having a go at things. Things don't always have to be perfect but are simply good enough being 'Ish'. The children then drew pictures of whatever made them

happy in the style of 'Ish' and we celebrated all their successes.

We are hoping to be able to open our doors to the whole school community very soon but until then we know that all our families are doing so well juggling everything and not forgetting to 'Let their Light Shine' every day with their thoughts, words and deeds.









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Recipe

Sichuan pepper beef stir-fry

Serves 2

Ingredients

For the marinade

- 1 tbsp Shaoxing rice wine or dry sherry
- 2 tsp ground Sichuan pepper
- 1 tsp dark soy sauce
- ½ tsp Chinese five-spice powder
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed and finely chopped
- 2 steaks, cut into strips

For the stir fry

- 2 tbsp groundnut oil
- 1 medium red chilli, de-seeded and chopped
- ½ onion, chopped
- 1 small handful broccoli, cut into small pieces
- 1 small handful mange-tout, chopped
- 1 small handful carrots, sliced into half-rounds
- 1 small handful baby sweetcorn, halved
- 300ml/11fl oz hot fresh beef or vegetable stock
- 1 tbsp light soy sauce
- 1 tbsp cornflour mixed with 2 tbsp cold water
- 1 spring onion, finely sliced
- Salt and ground white pepper

To serve

Rice

Method

- Mix all the marinade ingredients, except the beef, in a bowl. Add the strips of beef, mix well and leave to marinate for as long as possible, ideally overnight.
- For the stir fry, heat a wok over high heat and add the oil. Add the marinated beef and stir-fry for two minutes.
- Add the red chilli and onion and stir-fry for less than a minute then add the rest of the vegetables and stir-fry for another minute.
- Add the hot stock and stir well. Add the light soy sauce to season.
- Bring to the boil, add the cornflour and water paste and stir to mix thoroughly.
- Add the spring onion, season to taste with the salt and ground white pepper.
- Serve with rice.

St Oswald's Church, Worleston

Sidespersons			Coffee
14 th	Mar		No Coffee
28 th	Mar		will be served
Flowers			Cleaning
14 th	Mar	There will be	Mr & Mrs Ablard
28 th	Mar	no flowers	Mr & Mrs Booth
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!

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Some of these Easter eggs have been ordered. They are £4.50p each. If you would like one, or more, please contact Isobel Burnley (01270 624521), as soon as possible.

Condolences

Sadly, we report the death at St Luke's, Winsford, of Heidi Spencer. Heidi was a valued governor of the Rural Schools Academy Trust of which St Oswald's school is a member. Our thoughts and prayers are with her husband, David, and her sons, William and Lewis who are pupils at St Oswald's school.

Thanks

THANKS from **Mrs Josie Foster** and her neighbours to **Fred Percival** who, once again came to their aid very promptly when flood water was lapping at their doors.

We understand that with his tractor and pump he can put the Utilities in the shade!

Easter Eggs





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NO LATER THAN

Friday 12th March 2021

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