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



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

This letter has to be written in early March, well before Easter. In fact twenty six days days before. I've yet to see '26 shopping days to Easter' displayed anywhere even taking the pandemic into account. There are no signs in the Post Office telling me about 'last posting dates for Easter' or 'delivery date guaranteed to be in time for Easter'.



I wonder why not. Why does the whole world go mad, even the non-Christian world, about the birth of God's Son and then almost ignore his death and resurrection? Perhaps because it's easy to celebrate, quite rightly, the birth of a child. We can all identify with that and it's good fun getting together with our families, eating delicious food, singing special music, going to the panto, and having a break in the middle of winter. All this takes preparation - hence the countdown to Christmas.

Why then does the world make so little of the most incredible thing which has ever happened- that God's Son died but rose again. He was alive. He conquered death. It is hard to believe and I know people who wish they could. 'A dead man walking? Sorry but I can't believe that. It would be great but....'

Perhaps we who attend church, when we can, and say the words of the Christian Creed regularly, should give a bit of thought to what we say. We usually declare, in some form or other, that we believe that Jesus suffered and was buried and that on the third day he rose again. We know the story, recorded in all the gospels where the angel told the women at his tomb 'He's not here, he has risen as he said.' Not long afterwards Saint Peter was preaching that the man who had been crucified was raised from the dead. After that the good news began its journey round the world. Fortunately it got to us!

You may not be knee deep in cards and wrapping paper as you are before Christmas but you may have some Easter eggs or chicks or bunnies or an Easter bonnet to make. That's certainly cheering when all we hear just now is the new language of 'lockdown, vaccine, social distancing, the R rate, test & trace, vulnerable, key workers, normality, masks.' Amid all this, the simple truth needs to be remembered. These words need to be remembered. They will be said this Easter and long after the pandemic has gone and we've forgotten what the R rate is:

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Isobel

Happy Easter To You All

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Please Note!

The churches are expected to re-open on the 4th April, Easter Sunday, and will resume normal schedules thereafter. However as we know from experience over the last 12 months things can suddenly change, please continue to keep an eye on Church Notice boards and the Parish SMS service. Please see page 6 for further details of Easter Services.

Sunday Services April 2021

Acton					
7 10 10 11	44.00 and Caranaurian				
1	8:00 am Communion, 11 am Morning Prayer				
	9:30 am Messy Church at Home, 5:00 pm Evensong				
25 th Apr	11:00 am Morning Prayer				
2 nd May	11:00 am Communion				
Church Minshull					
4 th Apr	11:00 am Communion				
11 th Apr	11:00 am Cafe Church				
18 th Apr	11:00 am Communion				
25 th Apr	11:00 am Messy Church				
2 nd May	9:30 am Communion				
Worleston					
4 th Apr	9:30 am Communion				
11 th Apr	9:30 am Morning Prayer				
18 th Apr					
25 th Apr	9:30 am Communion				
2 nd May					
Wettenhall					
4 th Apr	11:00 am Communion				
11 th Apr	11:00 am Morning Prayer				
18 th Apr	11:00 am All Age				
	6:30 pm Communion				
2 nd May	·				

St David's Church Wettenhall				
	Sidespersons	Cleaning & Flowers		
4 th Apr	Mr N Moss	Mrs M Drinkall &		
11 th Apr	Mrs M Sherry	Mrs B Brockbank		
18 th Apr	Brownies	Mrs A Howard		
25 th Apr	Informal	& Family		
2 nd May	Mr G Tucker	Mrs E Carr &		
9 th May	Mrs M Drinkall	Mrs A Nicholas		
Visit: www.wettenhallchurch.org				

Please Note!!!

Although we have put these rotas in place we do not expect anyone to attend church for Sidespersons duties or cleaning & flower arranging if they have any concerns relating to the Coronavirus. Everyone who attends on a Sunday or at any time during the week for whatever

purpose, is required to sanitise their hands, record their entry for Track & Trace purposes & sanitise any surfaces they have touched before they leave.

The health & well-being of our community is obviously our priority.

Thank You

A huge thank you to everyone who has worked so hard over the last few months to restore & improve the Church building in time for re-opening on Easter Day. Robert Brooks has spent weeks renewing the flooring. He's been assisted by Roger Nicholas & Dan Edwards in the final stages. Chris Pope has replaced much of the lighting & brought the electrics up to scratch. Some of the ladies from the PCC have chosen a replacement carpet.

If anyone would like to make a contribution towards this, then all donations however small, will be gratefully received. The Churchwardens or the Treasurer will be happy to hear from you.

We are well-blessed with so many willing hands and appreciate everything that has been achieved over the last few months.

It's lovely to report something positive following the many difficulties of the last year.

Condolences

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Walter Williamson aged 94 years. Walter was a much-loved & respected Lay Reader at St. David's on a regular basis for over 25 years. He was a remarkable man & his ministry was greatly appreciated by everyone who knew him.

Our thoughts & prayers are with his daughters, Elizabeth & Kathleen and their families.

Also

Deepest sympathy is extended to Richard Jinks and his family Sarah, Lucy, & David on the sad news of Angela's death in February. They are very much in our thoughts & prayers at this sad time.

Mobile Library

The Mobile library is due at St. David's on Apr 20th, May 11th and Jun 1st between 12.05 & 12.20pm. This information may be subject to change at short notice. For further information contact Alsager Library 01270 375325

Welcome Back

We look forward to seeing everyone again in church on Easter Sunday the 4th April at 11 am





Aaron Peers Braden Tomlinson Henry Yarwood James Major

Jodie Basford Megan Alexander

Congratulations

Congratulations to Brenda and Graham Tucker on the celebration of their Diamond wedding anniversary in March.

We wish them many more happy years together.





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.

Darnhall Brownies

The Brownies unfortunately haven't been able to meet, however like many other groups we have been active in our WhatsApp group, staying in touch.

Thinking day was on February 22nd and our chosen country was Mexico, where several of the brownies made Mexican fans, nachos, fajitas and Mexican music was downloaded to listen to.

On a sad note we were hit with the fact that although brownies haven't been able to meet, we still had to pay for the insurance. like everyone we haven't been able to do any fundraising which would have assisted with this.

We would however like to thank St David's. Mr & Mrs Howard, Mr & Mrs Curbishley, Darnhall Parish Council & parents for their kind donations. We also received an amount from Darnhall Exhibition Foundation, which has enabled us to sponsor a child for the year.

Which on a great note we have taken receipt of some new brownies who have transferred from other brownie packs, so we would like to welcome them to our Darnhall Family.



Cholmondeston & Wettenhall Parish Council

At the Cholmondeston and Wettenhall Parish Council meeting on 23rd February 2021 the main subject of discussion was the state of the local lanes. The matters of concern were potholes and flooding, litter and dog poo! The responsibility for highway maintenance rests with Cheshire East and Cheshire West, but we can all make a difference to litter and dog waste. Much of the litter is thrown from passing cars. A big thank you to Martin Williams for organising the litter picking, and to all those people who have collected rubbish. This has made a huge difference to litter in local lanes. The collection and disposal of dog waste is obviously the responsibility for every dog walker. We discussed roadside dog bins and provision of dog waste bags, but the simplest way is for all of us walking dogs to pick it up and take it home!

Easter 2021

Maundy Thursday

A virtual service will be held on Zoom at 7:30 pm

Good Friday

Churchyard services will be held at the following locations & times:

Worleston 9:45 am

Church Minshull 10:30 am

Wettenhall 11:15 am

Acton 12:00 pm

At 2:00pm there will be a virtual service on Zoom (and maybe Whatsapp).

Easter Sunday

See the Service Schedule on page 3 for all Easter Sunday service times and locations.

If you are not on the parish email list and would like to attend the virtual services please contact Revd Anne Lawson for the links: revanne@uwclub.net.

Happy Easter

A Railway Poem

The line to Heaven by Christ was made, With heavenly truth the Rails are laid, From Earth to Heaven the line extends, To Life Eternal where it ends. Repentance is the Station then, Where Passengers are taken in: No fee for them is there to pay, For Jesus is Himself the way.

God's Word is the first Engineer,
It points the way to Heaven so clear,
Through tunnels dark and dreary here
It does the way to Glory steer,
God's Love the Fire, His Truth the Steam,
Which drives the Engine and the Train;
All you who would to Glory ride,
Must come to Christ, in Him abide.

In First, and Second, and Third Class, Repentance, Faith, and Holiness, You must the way to Glory gain, Or you with Christ will not remain. Come then, poor Sinners, now's the time, At any Station on the Line, If you'll repent, and turn from sin, The Train will stop and take you in.

There may be people in our parishes who worked on the railways and might appreciate this poem. It is from a railway tombstone in Ely Cathedral. It is not known when it was written, or by whom.



A Thank You

There have been many acts of thoughtfulness during this past year of Covid. I would like to mention Sue Rayner and Sue Adams who have been spotted many, many times litter picking around the lanes of Worleston. One day Geoff came home and said I have given that lady a box of chocolates and I will add to that and say 'thank you' to them both.

Sue Heap

Sacred Plants: The Palm

As we read this month's magazine we are right in the midst of Holy Week, starting with Palm Sunday and ending on Easter Sunday, both triumphs for Jesus in very different ways. It starts with Jesus riding into Jerusalem, on a colt, with cheering people waving palms and laying them on the ground in front of the donkey. Palm leaves had been a symbol of goodness and victory long before this event, the Ancient Greek goddess, Nike, being represented by palm leaves in myths. Throughout the Middle East palm leaves had already been depicted on coins and important buildings to signify integrity and victory over enemies. Early Christians adopted the symbol of palm leaves to represent the victory of the faithful over death.



Palms grow throughout tropical and subtropical areas, and the Judean date palm [phoenix dactylifera] is mentioned in the Bible in Deuteronomy and Judges, remaining a widespread tree in that area even today. It was a symbol of the wealth and fertility of the region. Every part of the tree was used, the trunk for building, leaves for baskets and roofing and the dates eaten for their sweet flesh.

The triumphal ride of Jesus is still commemorated throughout the Christian church each year, with palm leaf crosses or palm branches from developing countries taken into services. The following year those same palms may be burnt to provide the ash for Ash Wednesday.

However, in the Northern hemisphere palms do not grow naturally and at Easter time few native flowers are in bloom. This has lead to alternative names for Palm Sunday, with substitutes such as Branch



Sunday, Yew Sunday and Flower Sunday. The goat or pussy willow is a popular substitute in many countries. In Poland this extends to a legend that Jesus asked angels to collect pussy willow cotton buds in a forest in Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday. Nearer to home, churches in Crewe celebrated the day with bunches of pussy willow, or crosses made from the branches, being processed into church by children.



Heather Pope

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The Quiet Garden & Labyrinth











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Rev Malcolm Lorimer 01270 625278 maxcricket@btinternet.com



"The primary vision of the Quiet Garden Movement is to initiate and resource a network of local opportunities for prayer, silence, reflection and the appreciation of beauty; for learning about Christian Spirituality; and for experiencing creativity and healing in the context of God's love."

The Quiet Garden & Labyrinth at Poole Methodist Chapel

Poole Methodist Chapel Wettenhall Road Poole, Nantwich, CWS 6AL









Calveley School

This term we have welcomed back all of our children and their families! We are so proud of how well the children have settled back into school, and it was wonderful to see all their excited and smiling faces on our first day back. The children have enjoyed catching up with their friends and returning to their classrooms. We have a busy term ahead packed with lots of fun activities, with a focus on wellbeing.

In class one, nursery and reception children are looking at the topic "Once upon a time" and are exploring traditional tales. Their role play area has transformed into "Grandma's cottage" and they enjoy acting out different stories!

If you would like to join our nursery and reception class, please contact the school office. We would love to show you our amazing indoor and outdoor environments.











Worleston School

After 80 school days home home-learning and 78 live virtual lessons for our children, we are greatly looking forward to welcoming them back to St. Oswald's on Monday 8th March. We have been so proud of all of our children and the whole St. Oswald's community for their resilience to keep going and 'Let their Light Shine' over the past 9 weeks that school has been closed for. The 'Caring Christian Family' of St. Oswald's really has worked together to support each other and help everyone get through this tricky period in good spirits. Our number of children in school accessing our key worker provision has grown over the past months of February and March and we have been balancing in-school learning with virtual home learning as a school so well. Our dedicated staff really have been going the extra mile to ensure that all our families are cared for and have what they need to continue learning.

On the 4th March, the whole school celebrated World Book Day 2021. Our School PTA parents bought all our children a goodie bag in preparation for the big day which included a new reading book, a sachet of hot chocolate and a bookmark. These were then hung on the school gate for the children to come and choose which goodie bag they wanted to take home. On World Book Day itself the children got dressed up as either their favourite book character or just in something cosy and shared their favourite book with their class. It was a lovely day to celebrate books and reading whether the children were at home or in school.

We currently have spaces in our Nursery and Reception provision at St. Oswald's Primary School and are able to provide COVID safe guided tours of our school outside school hours for any parents that are looking for a place for their child. Please visit our school website: http://www.stoswald-worl.cheshire.sch.uk/ or Tel: 01270 623826 for further information.







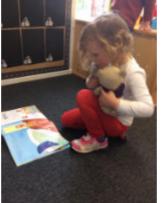
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Recipe

Very Easy Peanut Butter Cookies

Ingredients
260g Crunchy Peanut Butter
1 Egg
200g Caster Sugar



Method

- · Preheat oven to 195C
- Put all the ingredients in a large bowl & mix well into a dough
- Use 2 teaspoons to make a small ball of dough (50p size)
- Place on a baking tin lined with greaseproof about 5cm apart
- · Use a fork to flatten to 1cm thick.
- Bake for approx 20 minutes or less if you prefer squidgy.
- · Makes around 25 cookies

	St Oswald's Church, Worleston						
Sidespersons			Coffee				
4 th A	۱pr	Mr & Mrs M Alexander		No Coffee			
11 th A	۱pr	Mr & Mrs D Booth		will be served			
25 th A	۱pr	Mrs P Haigh					
	Flowers			Cleaning			
		There will be	April	Mr & Mrs Booth			
		no flowers	May	Mrs A Stokes			
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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Help Wanted

For some weeks now, the parents, governors and friends of St Oswald's School have been emailing Cheshire East to voice their concern about the bad state of the roads round the school.

This has been partly successful in that some of the pot-holes have been filled in. However, after heavy rain, the road floods and is dangerous. If you could spare a few minutes to add your concerns, the school and local residents would be grateful. The address is:

https:/www,cheshireeasthighways.org/report-it-general_aspx

Thank you!

A Thought

Our church buildings have been closed for much of the past year. When they re-open we will expect them to be sound, warm and clean. And they will be!

The outgoings during the pandemic have been very little different. Insurance and maintenance costs remain the same and some heating is needed to prevent damp and deterioration.

Our building at St Oswald's is in good condition and at St David's there is a new floor. All this takes money and with no congregations income has fallen.

Could you spare a thought on how you might help? Some people give to the church with a banker's order and so happily that continues. Otherwise you could post a cheque to the treasurer or vicar, of the amount you usually give. Also it's not un-known for those who give in cash to put their weekly donation in a jar or tin and then bring it all when church reopens. It's amazing how it mounts up!

.....just a thought.



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St David's St Oswald's

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