



Tenterden, St Michael's and Smallhythe
www.tenterdencofe.co.uk

THE VIRAL TIMES

Friday 3rd April 2020

WELCOME!

Well, good morning to you all wherever you are! This is the morning report!

When we say 'wherever you are', we understand that many of you are staying in bed each day until your copy of the Viral Times drops into your inbox so that you can start your day with the team and the wider community, which is great to know. Where else is the VT being read? Do let us know... polite answers only! It is certainly a good way to begin the day. We have been overwhelmed by the fantastic material we receive each day for inclusion.

So, whether you need practical ideas, something spiritual, something to keep the grey matter active (see the quiz and crossword below), something to entertain and amuse or something thought provoking, we seem to have it all – thanks to you! Please do keep contributing and we will include as much as we can.

Oh, and we should remind you that the Viral Times comes in four versions: the emailed version contains absolutely everything; the video version may include only passing reference to some items; the written version on the website won't include pictures; and the hand delivered version won't include internet references. We hope you are clear now, even if we aren't!

DAILY WORSHIP

The Stations of the Cross image that will form the backdrop to our worship today shows Jesus meeting with his mother. The Stations of the Cross represent a traditional account of the journey of Jesus from his condemnation to death to his placing in the tomb. Between now and Easter we will use a different picture each day as the focus or background for our prayers.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Today we wish Nick Marshall a very Happy Birthday! Nick, we hope the day is a real celebration of life, despite the circumstances. Get out there and party and blow a raspberry at C19 (whilst keeping socially distant and safe)!

SERVICES AND READINGS

Morning Prayer: Psalm 126; Exodus 10; Hebrews 13.1-16.

Evening Prayer: Psalm 31; Jeremiah 24; John 12.20-36a.

Compline will also be posted tonight.

Remember you can continue to share in our services by clicking on this link: <https://www.tenderdencofe.co.uk/listen>.

CLAPPING WITH THE CLAPPER

Last night we all went outside to applaud our NHS workers. From the nation's doorsteps, windows, gardens and balconies, we clapped for the carers. To add a little more volume, and to show the support of our churches for those on the front line, we added the sound of a church bell. Only one, because of social distancing in the ringing chamber. We will ring the bell every Thursday evening until the curse of this virus has been lifted and thereby sound a small but defiant note of hope across our community!

ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS

This could so easily be a description of the ministry team, consisting as it does of Lindsay, Jeanette and Cris! But whilst this is true, the title refers to something else entirely! The National Theatre will release a new performance each week to view online at home for free, starting with 'One Man, Two Guvnors' starring James Corden. The performance was last night, but you can stream it all week. Go to <https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/nt-at-home>.

PALM CROSSES

Palm Sunday is almost here! Palm crosses are still available from the porch at the Vicarage, and from the porch at St Michael's. Please do come and collect one during your daily exercise. The crosses have been blessed.

ZOOM INTO HOLY WEEK!

We're going to begin this Holy Week with a leap into the unknown! At least for us. We are going to hold an act of worship on Palm Sunday evening at 6pm and connect live (all of us together) using the Zoom app. The service will include some hymns and to enable you to participate we will email a hymn sheet. Further instructions will be given in the next issue of Viral Times, but in the meantime download Zoom onto your phone, iPad or computer. Don't leave it till Sunday - get cracking now!

DO WE NEED A CHURCH BUILDING?

We opened up this question yesterday in light of the fact that we are currently unable to worship in a church. Here is what you have said so far:

Charlie Nicholls picks up on their importance for being able to worship together – he says, 'Churches, places of worship, were surely built so people could worship together and built to the glory of God. It is our duty and privilege to keep them going.' Davina also sees value in the building pointing out that English Heritage might have a thought on this! She also however gives us three images in her reflection on this question: 'Temple wall in Jerusalem now a focus of religious celebration and prayer, the pricket stand and prayer candles and Jesus conversation with the Samaritan woman!' Well, what do you think?

LONDON UNDERGROUND QUIZ

Can you rearrange the letters to spell the name of London Underground stations? The answers will appear tomorrow. Thank you, Sue Gough, for this and keeping us mentally active!

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|----|--|
| 1 | Ancient road | 12 | Peer's wooing |
| 2 | Alpine residence | 13 | Stone vaulting |
| 3 | University entertainment | 14 | Noble link |
| 4 | Elliptical | 15 | Halloween veteran |
| 5 | Arms store | 16 | Village of cushions |
| 6 | Angry monarch | 17 | Where environmentally friendly cars stop |
| 7 | St Michael | 18 | Lofty entrance |
| 8 | Charred wood | 19 | Farm sheds |
| 9 | Plum | 20 | Created a valley |
| 10 | Parthenon | | |
| 11 | Up the wrong tree | | |

TODAY'S PRAYERS

Please pray for the congregation of St Mildred's, and the churchwardens, Chris Brown and Chris Cheesman; for all who live in Westwell Court, West Cross, West Cross Gardens and Mews and Caxton Close; for Stella Queen, Joan Hayes, Minnie Swift, Jill Edison and all who have died.

We pray today for all those suffering from COVID-19, and especially today for all those affected by disappointment about special events that have been cancelled:

God of hope, in times of disappointment you lead us to seek fresh purpose and new hope. Be with all those who are unable to participate in events they were looking forward to. Amidst the sadness, help us to find joy in the simple things of daily living, and amidst the difficulty of today, remind us of the hope of better things to come through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord bless us and keep us, the Lord make his face to shine upon us and be gracious to us, the Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon us and give us peace. **Amen.**

CONTACT POINTS

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PLEASE REMEMBER

Keep Safe, Keep Praying, Keep Connected!