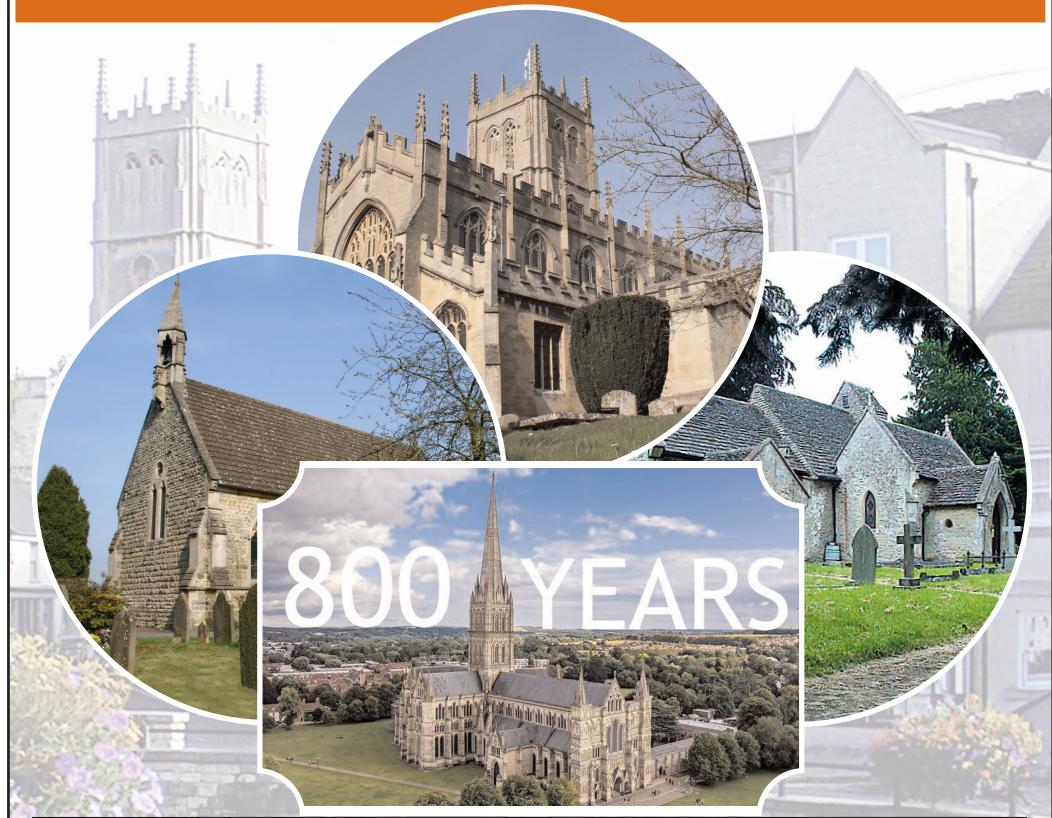


NEWSLETTER FOR THE PARISH OF CALNE & BLACKLAND



*...keeping you in touch
with your church family*

June 2020

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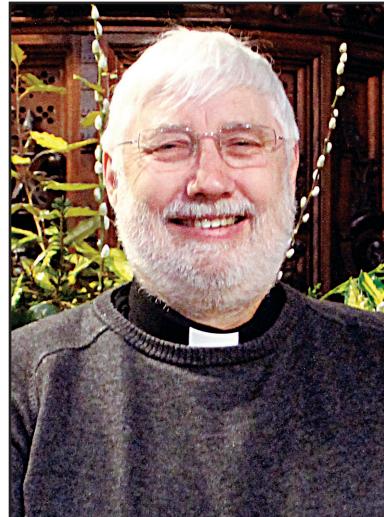
Mrs. Sadie Kenway,

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Church House is closed during the corona virus crisis.

Part of a song of praise from St Francis of Assisi

*Praised be You my Lord with all Your creatures,
especially Sir Brother Sun,*

Who is the day through whom You give us light.

*And he is beautiful and radiant with great splendour,
Of You Most High, he bears the likeness.*

*Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars,
In the heavens you have made them bright, precious and fair.*

Church addresses - No services are taking place during the crisis

Holy Trinity Church, Quemerford, Calne, London Rd, Wiltshire, SN11 0AR

St. Mary's Church, Church Street, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 0HU

St. Peter's Church, Blackland, Calne, Wiltshire, SN11 8UQ

Website: www.parishofcalneandblackland.org.uk

Find us on facebook @stmaryschurchcalne

**Look out in both these places for information about online
worship during the corona virus lockdown**

Thought for June

2020 has been designated the International Year of the Nurse and Midwife in honour of Florence Nightingale's bicentenary (12th May 1820). I am writing this on the Sunday when the Bishop of London, Sarah Mullally led a service to remember this extraordinary woman whose faithful obedience to God's calling laid the foundation for modern nursing.

This brought to mind another story of women of faith whose sense of vocation bore remarkable fruit. In 1884 three women who were Third Order Secular Franciscans were helping out in a Hampstead parish. These women went on to found a religious community in Aldershot, where they looked after 100 orphans. Some sisters from this community subsequently opened a 17 bed Maternity and General Hospital in Guildford. The spirit of this place attracted many young women and kindled a fire and passion for mission, and in 1947 the first missionaries were sent to China and Zambia.

The Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood, as they were now known, never made it to China due to the advancement of Communist troops, and instead diverted to a hospital in Hong Kong. In 1949 they took over the running of a women's TB hospital. An early "dream" began to materialize. As early as 1952 the "dream" to build a Catholic Hospital in



Singapore began to grow in the hearts and minds of the Sisters. "On May 12 1952, there was a meeting at Mount Alvernia about our new hospital..." In October 1956 land was purchased and on 4 March 1961, Mount Alvernia Hospital opened with 64 beds. The hospital has developed and enlarged over the years and is now a 303 bed, acute general and maternity hospital, and two medical centres.



The sisters of the Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood take their inspiration from St. Francis of Assisi and from Mary, the mother of Jesus.

"Our charism encourages us to conceive, birth and nurture the life of Christ - which is a life of love - in our hearts, in our communities, and in our society. We are one in mission although our ministries are diverse."

St. Francis of Assisi said to his brothers as he lay dying: "I have done what was mine to do, may Christ teach you what is yours to do." The sisters have taken this to heart and have discerned that to "serve all with love - this is what is ours to do."

My parents professed no faith but by a quirk of fate I was born in Mt. Alvernia Hospital three months after it opened. A Catholic priest on his rounds made the sign of the cross on my forehead and blessed me. Christ continues to teach me what is mine to do - to serve all with love is a good start.

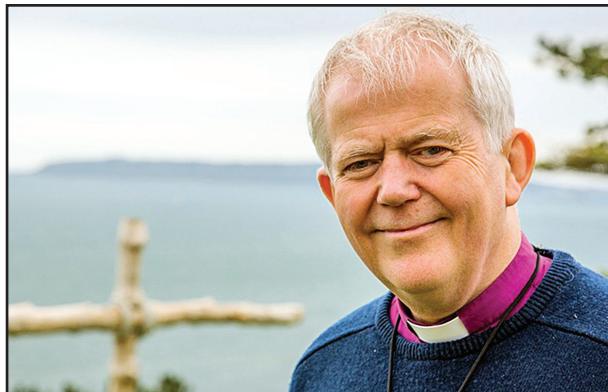
Rev'd Linda Carter

Bishop Nicholas wrote a letter on 6th May. Here are two extracts from that letter:

The decision of the House of Bishops means that there is no longer any inhibition on clergy praying in their own churches, either privately or to stream a service. This is a very limited provision. Even so, you will want to pay attention to other elements of the guidance about safety, cleaning, and social distancing. Those who are vulnerable because of health issues or age may understandably decide to continue to stay at home.

We have all felt the impact of Coronavirus on our families and in our communities. Some have been particularly badly hit but, as a region, the South West has been less badly affected than other parts of the country. Please continue to take great care. With the prospect of some relaxation of travel in the next few months and as a holiday destination, we do not want to find ourselves more badly affected by a second wave of infection. In other parts of the world, some church buildings and places of worship have been epicentres of infection. As we prepare to open up, the regular cleaning of church buildings and hygiene arrangements will be very important. Guidance will be provided when we get to that stage.'

Rt Revd Nicolas Holtam



Of course we are all keen to get back into our Churches, but understand that this is not going to happen for a while yet. Singing hymns is out of the question for the time being and we hope that we will not be facing Christmas without being able to sing Christmas carols. Since 16th March we have been getting used to watching services online and meeting together via Zoom. This has been a great way to continue our church life in difficult circumstances. On 10th May the online service was viewed 107 times and the VE Day service from Marden Vale was viewed 300 times. This is all very encouraging and will provide ideas for enabling people to access support from churches when the lockdown is over. There is some suggestion that places of worship may be able to open in a limited way in July.

Calne Food Bank is operating from Church House during the Corona Virus lockdown. Opening hours for those in need of food or to receive

donations are Tuesday and Friday 12noon-4pm, Wednesday 10-1pm . Please phone 01249 816522 before visiting.

Face Coverings

An article from the archives

Talking through your hat ... You have probably heard someone say this, but did you know that in the 17th Century men actually talked through their hats in church?

Men wore hats and hoods in church and, on entering at the door they would remove their hat and, holding it before their mouth, breathe a short prayer before replacing their hat and sitting down.

From Our Treasurer

It's very tempting in this worrying and stressful time to push such mundane things as finance to the back of the mind, but the work of the church still continues. Most of our costs remain unchanged. Several church family members have/are switching form envelopes to standing orders. It's easy to do just contact your bank and please let me know so that I can keep a look out on our statements. You could switch to the Parish Giving Scheme but at the moment that might take some time as forms

have posted and only original PGS forms are valid. With post as it is it would probably take for ever to set up. We have paid £20,000 towards our quota commitment; we are unlikely to be able to send anymore for a couple of months. We are about to submit a gift aid claim, which should give us approx. £3,000. It is far from gloom and doom so we must not be discouraged. Any question by email to me please.

Graham Spencer
gs_spencer@btopenworld.com

Time is Precious

'Be attentive to time and how you spend it. Nothing is more precious. This is evident when you recall that in one tiny moment heaven may be gained or lost. God, the master of time, never gives a future. He gives

only the present, moment by moment.'

From 'The Cloud of Unknowing' a spiritual guide written in the latter half of the 14th century by an anonymous English monk.

We all Need a Laugh

From “A Bundle of Laughs,” J.John And Mark Stibbe, Monarch Books

ADVERTS - The following were taken from classified ads in Newspapers

Free Yorkshire Terrier. Eight years old. Hateful little dog

Snow blower for sale; only used on snowy days

2 wire mesh butchering gloves: one five finger,
one three finger. Pair: £10

Nice parachute: never opened - used once

800 Years Salisbury Cathedral Anniversary Celebration

On the 28th of April 1220 the first foundation stone of what was to be the new Salisbury Cathedral was laid and 800 years later, despite coronavirus our Cathedral has been celebrating this special anniversary. While the present lockdown has put paid to many of the planned celebrations, the largest ever contemporary art exhibition held at the Cathedral has still been put in place and can be



accessed virtually, and the anniversary itself was celebrated with a special online Service of Thanksgiving.

The choristers also reminded listeners of the Legend of the Arrow. How an archer, based at Old Sarum, decided where to build the Cathedral by shooting an arrow down into the valley. The arrow hit a deer, and legend has it the deer came to rest where the present Cathedral stands.

Editorial Team:-

Sue Twyman, Jane Ridgwell and Jack Robinson.

Illustration, Graphic Design and Layout:- **Alex Grenfell.**



And finally...

If you organise any groups or events in the parish and would like them to be included in this newsletter then get in touch with the editors.

We would also love to have articles about the different groups in the parish to spread the word more widely and encourage people to come along.

Please Email or give copies of items to us in plenty of time for the next newsletter, the deadline is 10th of the preceding month.

email: cbp.news.editor@gmail.com