



PARISH OF BUXTED & HADLOW DOWN
ST. MARGARET THE QUEEN • ST. MARY THE VIRGIN • ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST



<https://www.bhdchurches.co.uk/>

News from the Parish – 16th August 2020

First of all an apology – I got the wrong readings in last week's newsletter (to misquote Eric Morecambe : "*I'm giving all the right readings, but not necessarily in the right order.*") My thanks to those who contacted me (you do read the newsletter) and sorry for the consternation caused, and thank you for accepting my apologies. It does mean that you get them two weeks in a row!

Which all allows me to move to the phrase ; "*to err is human, to forgive divine*", which comes from a poem by Alexander Pope in 1711 which, although it is about poetry and poetry readers, Pope explains that while we all make mistakes, we should aspire to do as God does and show mercy and forgiveness to others. I think that a few literary critics, indeed all critics and commentators, would do well to think about this.

Forgiveness is difficult. As I write this, we are about to have a two minute silence for VJ Day and I will be thinking about my father-in-law who was a prisoner of war on the Burma railway, and all those of that generation who suffered. Out of this suffering, though, you hear stories of those who could forgive – and did.

This week I happened to watch the film "Unbroken" about the US Olympian Louis Zamperini in World War II. He survived 47 days on a raft, after his aircraft crashed, before being sent to a series of prisoner of war camps in Japan, where he was brutally treated. After the war he lived out his promise to convert to Christianity, devote his life to God and forgive his war-time captors, meeting with many of them.

I'm not sure that I could have done that, but I hope that I would!



Tea Party – Saturday 8th August

With very many thanks to Marion and Anthony Myers for hosting a tea party in their garden last Saturday which, I am told (I was away), was a great success and there was some difficulty in clearing the garden of chatting visitors at the end of the afternoon. Surplus cakes were also available at St Margaret's the next day and funds for the Parish have been raised.

Thanks to those who attended, made cakes and helped out – but mainly to Marion and Anthony.

Church services

The services for this Sunday (16th August) will be :

8.00	St Margaret's	Holy Communion
9.00	St Mark's	Family Service
11.00	St Mary's	Patronal Mass (see below)

There will be a Thursday communion at St Margaret's at 10.00 am.

Please be reminded that face coverings are required in Places of Worship, unless you have a health reason for not wearing one, and we do need to continue to practice social distancing and hygiene and keeping a record of who has attended.

The services for the following Sunday (23rd August) will be :

8.00	St Margaret's	Holy Communion
9.00	St Mark's	All-Age Service
10.00	St Margaret's	Parish Eucharist
11.15	St Mary's	Parish Mass

St Mary's Patronal Service – 16th August

St Mary's Patronal service will take place on 16th August, **starting at 11.00** (earlier than usual) but due to space restrictions at St Mary's it will not be the united service for the parish that is the norm, where we gather as one congregation. You will see that there is a service at each of the other two churches (8.00 at St Margaret's and 9.00 at St Mark's – there will be **no** 10.00 at St Margaret's)



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Those who wish to attend St Mary's are invited to join them, but please contact Colin Woolgrove (colinhwoolgrove@aol.com) so that he can keep a record of numbers.

Readings for this Sunday (again!)

Genesis 45: 1-15

Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15: (10-20) 21-28

Psalm 85: 8-13

Prayers

In our prayers this week we bring to mind Norman Longley, in hospital after a fall, and the family of Nicola Whitehead, who has recently departed, as well as all those known to us.

A prayer for all those affected by coronavirus

*Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.*



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Providing support

Fr David Milnes continues to provide spiritual support, by email and telephone, and we know that a number of you have appreciated this. His details are him at : FRMILNES@aol.com or 01825 830076 .

But do you, or someone you know, want pastoral support of any kind? Or, alternatively, would you like to offer support; be it just a voice at the end of the telephone? Please let your churchwardens know.

The Virtual Collection Plate

Whilst there will be a collection plate at services (whose contents will be quarantined before counting and banking), however the guidance gives a clear preference for on-line giving.

If you are able to make a donation, then our bank details are :
HSBC Account: Parish of Buxted & Hadlow Down PCC A/C No: 11454064 Sort Code: 40-45-32. If you wish to gift aid then please ask for a form from the Treasurer (treasurer@bhdchurches.co.uk)

Alternatively, the Planned Giving Scheme is where you can make a monthly direct debit and Gift Aid is automatically calculated. You can sign up by telephone (0333 002 1271) and all you will need are your bank details and the Parish name (Parish of Buxted and Hadlow Down) and our PGS number (which is : *103080519*).

Thank you, in advance.