

Latest news from the Parish of Goring by Sea.

25th. February 2021

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Alan Newnham RIP

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Alan this week. Our thoughts and prayers are with Yvonne and her family. Yvonne did so much to raise our spirits in Lockdown last year with her Quarantine Quavers, so we hope she will know and feel that we are now supporting and upholding her in our prayers.

Easter Services and Returning to Public Worship

As you are probably aware, we have, this week, been given a four-step programme to reduce and eventually eliminate the restrictions that are in place to reduce the spread of the Covid-19 virus. Of course, the question that we are all asking is, "When will we return to worship at St Mary's and St Laurence's churches?"

When the decision was made by the PCC on the 11th. January 2021 to postpone public worship, we said that we would keep the decision under constant review and open again for public worship as soon as we felt it was safe to do so. We continue to review and pray about this, and are still mindful of the need to protect each other from the risk of infection. However, we are seeing a decrease in the number of cases and a significant number of parishioners have now had their first vaccination.

We are hoping and praying for a return to public worship for some services in Holy Week and for Easter Sunday and we ask that you pray with us for the Lord's guidance on this decision. We hope to be able to give more detail over the next two weeks.

St Mary's Church Open for Prayer

St Mary's Church is open daily for prayer. With the continued support of volunteers, we are delighted to announce new opening times to coincide with the start of Lent. The days are drawing longer and spring is officially only a month away (20th. March).

New opening times Monday to Saturday (inclusive) 10.00am to 4.00pm. Sunday 12.00noon to 4.00pm

World Day of Prayer 5th March 2021



This year the World Day of Prayer would have been held at St. Mary's Church. The service will now be held via Zoom. If you would like to participate with the service at **2.30pm on the 5th March** please contact Alison Evans via email by 3rd March. She will provide you with the Zoom link. She will also arrange to distribute a service booklet for anyone who does not have access to the Internet inviting you to be a part of the worldwide day of prayer.

Alison Evans: alison.evansm3195064@hotmail.co.uk

Update from Sharon Wilcox our on-going mission partner (CMS) in Ecuador.

On Ash Wednesday Sharon wrote: "... on Friday I lost my sense of smell and my appetite. I had been in Manta and eaten something that was a bit dodgy, so was not feeling great. **On Monday it was confirmed that I have parasites, and Covid19.** I have not had any breathing problems, and today when I sprayed a mosquito, I realised my sense of smell is coming back. I am taking about 13 different things to combat everything. It is a great weight loss plan!! Seriously, I am ok and praying that it can stay that way. Every blessing. Sharon."

Please keep in mind that Sharon will have had to pay for all the medicines she takes and in the event of needing hospital treatment that has to be paid for too. The added problem in Ecuador is that the presidential race first round was too close to announce a clear winner. Please pray that the unrest that is already happening does not increase and add another hazard to an already difficult situation.

Alison Evans

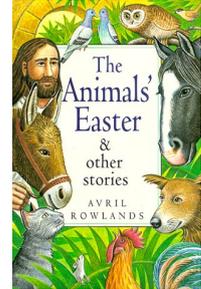
The Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team.

Our Mission giving focus this quarter is the Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team. This is a search and rescue charity that seeks to save lives at Beachy Head, East Sussex. Details can be found on their website: bhct.org.uk/ or if you would prefer any monies can be forwarded via the parish - please contact Ruth Jepson on 620080 or email ruthmjepson@gmail.com if you'd like to donate via the parish.

In addition to the walk and event at Beachy Head that Fr. Neill wrote about last week, we are exploring the idea of holding a **virtual Lent Lunch later in March** to raise funds for this charity. More details in next week's newsletter.

The Animals' Easter – for the young and the young at heart!

Remember to tune into Fr. Neill's **storytime session this Sunday**. He has recorded **8 storytime sessions for the younger members** of our church family (and probably some of the older ones too!). Each of them is a story through the eyes of animals that reflect the build up to Easter. They will be released at 8am every Sunday morning up to and including Easter Day on Sunday 4th April, so perfect for younger ones who have woken up early!



YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLw5jepUmsHC92KISfh3Cabt1I-HmRmf0I>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/StMaryAndStLaurenceGoringBySea>

Services online this week

10.00am Sunday. 28th February. Said Eucharist. **2nd Sunday of Lent** from St Laurence's Church

10.00am Wednesday. 3rd March. Morning Prayer will be said via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/95526428233?pwd=Y3BVNmUxOGRvWGQxeDYxdS9XckV3QT09>

Meeting ID: **955 2642 8233** Password: **386017**

8.00pm Tuesday 2nd and Friday 5th March Compline / Night Prayer

All Age Worship. Sunday 7th. March 11.00am. The 3rd. Sunday of Lent

Services are streamed on Facebook unless otherwise stated:

<https://www.facebook.com/StMaryAndStLaurenceGoringBySea/>

Coffee Time. Thursdays at 10.00am via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/94955900058?pwd=a2thdkIUeUxpSG9TTHZtSWpWS09zUT09>

Meeting ID: 949 5590 0058 Passcode: 847352



Prayer Circles

There are people who will pray regularly about any concerns you may have, for you, your family or friends, and will keep all requests confidential among themselves. To request such prayers please telephone either Sylvia on 01903 529743 or Barbara on 01903 240613

Pastoral Visits

Please let Fr. Keith, Fr. Neill or the Wardens know if you have a personal or pastoral concern or may know of someone in need.



May God Bless you and give you peace,

Fr. Keith, Fr. Neill, Gill, Janice, Ruth and Geoff Donations

You can donate direct to the Parish of Goring by Sea and our various fund-raising events by using this QR code.

