

St Arvans Church On line Community Bulletin Wednesday 29th April 2020

St Arvans ONLINE ! TONIGHT AT 8PM – Evening prayer

Find our live service stream

at: https://www.facebook.com/pg/vicaragecello1/videos/?ref=page_internal

Sunday Morning Eucharist will be broadcast live at 10am

Wednesday evening: Night Prayer will be broadcast live at 8 pm

On our webpage at: www.starvanschurch.org.uk All Bulletins and Sunday Readings

On Facebook : St Arvan's Parish group – please like us and become a follower

On Instagram: starvanschurch

On Twitter: St Arvans Church @Arvanschurch

Please send any contributions to this bulletin to starvanschurchnews@btinternet.com

The Sunday readings and meditation will be circulated separately.

Please share it with others whom you think will be interested, and invite them to contact us if they want to go on the mailing list at: starvanschurchnews@btinternet.com

Copies of all our bulletins are also on our webpage.

Father Michael invites anyone who needs assistance or wants a chat to call him on 622064 or 07867 803479

Tomorrow, 30th April, is Captain Tom Moore's 100th birthday! The whole world has heard the story of his 100 laps to commemorate the event, and he has raised over £29million. Let's sing Happy Birthday tomorrow evening, at 8pm, when we come out to applaud the NHS and care workers.

Then on Monday 4th May at 8pm, we are all encouraged to come out and sing the Welsh National Anthem!

There will be a **Virtual Village Songs of Praise** via Zoom, on **Monday 11th May at 5pm.**

Put the date in your busy diaries now ! For more details, see the Music section below.

Prayer

Psalm 66

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
sing the glory of his name;
give to him glorious praise.
Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!
Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you.
All the earth worships you;
they sing praises to you,
sing praises to your name."

Today's Gospel: St John 6: 35-40

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes

to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.”

Stations of the Resurrection

You may not be familiar with this meditation. It is very similar to the Stations of the Cross – a meditation on 14 events between the Resurrection and Pentecost. For each event there is an appropriate reading, a prayer and a meditation. A complete version is in the Word file attached to this bulletin. This version has been specially adapted for the current situation, and includes the following reflection on the “Great Commission”:

In lockdown it is hard to ‘go [and make disciples of all men]’ in the way that Jesus instructs the disciples. But, despite Coronavirus, we are still called to be apostles, to be sent out to do the work that Jesus has entrusted to us. We are finding new ways of doing this, through using digital media to livestream services and reflections, by helping people to pray at home, to help support the vulnerable. How is Jesus calling you to carry out his mission at this time?

Music

We are planning to organise a Virtual Village Songs of Praise via Zoom, on Monday 11th May at 5pm.

Do send in suggestions of your favourite hymns and we will try to feature them.

How it will work: you will need to know how to access a meeting in Zoom. If you want help with this, please don’t wait for the day, let me know and we can try it out bilaterally in advance.

I will send out a meeting invitation with all the details, a day or two beforehand and will include a list of hymns we are going to sing, with lyrics. Because of the way Zoom works, you will be able to hear the accompaniment, but nobody else (including the host!) will be able to hear you! However, you will see Father Michael and other participants, and know that we are all singing along together!

Here are a couple of musical suggestions for this week:

This Joyful Eastertide, one of my favourite Easter hymns, here in a lovely arrangement by a small choir

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J7TFuqp97cs>

Gwahoddiad. By contrast to the previous hymn, this rousing rendition is sung by the world's largest ever Male Voice Choir! You've got to love it!

In 1872, an American Methodist minister named Lewis Hartsough wrote the lyric and the tune, during the course of a revival meeting in Iowa. The song became known by its first line: "I hear thy welcome voice." The song was noticed not long after its first publishing by a Welsh Methodist minister named John Roberts (also known by his poetic name of Ieuan Gwyllt). He translated the song into Welsh and it quickly became a deeply beloved hymn; many presume that it has been Welsh all along.

"Gwahoddiad," means "Invitation," referring to the invitation from Jesus described in the song: "Calling to me / To come and and wash all my sins / In the river of Calvary."

*Ar glwydd, dyma fi
Ar dy alwad di,
Canna f'enaid yn y gwaed
A gaed ar Galfari.*

In English:

*Lord, here I am
At thy call,
Wash my spirit in the blood
Which flowed on Calvary.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b5mqR-ehY9s>

Coffee morning

Yesterday, a group of ladies from St Arvans met for coffee and a chat via the wonderful and easy to use mechanism of Zoom. We could all see and hear each other clearly, and one of the participants was nearly 90! We talked her through how to join the Zoom meeting over the landline, having sent her an email link containing a URL (starting https) link to the meeting. It was a wonderful way to bring people together. Why not have a go in your own parish?

You can use Zoom on a tablet or mobile phone, or on a PC (with the latter, you must have a webcam). Zoom can be downloaded for free, and if anyone wants help on how to set up a meeting, please drop me a line at the email address above.

On the lighter side

A Vicar in the USA has died after injecting himself with disinfectant.
President Trump is being charged with a bleach of the priest.

(Michael thought that was funny, so I thought it was ok to include it! Do you think Christians in the US have trouble with St Paul's statement in Acts 23:5 ? (look it up !!))

A Rabbi said to a precocious six-year-old boy, "So your mother says your prayers for you each night? That's very commendable. What does she say?" The little boy replied, 'Thank God he's in bed!'

Home schooling

I liked this piece of advice from Michael Buble, interviewed on the Graham Norton show. Asked how home schooling was going, he said, "Getting them to read is a breeze. I just mute the TV and turn on the subtitles!!"