**News from the Pews**

**Bible Sunday**

**Sunday 25th October, 2020**

The Parish of Berkswich is a Registered Charity, number 1129997 - [www.berkswich.org.uk](http://www.berkswich.org.uk)

**Key Contacts…**

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***Fr Graham’s usual day off is Monday***

***The Parish Office is situated behind Holy Trinity Church and is closed at the current time***

*Please send all items for next week’s News from the Pews to Sue on* [*hatton.sue@uwclub.net*](mailto:hatton.sue@uwclub.net) *(or 661767) by the end of Wednesday*

**THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**

**HT** = Holy Trinity Church

**ST** = St Thomas’s Church **AS** = All Saints Church

**V** = Vicarage **CH** = Community Hall

**Sunday 25th October – Bible Sunday**

1030 Live-streamed Eucharist with Hymns sung at home (HT & Online)

1830 Online Candle-lit vigil plus Evening Prayer

**Monday 26th October – Alfred the Great**

**Tuesday 27th October**

1000-1200 Online drop-in coffee morning

**Wednesday 28th October – Simon and Jude**

1400 Online Trinity Ark members group

Chat, song and story

1600 Said Eucharist for those who have been shielding (HT)

1900 Online 2019 APCM

2000 Online Compline Service

**Thursday 29th October**

1000-1200 Online drop-in coffee morning

**Friday 30th October**

**Saturday 31st October**

**Sunday 1st November – All Saints Day**

1030 Live-streamed Eucharist with Hymns sung at home (HT & Online)

1830 Online Candle-lit vigil plus Evening Prayer

**Bookings for registering** for a space in our church for worship open on Monday here <https://parishofberkswich.eventbrite.co.uk/>

A short video on what to expect can be found here <https://youtu.be/99suuapVU_M>

**Daily Bible Readings**

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| --- | --- |
| **Monday** | Psalms 127, 128, 129  2 Chronicles 33.1-13  John 15.1-11 |
| **Tuesday** | Psalms 124, 125, 126  Deuteronomy 32.1-4  John 14.15-26 |
| **Wed** | Jeremiah 3.11-18  Jude 1-4,17-25  Psalm 119.1-16 |
| **Thursday** | Psalms 138, 140, 141  2 Chronicles 35.1-19  John 16.1-15 |
| **Friday** | Psalm 145  2 Chronicles 35.20-36.10  John 16.16-22 |
| **Saturday** | Psalms 1, 5  Ecclesiasticus 44.1-15  Revelation 19.6-10 |

**Welcome!**

**Welcome to you all** as we continue to try and meet at this unusual time in the history of our nation and world. We hope that you will join with us in prayer and worship via Zoom, Facebook or YouTube (details <http://www.berkswich.org.uk/coronavirus.html>)

**Sign up** for our weekly email newsletter, or see older issues here <https://us17.campaign-archive.com/home/?u=5991be44ea1b9738d6262c1e2&id=a28b74cdbd>

**If you wish** to make a donation towards the life and work of the Parish, there is an opportunity to do so during the service. Please consider joining the Giving Direct scheme (<https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/finance/financegiftaid/financegivingdirect/> ) or make a one-off donation via JustGiving (<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/berkswichparish>)

**You can follow us on Facebook! To sign up for our weekly email newsletter, please email Fr Graham (**[**graham.adamson@berkswich.org.uk**](mailto:graham.adamson@berkswich.org.uk)**)**

**Points for Prayer**

**For the world**... More than 780 million people have little or no access to electricity, while 2.8 billion can’t access clean fuels. Forced to use wood and charcoal for cooking many suffer respiratory diseases. Pray that the World Bank and richer governments like our own will invest more in off-grid renewable energy like solar - to create jobs, enable businesses to flourish, light up and power health facilities and improve education.

**For the church**... Please pray for the mission of the Bible Society in England and Wales; for Paul Williams (CEO) and Paul Woolley (Deputy CEO) as they seek to work in new ways during the present pandemic. Ask God to grant them wisdom and confidence to utilise the resources at their disposal.

**For our community**... Hold before God all who minister to the bereaved and care for those who have died. Pray for our parish clergy, local funeral directors and all who work at Stafford Crematorium and burial ground.

**For those who suffer in body, mind or spirit**:

Brenda, Robert, John, Janet, Melanie, Margaret, Fred, Barbara, Jane, Sally, Carmelita, Wendy, Erin

**….for the recently departed:** Margaret Abiodun; George Holding; Eric Miller; Donald Hopgood; Kenneth Tobin; David Foster; Dorothy Harrison; Irene Maiden, Joy Swift, Brian Parkhill.

+ May they rest in peace and rise in glory

**News & Events**

**Mental health provisions -** The Church of England have prepared some reflections on supporting good mental health at this time, which you can view at <http://www.berkswich.org.uk/uploads/1/1/3/5/113532927/10961mental_health_reflections_web.pdf>

**Prayer requests** - please send to david.clark@berkswich.org.uk or call 07999 596590

**Continuing with Finance and Stewardship** - Those of you who currently support us through planned giving envelopes or cash on the collection plates may wish to consider giving through the Giving Direct, Direct Debit Scheme , through Standing Order (speak to Julie Morrison, our Gift Aid Officer) or through our newly launched JustGiving page – [www.justgiving.com/berkswichparish](http://www.justgiving.com/berkswichparish)

**APCM** –it will be difficult to hold our 2019 APCM in any of our church buildings this year, so instead a short APCM to examine the 2019 annual report and nominate parish officers will be held electronically on Zoom at 7pm on Wednesday 28th October at 7pm.  Using Meeting ID: 833 6062 3328 and Passcode: 130137. The forms and documentation for this meeting can be found here on our website.

**Worship in the churches–** Registration for both Sunday and Wednesday is available via <https://parishofberkswich.eventbrite.co.uk/>

Even on our return, church and worship remains very different – we are still not permitted to sing for example – and we will have difficult decisions to make to help us balance familiarity with safety. Please continue to pray for us all as we make these decisions and plans. *Fr Graham & the PCC*

**Thank you** all for the wonderful gift of a communion set; it is perfect for taking the joy of Holy Communion to those who, through illness, infirmity or other cause, cannot share in the Eucharist in church. David

**Help light up Berkswich** - Berkswich Parish are looking to create a walking advent window trail around our Parish this Christmas, helping to bring some light and Christmas cheer into our community and raise funds for both Katharine House Hospice and the Parish of Berkswich. To do this, though, we need you! All we ask is that you create some Christmas carol (or song) themed window-art and leave your light on! We’ll provide a list of carols or songs for you to choose from and it can be as extravagant or as simple as you want - if you don’t feel creative, perhaps you could host a display made by someone else? If you don’t live in the area, but have a great idea we could pair you up with a host. If you would be interested in helping please let us know by contacting us on lightup@berkswich.org.uk to sign up and receive more details, including ideas on how to decorate your window. A short video tutorial will be posted soon.

Date for the diary – it looks likely that we will have to hold an APCM via Zoom to discuss the 2019 accounts on Wednesday 28th October. Further details to follow shortly.

**Harvest** a big thank you to everyone for all your donations last week. We took four car loads of items to the foodbank and Staffordshire Woman’s Refuge.

**November Three Decker -** Next month’s special feature is all about brightening up a dark and sombre month. Please send me your happy snaps taken over the last few months and your happy thoughts, anything that made you smile.

Copy and photographs to [me.johnson@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:me.johnson@tiscali.co.uk)

**Three Decker Distributors -** If you managed to collect most of your subscriptions before the Lockdown in March and still have the money at home would you please push it through the letterbox at one of the following addresses:

Carol Dredge

4 Walton Lane ,Brocton OR

Carol Dredge,

c/o 86 Bodmin Avenue.

If neither of these is convenient for you please ring Carol Dredge on 665167 or Margaret Johnson on 662581 and we will collect it from you.

Please ensure that you give your name and details of your round.

We are most grateful for all you do and we hope to restore the printed copy of the magazine early next year.