



Friday Round Up

This email has been sent to all Clergy, PTOs, Churchwardens, Secretaries, and all those on our Friday email list.



Wishing you
peace, hope, and
joy this season!

Happy Easter
from Bishop Cherry

Diocese of Monmouth • Esgobaeth Mynwy



**Alleluia, Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

That confident statement of faith echoes down the centuries to our present-day circumstances. We might remember that the assertion of Christ's resurrection and triumph over evil and death has held people in and through the darkest of times; be that the horrors of war, the degradation of persecution or the many other plagues and pandemics that have ravaged humanity in the past. It has also held individuals through personal tragedy and suffering beyond what most of us can imagine.

What resurrection means for us is something that we grapple with at the best of times. Today, we are living through a world-wide challenge that raises the profoundest of questions, not least for people of faith who proclaim the good news of God's love and resurrection life through Jesus.

To say that this is a mystery may sound trite, but it is true, nonetheless. And those of us who have responded to Jesus's call to 'follow me', can respond to the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection only in faith and trust.

As we enter into Holy Week, knowing (as those first disciples certainly did not) that the agony of Good Friday is the gateway into Easter Day, let us seek to embrace the mystery of the resurrection with the gift of faith that God has given to us and proclaim confidently, with our sisters and brothers across the world:

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Wishing you a joyful and blessed Easter,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Cherry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Updates from Bishop Cherry

Updated guidance from the Bench of Bishops

The latest guidance from the Bench of Bishops contains updated information about **funerals**. Download the full guidance [here](#).

Finance

These are challenging times, not just for parishes, but for the diocese as a whole. Each of us must do all we can if we are to come out of this present situation well and in a reasonably healthy position financially. We do not know how long this present situation is going to last but, in any event, we have a responsibility, as a diocese, to make plans for the coming months. In order to meet this incredibly challenging situation, the Diocesan Board of Finance will need to call on its reserves. It is vital, we believe, that Parishes are prepared to use their reserves as well. Reserves are called “money for a rainy day”. This has to be the ultimate rainy day. We trust that all Parishes will join in the vital task of ensuring that they pay their share (drawing on their reserves, if necessary), because that, in turn, means that the Board of Finance can pay its bills. We are a hopeful and generous Church and, if we pull together, we can weather this storm. Information about giving and Gift Aid were sent out in an earlier mailing and can be found on the diocesan website. The DBF is monitoring the finances closely. We have reduced expenditure and continue to look for any savings where we can. Four members of staff have agreed to be placed on furlough and two other members of staff have generously volunteered to take pay cuts in a combined effort to help in this current situation. For this, we are extremely grateful. Times are tough, but we have been heartened to hear how congregations still wish to support their church families by continuing their giving. Let us continue to pray for one another and support one another as best we can; financially as well as in other ways. For that is what being the Body of Christ is all about – in times of challenge as well as times of flourishing.

For further resources, please click [here](#)

Please note there will no Daily Updates from Bishop Cherry next week. However you can still tune in to her Tuesday Reflection at 5pm on Facebook Live - <https://www.facebook.com/monmouth.diocese.5>

Holy Week and Easter 2020: Live-streamed Services

The following services will be live-streamed via YouTube

12noon Good Friday – [Stations of the Cross](#)

Holy Saturday – no broadcast, but a suggestion of renewing baptismal vows, lighting the Paschal Candle and at 9pm all who can, singing (loudly) the Exultet! [click here for more](#)

11am Easter Day [Eucharist](#) from Bishopstow

For more details, or to view services from earlier in the week, click [here](#)

Prayer Cycle Update

Following their virtual licensing last week, please include **Tim and Karen Dack** when you pray for the **Monmouth Ministry Area** on **April 15th**.

#goodnewsworthsharing



CARE Project

More than 100 people have signed up to volunteer for a church-run project to help those in need during the coronavirus lockdown. From making up food parcels to keeping in touch with people over the phone, an army of helpers has come forward to help the CARE project, set up in response to the pandemic by one group of churches in south-east Wales.

CARE – which stands for Church Assistance Request in an Emergency Project – was put together in less than a week in order to be running as soon as the lock-in began on March 23. It offers five key services: food parcels, click-and-collect shopping deliveries, prescription delivery, befriending and listening over the telephone, and pastoral and spiritual care from the Vicar.

The project is coordinated by the Rector and Vicar, the Revd Dean Aaron Roberts. He says, “We felt that we needed to play our part in the response effort to ensure that people are looked after, by being proactive in alleviating need in our communities. To read more or find out how to help, click [here](#)



Easter funding boost for St Michael's Church, Tintern



A much loved Monmouthshire church is to share in a £333,000 funding payout from the National Churches Trust.

A £20,000 National Churches Trust Cornerstone Grant will help fund the installation of toilets and a kitchen at the Grade II listed St Michael's church, Tintern, making the church better able to serve its local community.

Broadcaster and journalist Huw Edwards, Vice President of The National Churches Trust, said: "The UK's historic churches and chapels are a vital part of our national heritage. During the coronavirus pandemic churches are doing so much to help vulnerable local people and boost morale."

Focal minister Jan Pain and churchwarden Alan Hillard, said: "We are so grateful to the National Churches Trust for this grant which will enable St Michael's to better serve the needs of Tintern's residents today and for generations to come. Bringing its facilities up to modern-day standards will be of special help in encouraging gatherings at the church from all parts of our community."

To read more, click [here](#)

Tesco Bags of Help COVID-19 Communities Fund Accepting UK Applications

Tesco has created the new short-term Tesco Bags of Help COVID-19 Communities Fund to support local communities across the UK in response to the coronavirus/COVID-19 crisis. It will support organisational need rather than fund specific projects.

Applications will be accepted from organisations such as women's refuges, food banks, hospices, homeless charities, charities supporting the elderly, and charities supporting children's activities and others.

Tesco is looking to support organisations:

- Whose need for services has been disrupted – for example a food bank whose stocks are running low and need an immediate donation to enable the food bank to restock.
- Who require to put in place new services – for example charities setting up a new home service to the elderly who usually attend a monthly lunch club or a charity needing to set up a telephone service to support beneficiaries.
- Finding increased demand – a holiday hunger club needs more resources due to schools closing, or a children's centre needs an additional temporary staff member.

Tesco expects to be making weekly awards to groups across the UK.

This is a rolling programme. Applications can be made at any time during the next few months. Find out more here-

<https://tescobagsofhelp.org.uk/grant-schemes/tesco-cv-fund/>

Add your story to #goodnewsworthsharing

Please send anything you've been doing

to debragoddard@churcheinwales.org.uk or share on social media with

#goodnewsworthsharing

Easter Card Competition

This year, All Saints CinW Primary School was invited to help design an Easter card for Bishop Cherry Vann.

As Dr Annette Daly, Diocesan Director of Education, explained in her invitation to the school: "All too often Easter is dominated by images of Easter Eggs, Easter bunnies and spring flowers (which is very nice, but not what it's all about). This is a chance for your school to ensure the REAL story of Easter is properly represented, by entering the Diocesan Easter card competition!"

Bishop Cherry had the tough job of choosing a winner from the fantastic entries we received – but it was the design by Elena Markoutsis, year 5, age 9, which captured the top spot.

Bishop Cherry said: "There were some really excellent entries to our Easter card competition this year. We narrowed it down to a shortlist and each of those had something striking and original about them.

"The winning card has the familiar three empty crosses and the dark empty tomb with the stone rolled away. But there's a real harmony of colour between the light shining in the sky - suggesting resurrection hope - and the rocky hillside where the body had been laid. The colours blend beautifully, giving the whole picture warmth."

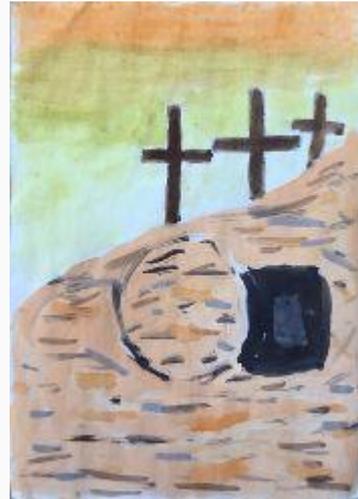
Grateful thanks to The Meaningful Chocolate Company (<https://meaningfulchocolate.co.uk/>) for their ongoing sponsorship of this competition by providing the delicious prizes!

The runners-up are Isabelle Alderman, year 3, age 8 and Max Sheen, year 3, age 7 and all of them will receive their prizes once the schools are back up and running.

Thank you to everyone from All Saints CinW PS who participated in the competition and well done to you all.

1st Place

Elena Markoutsis, Year 5, Age 9

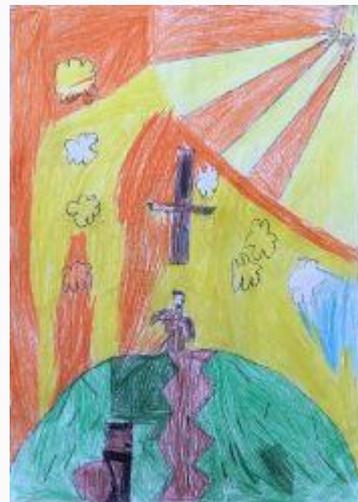


2nd Place:

Max Sheen, Year 3, Age 7

3rd Place:

Isabelle Alderman, Year 3, Age 8



Resources

Children & Families



This Big, This Much - the focus of this session - available until Friday, 24 April 2020. The session starts with Sarah from mainly play showing you how to make a simple instrument - and includes the reading of This Big This Much.

For the craft you will need a cardboard tube (empty paper towel roll) and some ribbons (or you could use crepe paper), stickers for decoration (or use markers, crayons etc), stapler, tape.

The music session starts 59 seconds into the video.

The footage link is <https://vimeo.com/405788175/17cf27ee2a> or if families prefer YouTube, then <https://youtu.be/G6l7X6r3Ngw>



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

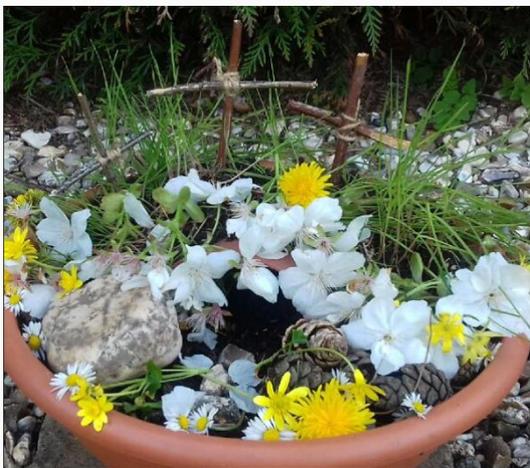
This is an excellent resource for families to explore the bible together at home.

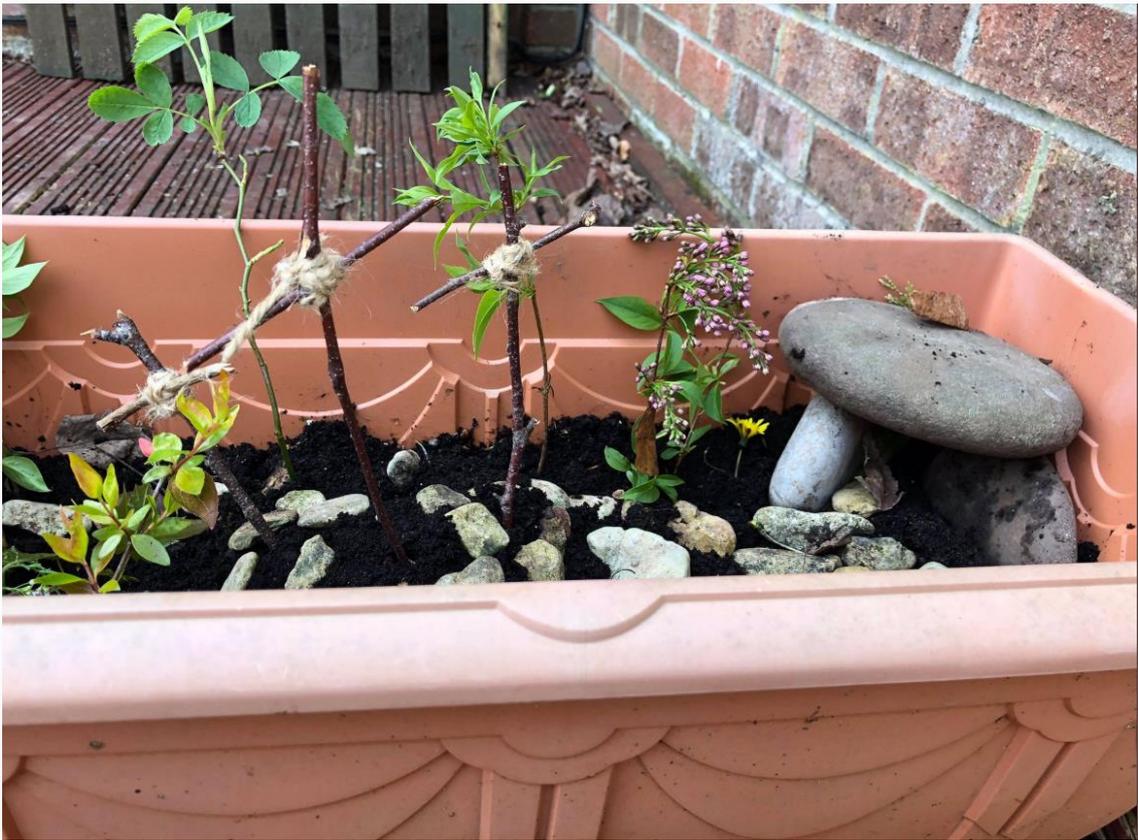
Ministry

Throughout this #HolyWeekAtHome, we have seen tremendous resilience and creativity from both our clergy and laity. Online ministry continues to flourish and in the midst of this difficult period, some incredible artistic talent has shone through.

Easter Gardens

Newport North Ministry Area challenged parishioners to create their own Easter gardens. The submissions have been fantastic. We've included just a few below. Check out their Facebook and Twitter accounts to see more!





Stations of the Cross - https://youtu.be/0X_oUxFSrG0

Magor Ministry Area has created a virtual Stations of Cross which can be accessed on YouTube. All the images were designed by Katy Patterson (Fr Samuel's wife) who is a professional artist. Katy had always wanted to design a set of stations for Good Friday and agreed to do this less than 2 weeks ago.

An Update on Events & Trainings

The following events have been postponed or cancelled, we will communicate new dates with you as and when these are able to be confirmed. We will also be updating this list as required.

April

Cyber Security Training – Saturday April 18th

- All Saints, Brynglas

Safeguarding Training (L) – Saturday April 18th

- St Augustine's Rumney, 10am-12pm

Safeguarding Training (L) – Saturday April 18th

- St David's Oakdale, 2-4pm

Chaplaincy Day – Saturday April 25th

- Llanover Church Hall

Safeguarding Training (L) – Saturday April 25th

- All Saints Newport, 10am-12pm

Safeguarding Training (C) – Saturday April 25th

- All Saints Newport, 2-5pm

Lister's Leaving Service – Sunday April 26th

- Newport Cathedral

LEM Course – Tuesday April 28th

- The Rectory, Nantyderry NP7 9DW

May

Big Sing for Christian Aid – May 10th

- All Saints Cyncoed

Safeguarding Training (C) – Tuesday May 12th

- All Saints Cyncoed, 9.30am-12.30pm

Safeguarding Training (C) – Tuesday May 12th

- Caerwent Church, 2.30-5.30pm

Safeguarding Training (C) – Wednesday May 13th

- Venue TBC, 9.30am-12.30pm

Safeguarding Training (C) – Wednesday May 13th

- Venue TBC, 2.30-5.30pm

Safeguarding Training (C) – Thursday May 14th

- Venue TBC, 2.30-5.30pm

Keeping People Safe (Health & Safety Training) – Saturday May 16th

- St Julian's Newport

Safeguarding Training (L) – Saturday May 30th

- St Teilo's Llantilio Pertholey, 10am-12pm

Safeguarding Training (L) – Saturday May 30th

- Llanover Church Hall, 2-4pm

June

Safeguarding Training (L) – Saturday June 6th

- Venue TBC

Safeguarding Training (L) – Saturday June 13th

- Venue TBC

Safeguarding Training (L) – Saturday June 13th

- St Mary's Magor

Archdeacon Peter Woodman's 60th Anniversary Service – June 21st

- St Peter's Goetre

Provincial Reader Conference 2020 - 3rd - 5th July

- Swansea Bay