

# Vicar and Curate's Musings

*and any other information we found interesting,  
funny or a need to share!*

## Vicar's Musings

16th March 2020

As a lot of people are self isolating Jo and I thought about how best to communicate with you and came up with a email mailing to you.

So in these few pages are some thoughts—and at the end will be an up date on Covid 19 / Coronavirus and the Church of England / Parish response. *(if you don't wish to read the end bit as you're overloaded with information, already keeping up to date or don't wish to know we understand!)*

So on that note I'd like to talk about my Lent reading which is 'Saying Yes to Life' by Ruth Valerio. I decided to read this because it's the Archbishops of Canterbury's Lent Book this year i.e. he recommended it. However when I first started reading the book I was a bit miffed as it states ' I travelled to Fiji to attend a meeting' - well I thought I've never had to do that. What a horrible job that must be and meeting! *(not)*. Anyway when I got over the first sentence it really is a good book and it was our archbishop not the author who had gone abroad. The book begins with Genesis—In the beginning .... Which if you think about it and as Ruth points out we state every week in the creed ...*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Ruth* imaginatively draws on the Days of Creation (Genesis 1) as she relates themes of light, water, land, the seasons, other creatures, humankind, Sabbath rest and resurrection hope to matters of environmental, ethical and social concern.

The book and accompanying booklets of daily devotions aim to lift our focus from natural, everyday concerns to issues that are having an impact on millions of lives around the world. Which you can digitally link to here <https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/living-out-our-faith/lent-holy-week-and-easter/livelent-care-gods-creation>

As people made in the image of God, we are entrusted to look after what he has created: to share in God's joy and ingenuity in making a difference for good. Voices from around the world are heard throughout, and each chapter

ends with discussion questions and a prayer to aid action and contemplation.

My other musings at the moment is how much toilet roll is too much and wondering why that's being bought in bulk as opposed to vegetables. Then I thought if we are going to buy them in bulk what could we do with them and then I came across this website <https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/uses-for-toilet-paper-rolls-1389229> and thought I'd share it with you below.

Stay safe and well

*Shellie*

## 13 Creative Uses for Used Toilet Paper Rolls

Toilet paper rolls are as useful as the paper that comes on them. You can make everything with toilet paper rolls from seed pots and compost to bird feeders and even pet toys. Check out these clever uses for toilet paper rolls. Then, invent your own.



### 1) Seed Pots

Cut down on your seed-starting costs by making your seed pots out of toilet paper rolls. It's easy and environmentally friendly, too.

### 2) Protect Seedlings from Cutworms

Fight cutworms the nonchemical way. A simple collar cut out of a toilet paper roll and tucked around the base of your seedlings will keep cutworms from munching on your young plants.

### 3) Compost

Tear toilet paper rolls up into smaller pieces, and add them to your compost pile. In the world of compost, they count as a brown.

### 4) Bird Feeder

Coat a toilet paper roll in peanut butter, roll it in birdseed, and you have a classic bird feeder.

### 5) Tame Cords

Keep extension cords, Christmas lights, and electronic adapters tidy and tangle-free when they're not in use by winding them up and slipping them inside of a toilet paper roll. You can even make a note on the roll to remind you what the wire is for.

## **6) Organize Hair Elastics**

Keep your bathroom vanity neat, and your hair elastics easy to find, by slipping them over a toilet paper roll.

## **7) Store Wrapping Paper**

Tired of having to wind up your wrapping paper again and again? Just cut a slit all the way up one side of a toilet paper roll, and slide the resulting cuff over your wrapping paper to end the problem permanently.

## **8) Store Kids Artwork**

Roll up any of your kids' art projects that you want to keep, and slip a toilet paper roll over each one. Then, store all of those precious creations upright in a clean wastebasket. Write your child's name and the date on the toilet paper roll, so you won't have to rely on your memory years from now.

## **9) Fire Starters**

Stuff a toilet paper roll with dryer lint, and you have the perfect fire starter without any cash outlay.

## **10) Pet Toy**

Skip the pricey pet toys. Hamsters, gerbils, and rabbits all enjoy playing with (and munching on) empty toilet paper rolls. If you don't have any small pets, many animal shelters will accept toilet paper rolls.

## **11) Gift Wrap**

Use a toilet paper roll to create the perfect box for a small gift. Then, decorate it any way you'd like. You can even create beautiful gift boxes out of toilet paper rolls. In just a few minutes you can make a pillbox, an excellent way to wrap a small item, be it a piece of jewelry, a pin, or money, out of a toilet paper roll.

## **12) Christmas Crackers**

Have a party coming up? Skip the junky store-bought party favors, and make Christmas crackers, aka party poppers, instead. You can fill them with home-baked treats or trinkets of your choosing.

## **13) Craft Supplies**

Save your toilet paper rolls, and use them in a craft project. You can transform them into an advent calendar, puppets, and so many other fun things.

# **Mothering Sunday Prayers**

Let us pray

**We thank you for mothers and carers everywhere,  
and for all they do for their children.**

**We thank you that they love us and show us the right way to live.**

**We thank you that they help us when we find life hard.**

**We pray that mums would feel really special today;  
that they would know how much we love them  
and how much God loves them too.  
Amen**



## A Litany for Mothers

Eve our first mother

– **thank you for stepping out and being the first to understand the complexities of life.**

Sarah, Hannah and Elizabeth – thank you for your patience and courage in waiting for a miracle.

**May all people longing for children be strengthened by your stories and comforted in their pain.**

Hagar – thank you for your resolve in the face of exile.

**May all mothers who are forced to flee or are forgotten be given hope in you.**

Rebecca – thank you for your flexibility.

**Let us remember all mothers who have to raise their children in a different country or far from their relatives and who feel isolated.**

Rachel – you carried the burden of grief and wept for your children.

**Hold the hands of all those mothers who weep for their children – children who have gone missing, who have died or are lost to them in other ways.**

Jochebed – you used wisdom and insight to protect your children.

**Give to all mothers this wisdom and insight in the bringing up of their children, especially in vulnerable times.**

Naomi and Ruth – you showed that love can conquer all trials.

**Help all mothers to love constantly when life seems impossible and despair weighs hard upon their souls.**

Mary – the new Eve whose ‘yes’ to God changed our world forever.

**Thank you for sheltering the Holy One all those years ago, for your faithful love and tender care of God’s most precious Son.**

**May we never forget that in your giving is our greatest receiving – of the gift of life wrapped in a manger and in a tomb.**

**May we know the true cost of relationship by holding our faith in Christ deep within our hearts as you once held him deep within your womb.**

**Amen**

# Thanksgiving Prayer

We thank God for giving us others to share in our lives:  
For parents, and the love which brought us to birth:  
We praise you, O Lord;  
**and bring you thanks today.**

For mothers who have cherished and nurtured us:  
We praise you, O Lord;  
**and bring you thanks today.**

For fathers who have loved and supported us,  
We praise you, O Lord;  
**and bring you thanks today.**

For brothers and sisters with whom we have shared our home:  
We praise you, O Lord;  
**and bring you thanks today.**

For children and their parents:  
We praise you, O Lord;  
**and bring you thanks today.**

For relatives and friends, who have been with us  
in our hopes and joys and times of sadness:  
We praise you, O Lord;  
**and bring you thanks today.**

For all who first spoke to us of Jesus, and have drawn us  
into the family of our Father in heaven:  
**We praise you, O Lord;**  
**and bring you thanks today.**  
**Help us to live as those who belong to one another,**  
**and to you, our Father, now and always. Amen**

## Prayer

Dear God,  
we thank you today for the gifts you have given us.  
Thank you, too, for those who look after us,  
who help us when things are hard,  
who look after us when we are sick,  
who work to earn money for us,  
who cook our dinner,  
and for all those who keep us safe.  
We thank you, God.  
Amen.

# Mothering Sunday Collect

God of compassion,  
whose Son, Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,  
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,  
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:  
strengthen us in our daily living,  
that in joy and sorrow  
we may know the power of your presence  
to bind together and to heal;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**



## Call to pray this Sunday about the coronavirus crisis

**Please light a candle in your window at 7pm on Sunday as a visible symbol of the light of life, Jesus Christ.**

“When so many people in our nations are living in fear of the pandemic we must come together as the people of faith across the UK and seek the help of God. That God may have mercy on us, grant us strength and wisdom, and help us to be a people of hope,” says Fred Drummond, director of prayer.

We at the Evangelical Alliance are joining in the call for all churches across the UK to make this Sunday a day of prayer and action. Let us pray together for the Government and those working to contain the virus, such as healthcare personnel, as well as those who are most vulnerable.

Let us pray together against fear and worry. Let us pray together to be people of hope.

Alongside our prayers, let us take this opportunity to telephone or email someone who is isolated, maybe buy some additional food for our local foodbanks, or offer to deliver shopping for an elderly neighbour.

*The call has been issued by the presidents of the ecumenical grouping Churches Together in England: the Archbishop of Canterbury, the RC Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, the Moderator of the Free Churches, the CTE president for the Orthodox Churches, and the CTE Pentecostal president, and is supported by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, Cytûn, the Church of Scotland, and the Evangelical Alliance.*



So much darkness. Offer whatever light you can.



# The Knot Prayer

Please untie the knots  
that are in my mind,  
my heart and my life.  
Remove the have nots,  
the can nots and the do nots  
that I have in my mind.

Erase the will nots,  
may nots,  
might nots that may find  
a home in my heart.

Release me from the could nots,  
would nots and  
should nots that obstruct my life.

And most of all,  
I ask that you remove from my mind,  
my heart and my life all of the 'am nots'  
that I have allowed to hold me back,  
especially the thought  
that I am not good enough.

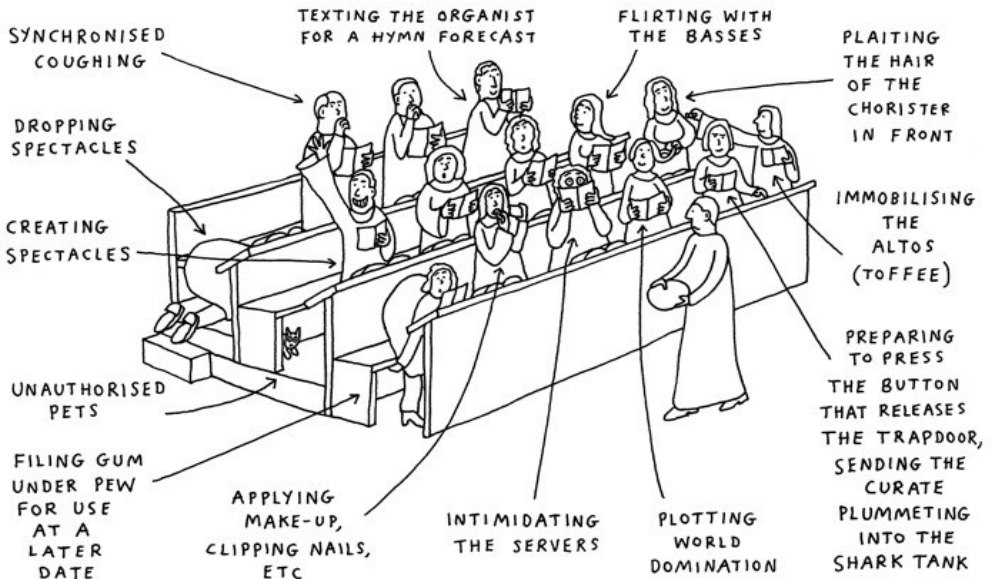
Rambblings of the Curate

When  
you can't control  
what's happening,  
challenge yourself  
to control the  
way you respond  
to what's happening.  
That's where  
your power is!

[sun-gazing.com](http://sun-gazing.com)

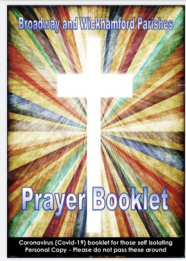
# THE CHOIR

MINOR MISDEMEANOURS TAKING PLACE IN YOUR SUNDAY SERVICES





# Coronavirus / Covid 19 update



## Prayer Booklet

We've produced a prayer booklet for those self isolating and will produce another if this goes beyond April and will give you the new link to the digital version. Hard copies are in all of our churches.

<https://shelliem.wordpress.com/.../prayer-booklet-for-those-.../>  
[#pray](#) [#prayer](#) [Church of England Diocese of Worcester](#)



## Broadway Coronavirus Support Network

There is a group of people who have formed a group with many volunteers—The Broadway Coronavirus Support Network—  
<https://www.facebook.com/broadwaycoronasupportnetwork>

This is updated regularly on Facebook.

(UPDATED 5pm THURSDAY 19/03) To all residents in the Parish of Broadway We are so far a very small group of villagers working together with the Parish Council as we would like to provide help to our fellow residents during the current Coronavirus pandemic.

We are in the process of setting this page and network up so please bear with us whilst we pull together the relevant parties to assist.

This FREE service is available to residents within the Parish of Broadway who are self-isolating, vulnerable or have underlying health issues that prevent them from going to public places.

Please contact us if you require assistance with local shopping, prescription collections, posting letters or anything else you are struggling with, or if you would simply like a friendly chat over the phone:

Contact:

Tel: Revd Michelle (Shellie) Ward - 07780002565.

E-mail: [broadwayvillagenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:broadwayvillagenetwork@gmail.com)

One of our coordinators will then put you in touch with a helper who lives near to you.

\*PLEASE NOTE - we will also aim to provide all of the details on leaflets and posters so that those who do not use online services can easily access the same help.

Please do not feel isolated or that you shouldn't be asking for help. We are all here for each other during this difficult time! Your contact details will only be shared with your designated Broadway Helper. We won't keep records, or publicise your details or ask you for money.

This free service will be available until the British government / W.H.O. has declared that the pandemic is no longer a threat.

**\*PLEASE NOTE**

**\*\*** We cannot provide medical advice / assistance or lifts to medical appointments or elsewhere. If you require this type of help please contact Cotswold Friends, a local charity:

Telephone 01608 651415 [info@cotswoldsfriends.org](mailto:info@cotswoldsfriends.org)

We will aim to work with our local stores provide delivery services.

The following Broadway businesses offer local delivery, and you can place your orders over the phone and pay with your bank card: We will add to this list as we go;

So far;

**Collins of Broadway Butchers**

Call them on; 01386 852061 for any orders big or small.

**Wayside Farm Shop** can take orders, payment and deliver to door; Wayside could also do a daily 'ready meal' for people that don't want to buy all of the different ingredients.

Call them on; 01386 830 546

**Warner's Budgens** are offering a home delivery service and are able to take orders and payments over the phone. Please call them on; 01386 842870. (Please note that they will close at 1pm on Sunday for the changeover to Co-op. They are scheduled to reopen on Tuesday next week - We will keep you posted.)

**Nisa Local** are all set up for online payment and delivery. If you wish to place an order please phone 01386 859218 before 2pm.

**Sew U Knit Crafts - Susan Bennett** - open and will deliver wool, haberdashery etc if you're looking for activities to keep you busy ! 01386 853779.

**The Tea Set Broadway** are offering take away menu for delivery as well as putting together a list of everyday essentials like - bread, milk, loo roll, eggs which can be paid for in advance over the phone.

**Broadway Tower** are offering a takeaway service - call and collect from both cafes. Delivery to care homes etc also available soon. Please call on 01386 852945

**Market Pantry** Free delivery service of homemade food made fresh daily i.e soup and sandwiches, Filled Jacket potatoes, Burgers & chips ,Quiches ect. We will be posting a basic menu and prices every day on Facebook or our Instagram page. Ring 01386858318

**THE BROADWAY DELI** – Call the boys on 07483 404497 for Deli food, letter posting, newspapers whatever you need

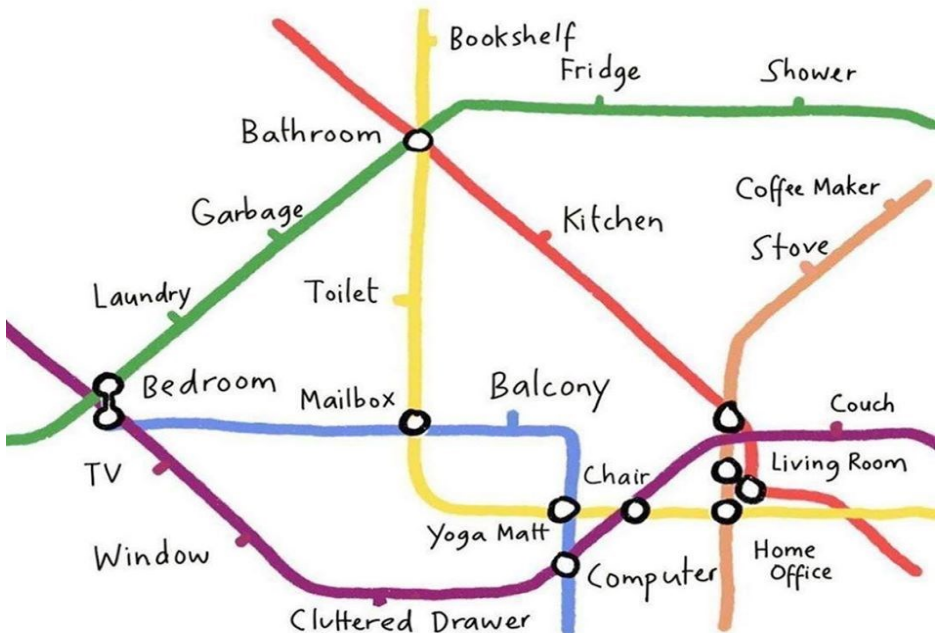
**Russells— Fish and Chips**—Take Away available, please call 01386 858435

**Childswickham Inn**—Free delivery—Hot and cold food and drinks between the hours of 12pm –1pm, 5.30pm—7pm. Monday—Saturday.  
Can deliver to Childswickham, some Broadway, Wickhamford end. Please call 01386 852461.

\*\* If you need a volunteer to pick up a few urgent essentials for you from the local shops please ensure you have some cash at home or a cheque book. All cash should be placed in an envelope.

We're here to help!

## COMMUTING IN CORONA TIMES



## Other Useful Information found on Facebook or other places online

**Matt Matterson** of Fleece Road has very kindly made an offer of help for NHS staff and key workers in Broadway who may have concerns about their cars but cannot get into a garage.

Matt who is a professional engineer can help with basic requests and can check your car over if you have problems, but bear in mind that as he is only one person we ask that you do try and get an appointment with a garage as a first port of call.

However if you are struggling to find a garage that has space and need help please give him a call on 07866 513888 and he will do his best to help!

**Heart Felt Buddies.....** Testing times ahead. Here's how your children can also help: Lets pair-up elderly people with a local buddies who's jobs over the next few months will be to write them letters, do little outside jobs, and leave them little parcels on their door steps. \*Pen-pals who do a bit more\*. I've already 'match-made' two juniors with two seniors in their village and it took just two phone calls. Think about your elderly neighbours or enquire if anyone needs help on your local Facebook page, perhaps ask in the church, put a note in the local shop or if you have a care home near you, give them a call.

Heart Felt Buddies - go forth and sprinkle some magic!  
Please share.... X

### The Broadway Florist

#### CONTACTLESS DELIVERIES

Order your Mother's Day flowers online and we will deliver later this week.

All deliveries can be left on people's doorsteps, or in a safe location of your choice, and will be handled with disposable gloves.

You can order straight from our website shop - <https://broadway-florist.com/>

Please don't hesitate to give us a call on 01386 853000 with any questions you may have.



## **The Broadway Wine Company**

During this exceptionally hard time. We at Broadway Wine Company would like to thank our loyal customers for your support. We are a small independent company who unlike a lot of companies we will not survive unless people continue to support us. We have bills to pay and children to feed and ask that during this time people find it in their hearts to support local companies. The shop is open daily from 10am and prices start from only £5.99 in the shop. We are now also offering free delivery within a 20 mile radius (minimum order applies). Please message us for a price list.

## **Barn Close Surgery**

To all our patients

Thank you for all your help this week.

We are experiencing an unprecedented crisis.

It's so important that we all pull together and do the right thing.

Please DO NOT turn up at surgery without first having a phone consultation - unless picking up a prescription. Please wash your hands and avoid close contact with other people.

Please make your visit to the surgery as swift as possible to protect your own health and that of others.

## **Information from the Diocese**

### **Worcester Cathedral**

The Cathedral will remain open with the following precautions in place: *The cathedral is open to visitors between 9am and 5pm each day. Signs at each entrance include the standard NHS 'catch it, bin it, kill it' posters and another notice welcoming visitors and asking them to maintain the advice around social distancing and keep at least two metres apart. Regular cleaning of surfaces has been increased, touch-screens switched off, and shared guidebooks etc removed.*

### **Annual Parochial Church meetings**

The deadline for holding APCMs has been extended until the end of October, with current office holders (churchwardens, deanery synod representatives and PCC members) remaining in office longer than they would otherwise do so. It means Churchwardens and PCC members remain in office until the APCM, current deanery synod representatives remain in office until 30 November 2020 (instead of 30 June).

## Live Streaming of services

You can follow the links to these churches online via the diocesan page:  
<https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/news/2020/03/16/coronavirus-latest-information/>

*I have chosen, for now, to offer a WhatsApp group where we can pray, share and communicate as a benefice—if you wish to join the group please send me your mobile number and download the app. There is always the prayer booklet on our churches website and a hard copy is in church.*

The following churches will be live streaming. Please do point people to these if you're not able to stream worship yourself.

**Worcester Cathedral** will be streaming their 8.30am service each morning on the Cathedral Facebook page. (From Sunday 22 March)

**All Saints in Worcester** are streaming 11am morning prayer and 10pm Compline as well as a Sunday service at 10.30am on YouTube.

**Holy Trinity Church, Old Hill** will be streaming their Sunday service at 10.45am on You Tube.

**Malvern Link with Cowleigh** parish will be streaming a 9.45am Eucharist and 11.15am Contemporary Worship on Sundays on their Facebook page.

**Christ Church, Lye** will be streaming prayers and a sermon at 11am on Sunday morning on their Facebook page.

**East Vale and Avon** benefice are putting together a series of online services which can be accessed through their website.

**Holy Trinity & St Matthew, Ronkswood**, Worcester will be live streaming worship via Zoom on Sunday at 10am and 6pm. Details about how to join in are on the parish website.

**St Mary, Old Swinford, Stourbridge** is live streaming services on Thursdays at 10.30am and Sunday at 10am. More details on the parish website

**St Peter, Cradley** is live streaming daily morning prayer at 8.30am and Compline in the late afternoon through their Facebook page

**Hagley and Clent** are offering Sunday worship at 10.30am via Zoom and all are welcome to join them. Contact the Rector, Richard Newton for more details.



