

*Donations
Welcome*

June/July 2020

THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST. MARTIN'S WEST DRAYTON

Challenge

May all who enter the Church find the peace of Christ and feel welcome.

Isaiah 55:12 - "You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands."



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From the Vicarage

Dear Friends,

Did you know that Marianne de Burgh was a famous shell collector? I didn't, until I received an email recently asking if I could provide any information about her. Perhaps you don't recognise her name? She once belonged to the family who were Lords of the Manor, the top of West Drayton society. Our splendid St Martin's window is in memory of the de Burghs. Marianne also has her own memorial in the chancel. Carved in the stone is a modest looking woman, representing Faith, holding a cross rising from a book (the Bible). We read that Marianne was severely ill for many years, bearing it with "fortitude and resignation", dying in 1809 in the 41st year of her age. Then we find this touching description of her: "Exemplary piety and virtue, goodness of heart, mildness of temper, and benevolence of disposition were the characteristic features of this most excellent woman."

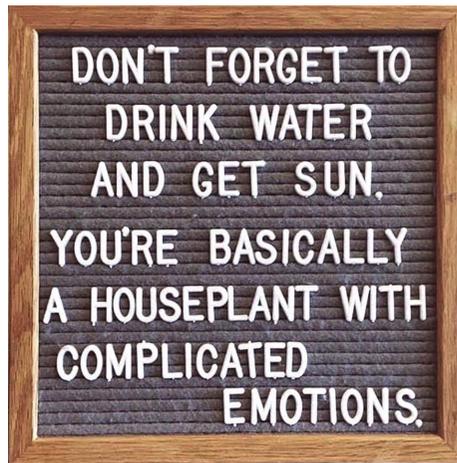
Without being unduly morbid, the corona virus has reminded us life can unexpectedly and suddenly change, and that our own earthly days are numbered, for we are God filled dust. Many people have been asking what might be the effect on society of this pandemic: can we wrestle any sort of blessing out of the dislocation, loss and tragedy? Could there be benefits to the environment? Could there be a lasting legacy whereby human society is reshaped, perhaps into a kinder, fairer, less grasping more grateful, less me, more we, community? And what about our personal legacy, what might go on our memorial tablet?

Many years ago St Paul wrote to a church where some people thought they were superior to others in the congregation: they were richer materially, and regarded themselves as better Christians, with superior spiritual gifts. This didn't fool Paul, however: "Shew I unto you a more excellent way." Paul goes on to talk of the primacy of love, which is kind, humble, without envy, boasting or pride, truthful and enduring (1 Corin. 13, do look this up and meditate on it).

As Marianne's bones continue to rest peacefully under the church, perhaps we could follow her example of faith, patience and benevolence. We too can place our trust in the merciful God we see revealed in Jesus. We too can put love first, and learn to love more, less selfishly, with a bigger heart. Whatever our age or circumstances, it's a choice we're always free to make. May we release that power of goodness into our homes and community now, and in whatever days are given to us.

With my blessing,

Revd Rosy.



When will St Martin's be open again?

Many people have really missed coming to St Martin's for worship and private prayer. Modern technology has its place and benefits, but it's not the same as entering our ancient, peaceful and holy place. Nor is watching online the same as worshipping physically with our brothers and sisters, all pilgrims journeying through life together in the company of Christ.

Reopening St Martin's Parish Church

St Martin's will be open for
PRIVATE PRAYER

On

Sunday 21 June 11.30 am – 12.30 pm

Wed 24 June 10.00 – 11.00 am

Sunday 28 June 11.30 am – 12.30 pm

Wed 1 July 10.00 – 11.00 am

Private Prayer means individuals may come in on their own, or with their household, to say a prayer, light a candle, or just sit quietly for a while.

Everyone, of any Faith or none, is welcome to share the peace of this holy place and pray in their own way.

Children supervised by their parents are also very welcome to come into church.

Unfortunately at this time we're not able to share Bibles, hymn books or children's toys, books or crayons.

Public worship may restart in July: we're waiting for government permission.

Like all public buildings, please help to keep the church as safe as possible by observing the government guidelines – Sanitise hands; keep a Safe Distance;

Don't Enter if you might have symptoms of Covid 19.

A reflective walk around the churchyard is also available

A simple reflection at home on the day of a funeral you can't attend

It's so difficult when you can't go to a funeral, whether for family, friend or neighbour. Many are facing this in the current crisis, so this short reflection has been specially written by a vicar for you to do at home, alone or with those who share your home. You might ask others to take part at the same time from their home.

When this time of social distancing is over, there may well be an opportunity to meet together at a special time of remembering and thankfulness. Your memories now can be part of that experience when the time comes.

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8.38-39

Before you find a place to sit quietly, you might like to find a photograph of the person who has died, write down some special memories, or play a special piece of music that connects you with the person you are remembering today. Think about those who are at the funeral and pray for them.

[Where it says 'N' in a prayer, just say the name of your person].

You might like to light a candle. Then pray:

Be with us, loving God.

Hear our prayers and comfort us in our loss, and help us to trust in your Son Jesus, whom you raised from the dead.

Strengthen our faith and renew our hope that N and all those we love will share in his resurrection.

Amen.

Read Psalm 23

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

- 3 He shall refresh my soul and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.
- 6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.



Reflect on your memories.

- What stands out in your memory about N?
- What will you always remember about them?
- What things did you learn through their life and death, including about God?

Now give thanks to God for their life and ask for strength for yourself and those who grieve.

Dear God,
thank you for *N*,
and for all that *he/she* meant to me and to others.

I so wanted to say goodbye.
Help me to know you are there,
holding all my hopes,
holding all those I love, especially *N*,
and holding me this day too.
Be close to us all this day with your peace
and hope.
Amen.

Heavenly Father,
you have not made us for darkness and death,
but for life with you for ever.
Without you we have nothing to hope for;
with you we have nothing to fear.
Speak to us now your words of eternal life.
Lift us to the light and peace of your presence,
and set the glory of your love before us today:
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Now say the Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

(or)

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Now pray this prayer, which is used at the end of the funeral service to say goodbye.

God our creator and redeemer,
by your power Christ conquered death
and entered into glory.
Confident of his victory
and claiming his promises,
we entrust *N* to your mercy
in the name of Jesus our Lord,
who died and is alive
and reigns with you,
now and for ever.
Amen.

To finish you might like to light a candle online at www.churchofengland.org/funeral-candle

Help and support are available for you during this time, and in the future.

Go to www.churchofengland.org/life-events/funerals for details of how to contact your local church, find help in your bereavement and remembering.

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

The newly restored Cross on the path to the Church.



**Say what you will
about the Ten
Commandments,
you must always
come back to the
pleasant fact that
there are only ten
of them.**



Prayer Page

There was once a priest and an old peasant. As the priest rushed around his parish day after day, busily doing this and that, he began to notice that the peasant was frequently to be found in the quiet of the church, sometimes for hours at a time. Finally curiosity got the better of the priest. He asked the peasant what on earth he was doing, sitting in church for so long. The peasant pointed at the crucifix with a smile and replied "I look at him, and he looks at me".

This type of attentive, companionable silence is sometimes called *Contemplative Prayer*, deliberately putting yourself in the presence of Christ as one might gently enjoy being present with a dear old friend, without the need for lots of chatter. Contemplative prayer helps us to live fully in the moment, to appreciate the gift and holiness of that unique time, to centre ourselves on God in whom we find our strength and delight. It has been described as 'wasting time with God' or 'day dreaming with God', which is not to say that it has no purpose or value!

A simple way of helping us to pray like this involves preparation and finding a focus. Preparation might mean getting comfortable in a chair, or going for a walk, finding a steady rhythm of motion and breath. Focus could be a word or phrase from the Bible, perhaps the name Je-sus, as one breathes in and out. It could be a picture, a candle flame, stroking a feather, listening to music, or the sounds around you. It could be imagining Jesus and you together, in one of the gospel stories. It could indeed be a crucifix, the sign of the immense love of Christ in which the world is held, and our little lives are cherished and find meaning.

Revd Rosy.

Quiz.

A woman enters a large metal tube and is overcome with fear. She clenches her husband's hand tightly and is visibly shaken. Her husband gently rubs her shoulders but is otherwise unaffected. Within hours the woman's husband tells her that it's time to go and the torment ends. What happened to this woman?



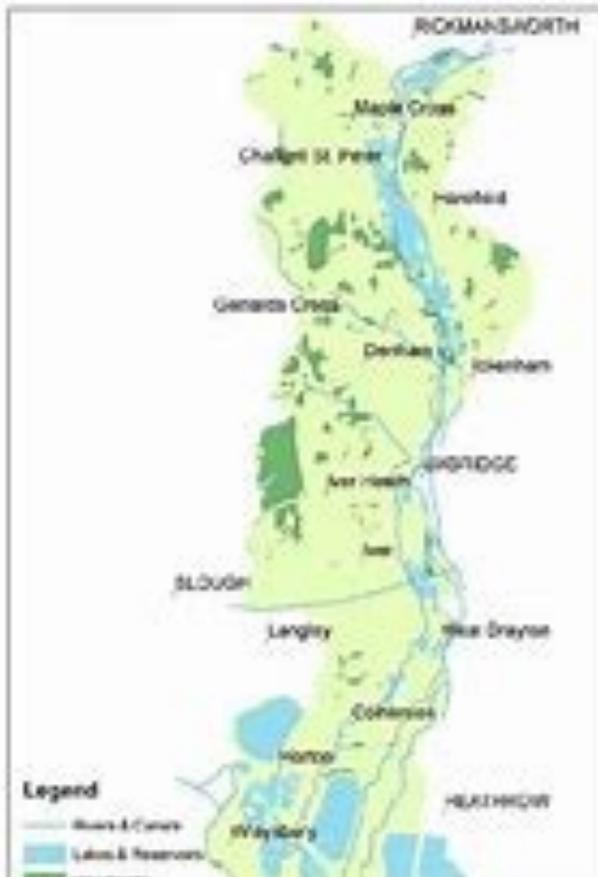
The Taylor's Robbery Answer

If the glass is broken from outside, the glass pieces should have fallen inside the house and not outside. Mr. Taylor showed the detective the glass pieces outside the house, which means the glass was broken from inside. So the detective could make out that Mr. Taylor was making the things up.



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Email: colnevalley@groundwork.org.uk

Welcome to St Martin's Churchyard

Feel free to wander around, sit for a while, or use this leaflet, which includes words from the Bible and suggestions for thoughts and prayers.

Please note that the ground is very uneven:
do be careful where you walk.

Quietness would be appreciated, out of respect for those who visit family graves, and so as not to scare the birds and wildlife who have made this place their home.

If you'd like to volunteer to help look after the churchyard, or make a gift towards its upkeep, please contact the Vicar.

May you feel blessed by
your visit today, and
do come back again soon.

Revd Rosy Barrie, Vicar





By the old pump or the water tap at the gate

How much water do you drink or use every day?

Pray for people who lack access to clean water, and those who 'thirst' for good things to happen in their lives.

"When the poor and needy seek water...I the LORD will answer them...I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water." (Isaiah 41:17-18)

Under the Yew trees opposite the church porch

Be amazed by the construction of these trees, and by the variety of trees and plants you see in the churchyard, some specially grown to encourage wildlife. Take time to listen to the birds. Pray for those who look after this churchyard and our local parks and green spaces.

"Those who trust in their riches will wither, but the righteous will flourish like green leaves." (Proverbs 11:28)

By the Grave of a Roman Catholic Priest from St Catherines

Give thanks for people in the past who dedicated their lives to serve this community. Pray for all places of worship in West Drayton, for a growth in friendship and mutual care.

"Let love be genuine...Hold fast to what is good...extend hospitality to strangers...Live in harmony with one another...live peaceably with all" (Romans 12:9-18)

By the church tower or church walls

There's been a church here for 100s of years; the flint stones in the walls are really ancient. Through weather and war it's stood firm. Think about your life: on what foundations is it based? Pray for those who feel insecure.

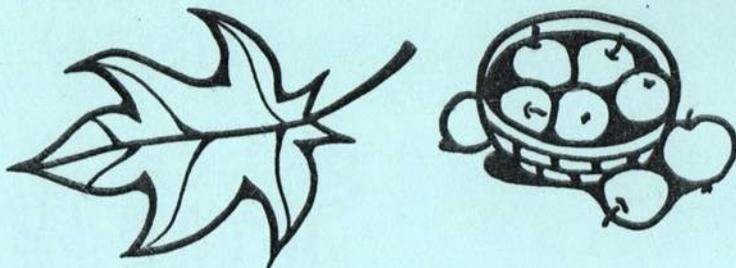
"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." (Psalm 46:1)

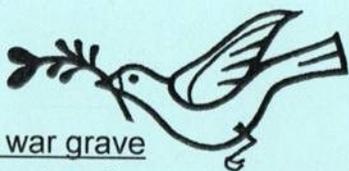
Jesus said, "Everyone who hears my words and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock." (Mat.7:24)

By the fruit trees

Think about the fruit you eat, its taste, textures, sight and smells. Give thanks for those who grew it and sold it to you. Pray that we may farm more sustainably and live in greater harmony with the earth and all its nonhuman inhabitants.

"Bless the Lord, O my soul. You make grass grow for the cattle, and plants to meet our needs, bringing forth food from the earth to gladden our hearts" (Psalm 104:1, 15-16)





By a war grave

Remember those who died in war, and those who serve in the emergency and armed services now.

Pray for peace and justice in our world.

“What does the LORD require of you? To do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God” (Micah 6:8)

Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God” (Matthew 5:9)

By any grave

Christians believe in a loving God who knows everyone by name, who walks with his people day by day, and offers new life after death. Remember the people who rest in peace here. Pray for people who're bereaved and, if you're feeling sorrowful yourself, ask God to comfort you.

“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures,

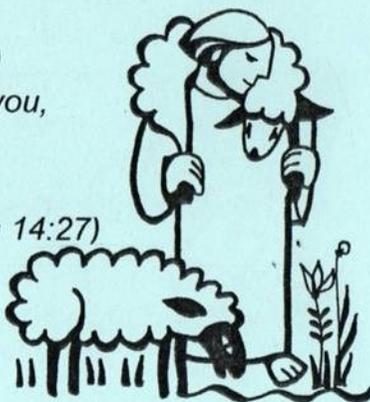
he leads me beside still waters,

he restores my soul.” (Psalm 23)

*Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you,
my peace I give to you.*

Let not your hearts be troubled,

neither let them be afraid.” (John 14:27)





A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

0800 804 8044

DailyHOPE phone line menu options

- * Press *** to listen to Archbishop Justin Welby's message.
- 1 Press 1** to listen to 'Hymns we Love' (this is a series of short talks based on well-loved hymns).
- 2 Press 2** to listen to our Hymn Line (these are recordings of different hymns on a daily loop).
- 3 Press 3** to listen to our Prayer Line (prayers that are specific and relevant to the Coronavirus crisis).
- 4** Otherwise, please **press 4** for more options.
- 5 Press 5** to listen to the Church of England's weekly service.
- 8 Press 8** to join in with traditional morning and evening prayers.
- 7 Press 7** to listen to the latest Government advice on the Coronavirus.
- 0 Press 0** to return to the main menu.



CONNECTIONS

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Giving with a grateful heart.

We all know that the corona virus has had a major impact on our economy, with many people, especially the young, losing their jobs or seeing a drop in income. I'm sure you're also aware of many charities asking for donations to enable them to keep on with their vital work supporting various groups and good causes in our society. Of course St Martin's is in a similar position, we've had a substantial drop in our income, due to the enforced closure of both the church building and hall for the past months. We are particularly grateful to those who have continued to give to St Martin's, and would ask more of you to set up a monthly standing order, or to join the weekly envelope scheme: even a small amount coming in regularly really does help. Please contact Julia Bennett (01895 851269) if you would like to do this. It is even more important at this time that those who have the means - a steady income, salary or pension - give generously to the church, as there will be others genuinely unable to give. Why not make a thanksgiving gift to St Martin's (gift aided if possible), for your home, health, food, supportive friends, consoling pet, garden etc - all the God-given blessings present in your life.

St Martin's is also in need of **the gift of time and talents**, not least in **cleaning** the church and **looking after the churchyard**. Normally we are fortunate to have the Community Pay back team helping once a week, but the corona virus meant they were not allowed to come, and at the time of writing (May) it's uncertain when they might be able to return. The Church of England instructed that church yards should be left untended during the pandemic.

THIS HAS NOW CHANGED (from June 12): PEOPLE BRINGING THEIR OWN TOOLS AND KEEPING TO THE SOCIAL DISTANCING RULES ARE NOW ALLOWED TO GARDEN IN THE CHURCH YARD. Tools may be shared if they are properly sanitised between use. We also need volunteers to clean the church, WHO ARE YOUNG AND FIT! NOBODY OVER THE AGE OF 70, OR IN THE OTHER VULNERABLE CATEGORIES, OR CARING FOR OTHER PEOPLE IN THESE CATEGORIES ARE ALLOWED TO CLEAN AT THIS TIME.

Cleaning will need to be done after every use, to keep the building as safe and hygienic as possible.

Could you help by joining a committed team of volunteers, perhaps on a one week a month rota?

Please don't wait to be asked, and don't assume someone else will do it! This is the time for us all to pull together! If you are able to help with cleaning or gardening, please be in touch with Rev Rosy or one of the church wardens, Uche and Marie.

Revd. Rosy



07-20-2015

FIRST OFF, I'M HAPPY TO SEE THAT SO MANY OF YOU ARE ENJOYING THE NEW STREAMING OF OUR SERVICES ONLINE ...

What's on the Web?

The **Church of England** website will provide you with up to date information as well as worship and prayer resources. In May **Faith at Home** was launched, with a weekly worship video centred on a value, eg Hope, Courage: although aimed at schools it's worth a look whatever age you are!

Hall Activities

Monday

Tae Kwondo 17:45 - 19:15

Tuesday

Zumba Gold 10:00 - 11:00
Drama Group 16:00 - 18:30
History Society 19:00 - 21:00
(Last Tuesday of the Month)
Craft Group 19:00 - 21:00

Wednesday

Irish Dance 19:00 - 21:00

Thursday

Little Soldiers 10:00 - 11:15
0-3 year olds + carers
(not in school holidays)

WI 14:15 - 16:15
(3rd Thursday of the Month)

AA 7-10pm

Friday

Tae Kwondo 17:30 - 20:30

Saturday

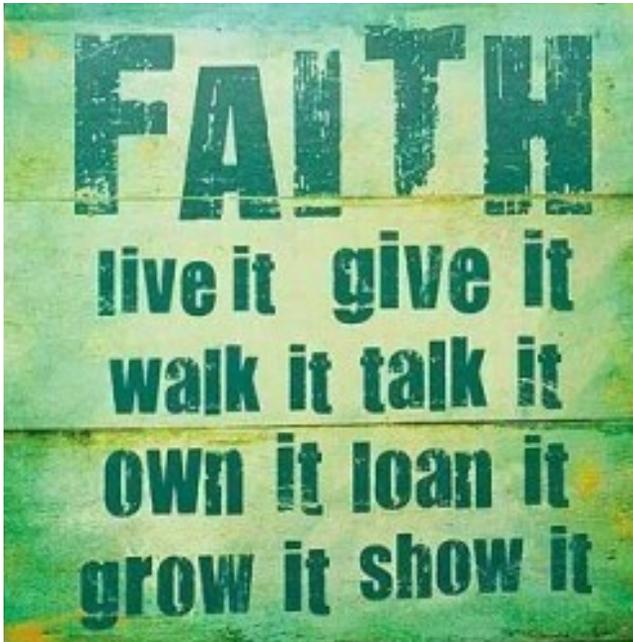
Zumba Gold 10:00 - 11:00

Items for inclusion in the August/September issue of Challenge must be with the Editor by Sunday 26th July. Items not received by this date will, if appropriate, be included in the next issue.

Email: smartinschurch@live.co.uk

From the Church Registers

*No Baptisms or Weddings
have been possible at this time.*



Funerals

Thomas Loveridge 21 April 2020

John Stark 25 April 2020

Nelson Todd 7 May 2020

Jane Daniel 15 May 2020

*We thank God for them and ask
God to comfort those who mourn their passing*

REGULAR SERVICES

EACH SUNDAY

8.00 am Holy Communion (said)

10.00 am Sung Eucharist

*Sunday School meets in the hall at 10am (except Family service)
All Children Welcome.*

1ST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

10.00 am Family Service, a service for all, from 0 to 99

MONDAY TO SATURDAY

9.30 am Morning Prayer



WHO'S WHO

VICAR Rev Rosy Barrie ' 01895 442194
rosybarrie1@btinternet.com

Church Wardens Uche Obi & Marie Tampin . 01895 434949
Deputy Churchwarden Peter Sparrow
Hall Bookings Marie ' 07742 757377
PCC Secretary William Fairchild ' 01895 434949
Stewardship Julia Bennett ' 01895 851269
Pastoral Assistant Doris Hughes ' 01895 434949
Deanery Synod Mary Davie & Pat Dibben ' 01895 434949
Representatives
Sunday School Contact the Parish Office ' 01895 434949
Church Treasurer Emeka Obi 01895 434949
Editor of Challenge Kevin Stephens ' 01895 434949
Flowers Contact Pat via the Office ' 01895 434949



PARISH OFFICE

St Martins Church, Church Road, West Drayton UB7 7PT

Tel: 01895 434949 (Answer Machine)

Email: stmartinschurch@live.co.uk

www.stmartinwestdrayton.org.uk

Wedding & Baptism enquiries : Tuesday 5:30-6:30pm

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Tonight, before you go to sleep, think of something that makes you smile. There is always something, no matter how bad your day may have been, you will sleep better, you will feel better once you wake and you will face your new day with a positive mind. Take charge of your happiness.



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for a small charge
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