

THE LINK

Keeping you in touch with Outwood, Stanley, Wrenthorpe and Alverthorpe Churches 29th March - 10th April

Dear all,

As you might imagine, this is not the message I originally wrote! The death of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh, though perhaps not entirely unexpected, has still felt like a shock.

Prince Philip lived a remarkable life - he was a refugee who, in the early years of his time in Britain, despite distinguished war service, and even after he married the woman who was to become Queen, had to face prejudice and disdain from some circles. If he could at times be acerbic, perhaps that was part of the reason why. But most people who met him came away impressed with his curiosity, humour, and wish to put others at their ease. He was a hard-working member of the Royal Family and threw himself into charity work - perhaps his biggest contribution being the Duke of Edinburgh scheme, which has helped so many young people grow up into responsible adults.

The Queen's faith is increasingly well-known, but Prince Philip, too, took his Christian faith very seriously. Under his no-nonsense exterior, he was a very bright man who loved to read and debate - preaching to the Royal Family meant receiving thoughtful, well-informed, questions and observations from the Prince afterwards, which must have been both gratifying and a little intimidating!

Prince Philip and the Queen's marriage was a long and devoted one, and many people otherwise indifferent to the monarchy have expressed great sympathy for the Queen in being thus widowed. So many people will see an echo of their own loss in that, and when we pray for the Queen and the Royal Family at this time, perhaps in one sense we are also praying for all those who are grieving. But the Christian faith that the Queen and the Duke

shared reminds us, as does this time of year, that death is not the end, for it is swallowed up in Christ's victory. And so, in that spirit, I again wish you all a happy Easter.

Rev'd Jo

Please note: as Rev'd Jo and Fr Jonathan are away this week, there will be no Link next week.

Prayers & Readings for the Next Weeks

The Second Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and
wickedness
that we may always serve you
in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our
Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Acts 4.32–35

Psalm 133

1 John 1.1 – 2.2

John 20.19–31

The Third Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his
risen life

and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
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.

Acts 3.12–19

Psalms 4

1 John 3.1–7

Luke 24.36b–48

Upcoming Church Events

Regular events online:

All our weekday online events are hosted on Zoom, either through the benefice's website's meeting rooms, or through a meeting login. For more information about how to join and how to use Zoom, please contact us.

Sundays

- 11am Coffee Morning on Zoom for St Anne's Wrenthorpe (NB there will be no coffee morning on Sun 18th).

Mondays

- 10am 'Start the Week – Drop in for Chat and Prayer' on Zoom
- 7:30pm St Peter's Stanley Housegroup on Zoom

Tuesdays

- 10am Coffee Morning for St Paul's on Zoom

Worship Online, on the Radio and on Television

Sunday Worship is broadcast on Radio 4 at 8:10am. Songs of Praise is broadcast on BBC1 at 1:15pm. The Church of England streams a service on YouTube every Sunday at 9am.

You can also join in with our church services online! We're showing them live on the churches' Facebook pages. If you don't have Facebook, you can still watch the services: type your church's name and 'Facebook' into Google, and click on the first link. The videos should be available to view during the service or after it has concluded.

The pattern for online services is as follows:

Sundays:

- 10am Parish Mass (St Mary Magdalene Outwood)
- 10am Parish Eucharist (St Anne's Wrenthorpe)
- 10am Holy Communion (from St Peter's and St Paul's on alternate weeks)
- 5:30pm Reflection

Mondays

- 9am Celtic Morning prayer
- 5:30pm Evening Prayer (live from St Mary Magdalene's)

Tuesdays:

- 5:30pm Evening Prayer (St Mary Magdalene's and St Anne's) (no service on 8 December)
- 9pm Celtic Evening Prayer (St Peter's Stanley)

Wednesdays:

- 9am Celtic Morning Prayer (St Peter's Stanley)
- 9pm Sung Compline (St Mary Magdalene's and St Anne's)
- 9pm Celtic Evening Prayer (St Peter's Stanley)

Thursdays:

- 5:30pm Evening Prayer (St Mary Magdalene's and St Anne's)
- 9pm Celtic Evening Prayer (St Peter's Stanley)

Fridays

- 9pm Celtic Evening Prayer (St Peter's Stanley)

Saturdays:

- 12:30pm Midday Prayer (St Mary Magdalene's and St Anne's)

Please note that as Fr Jonathan and Mthr Jo are on holiday 12th-20th April, there will be no daily services from St Anne's and St Mary Magdalene during that period. The Sunday services will continue as normal.

Diocesan Rhythm Of Life



Would you like something to help you think about deepening your faith, or to help you live out your faith in daily life? Bishop Tony invites you to a taster session on Zoom on the Rhythm of Life course, Wednesday 14th April, 7:30-9:00. Email RoL@leeds.anglican.org for more details, or for the link for the meeting,

Good News from Around the World

Schoolboy's Joke-a-Day Inspires Comic Relief campaign

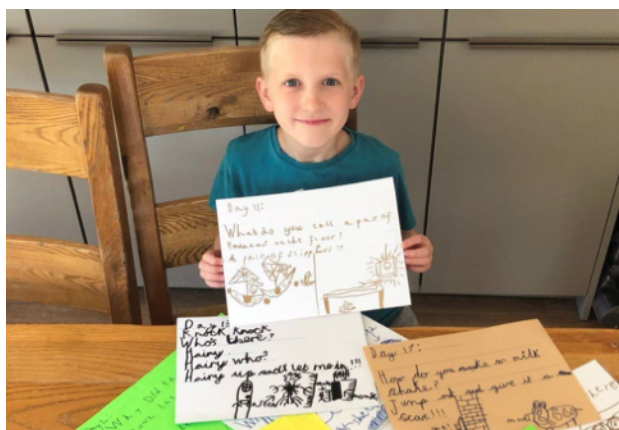


Photo: Lisa Mason

Back in lockdown one, Sonny Mason (8), of Kings Heath in Birmingham, decided to cheer passersby up by writing out a joke a day and putting it up at the end of his driveway. The signs - in his best handwriting and illustrated with pictures - got a really positive response from neighbours, who wrote to thank him. But Sonny's parents were astonished when he got a letter of thanks and commendation from Sir Lenny Henry (Sonny was impressed once they'd showed him a few Tiswas videos on YouTube). Sir Lenny said that Sony had inspired the BBC to choose "Share a Smile" as

the theme for this year's Red Nose Day, which took place on March 21st.

Boy Uses Mum's Thumb to Get Help

Oakley (9) from Telford used his mum's thumb to unlock her phone and dial 999. Emma Hughes had fallen while jogging and had broken her wrist, and while she managed to get home, she fainted from pain while Oakley was fetching the first aid kit. He had forgotten his mum's passcode, but thinking quickly, he used her thumb to unlock the phone, and was able to give operators everything they needed. Emma is recovering well, and as her husband is working away, Oakley is being very helpful round the house.

Keeping the Best in Sunday Best

Some people found the advent of streamed worship allowed them to enjoy praying in their pyjamas. Other people felt differently, and one of them was Dr LaVerne Ford Wimberly (82) of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Dr Wimberly, a retired headteacher, has always marked the specialness of Sundays by dressing impeccably for church, and when her church, Metropolitan Baptist Church in Tulsa, had to go online, she saw no reason to change. On a whim, she shared a selfie of her church outfit, accompanied with a Bible verse, on Facebook, and the response was so positive that she's been doing it every week ever since, with a different hat every Sunday. To her delight, Dr Wimberly church was able to meet in person this Easter Sunday - and of course Dr Wimberly had a beautiful outfit to match.



Photo: La Verne Ford Wimberly

An Image of hope

Hopefully you've been able to see the Easter Garden outside St Anne's - but we might have been upstaged by St Philip's Birchcliffe, who created an incredible cross out of recycled plastic bottles.



Visiting Churches

Our churches are open for visits at the following times:

Monday 4pm-5pm St Mary Magdalene's Outwood
Saturday 10-12pm St Paul's Alverthorpe

All our churches can also be visited by appointment.

Wrenthorpe & Kirkhamgate Food Bank



Regular collection boxes for the food bank which serves Outwood, Wrenthorpe, Stanley and Alvethorpe are hosted in both St Anne's and St Mary Magdalene's churches. 72% of families with children who depend on foodbanks are in work, and the need for support is growing, especially in the current Covid-19 restrictions. Please bring non-perishable food and toiletries to church when you are able to, and the boxes will be taken to the food bank as they fill up.

A Recipe from Mother Jo Kershaw: Rhubarb and Raisin Jam

We're now well into the field rhubarb season, and if you have a few crowns of rhubarb in your garden, you may currently have a lot of rhubarb to deal with! One thing you might like to try, if you haven't already, is rhubarb jam. This recipe is an old family one, and comes from the well-worn pages of my great-grandmother Slater's jam notebook. Two notes before you start: first, you need a very large pan (ideally a proper jam pan), and a lot of time; rhubarb jam takes much longer to set than, say, raspberry. Secondly, while the "skimmings" off most jams tastes good and can be eaten as long as you use it quickly, this does not apply to rhubarb jam, and you should throw it out.

4lbs rhubarb
1lb sultanas or raisins or mixed fruit
5lbs sugar
2 lemons
2 oranges
Half pint water

Clean glass jars and lids



The evening before, chop the rhubarb and put in a bowl with the dried fruit and rind and juice of the citrus fruits. Leave overnight.

Tip the mix into the jam pan, add water and sugar while heating slowly.

Bring to the rapid boil and boil for about 40 minutes. Skim off any scum or froth on the surface and discard.

While the jam is boiling, put a saucer in the fridge. Put your jars on a baking tray and put them in a hot oven; meanwhile, wash the lids in very hot soapy water, or boil them for five minutes in a saucepan.

Once the jam has had its forty minutes, turn the heat off. Spoon a small amount onto the chilled plate and leave for five minutes. If the jam wrinkles when you push it with your fingers, it's ready to pot. If not, return it to the boil and try again after five minutes.

Pot the jam - which is easier if you have a wide mouthed funnel!

Staying in touch with each other

It's hard to cope with being alone or not seeing many people for a long period of time, and everyone struggles. If you want a chat, you can call any of the vicars in this team. Leave your numbers so we can keep in touch too!

Outwood: Fr Jonathan (01924 373758/
frjonathanbish@gmail.com)
Wrenthorpe: Rev'd Jo (01924 373758/
revdjokershaw@gmail.com)
Stanley & Alverthorpe: Rev'd Glenn (01924
218484/ cogginsglenn@gmail.com)

RIP

Please remember and pray for those who have died recently whose funerals will be led by members of our clergy team, and others from the local community.

Alverthorpe - Brian Batley
Stanley -Jean Owen
Outwood – Roy Whiteley, Mavis Turton, Lesley
Walton, David Senior, Jade Williams
Wrenthorpe –Vivian Worrall

Keeping you entertained!



The North American tradition of putting messages on church signs can get... interesting.