



**UNITED BENEFICE OF CORLEY  
PARISH CHURCH & ST MARY &  
ALL SAINTS CHURCH,  
FILLONGLEY WITH FILLONGLEY  
METHODIST CHURCH**



*Anglicans and Methodists in Unity.*

Dear Friends,

A Very Happy New Year to you all and I hope that it will be a year filled with hope, joy, peace and love. I don't know about you, but I am not one for New Year resolutions ~ probably because I do not have a very good track record of sticking to them. The idea is similar to giving up something for Lent or perhaps one of the more recent phenomena of 'dry January', 'Veganuary', moustache-growing 'Movember' and other months with a themed cause. Unlike these however, a New Year's resolution is intended to be permanent. It is something intended to be more enduring and it involves an embracing of change.

The very word, *resolution* reveals some depth in its origins. It comes from the Latin *resolvere* meaning to unfasten, loosen or release. Nowadays a resolution is a decision to follow a particular course of action, which might be made by an individual or group or committee; it is a solution to a problem, an end result that is desirable and satisfactory. 'Resolution' is also a musical term, where a chord comes together in a particular cadence or ending and in science, resolving something often involves separating or breaking it down into constituent parts.

Resolutions, at New Year or otherwise, often have a slightly moral dimension, such that they seem to be the right thing to do, and the beginning of a new year, the turning of an annual page, feels like the a good time to, at least, try to make a change for the better. It is good therefore to make resolutions in the spirit of prayer and to involve God, perhaps seeking his guidance on his purposes for the year ahead.

Each year is like a new page or chapter in our lives, as we find in a diary or calendar. As we turn the page we can reflect on the past year, and as we know, for many 2020 was a very tough year indeed. It has become commonplace for the media to remind us what the significant moments were in the past year. There is perhaps some value in pausing to reflect before the next year swings into action. The New Year is a golden opportunity to make a new start, but as Christians we can make a fresh start on any or each new day; we don't have to wait until January 1<sup>st</sup> comes around.

New Year's Day, 1 January, is often overlooked as a festival in the life of the church. It is the day we celebrate the Circumcision and Naming of Jesus, and then 32 days later we remember when Jesus was taken to the temple to be presented to the Lord as the firstborn son. Through these early actions by Mary & Joseph, God's resolution to put the world right swings into action. Every New Year can remind us of this 'newness' of what God resolved to do at the first Christmas, and

*Stop press*

*Services for*

*Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January*

*9:00 am Corley*

*10:30am Fillongley*

*Please bring and wear a  
face covering*



which he acted upon through the messages of the angels, the determination of the magi, the humility of the shepherds and the faithful obedience of Mary and Joseph.

So, perhaps this New Year, you might like to try a faith-inspired resolution, one which will help you to keep firmly moving forward on your spiritual journey. Praying the words of the Methodist Covenant Prayer\* will be a help to you in keeping to what may prove to be the most significant resolution which you have ever made, and one which you will find very easy to achieve.

With every good wish

Suzanne Churchwarden.

*\*The Methodist Covenant Prayer.*

I am no longer my own but yours. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, exalted for you, or brought low for you; let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing: I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal. And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours. So be it. **Amen**

### Readings and Prayers

for Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021 ~ The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas

#### Collects

Almighty God, in the birth of your Son you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word, and shown us the fullness of your love: help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love that we may know the fullness of his joy; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

God our Father, in love you sent your Son that the world may have life: lead us to seek him among the outcast and to find him in those in need, for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen**

#### Readings

Jeremiah 31: vs 7-14

Psalm 147 vs 13-end

Ephesians 1: vs 3-14

John 1 vs 10-18



#### Reflection

The reflection which will be part of the Service of the Word at Fillongley is attached to this Bulletin.

## **HYMNS & WORSHIP SONGS**

*Here are the Hymns that we would have been singing in Church this Sunday:-*

Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided (StF 470)

All I once held dear (StF 489)

*Here is the link so that you can sing along with this worship song -*

[Knowing You - Worship Song by Graham Kendrick from Philippians 3 - Official Lyric Video - YouTube](#)

Hear the call of the kingdom (StF 407)

Now thank we all our God (StF 81)

## **PRAYERS**

*As we enter this New Year, we continue to pray for our world, our nation, our communities, our families and friends, and for ourselves.*

### **A Prayer**

Whatever lies ahead in our personal, domestic and international lives, help us to be genuine in our faith, our hope and our love, that we may live with the Christ child, and he in us, each day and every day. **Amen.**

### **A New Year ~ new Resolutions**

Let us go forth in the goodness of our merciful Father,  
In the gentleness of our brother Jesus, in the radiance of the Holy Spirit,  
In the faith of the apostles, in the joyful praise of the angels,  
In the holiness of the saints, in the courage of the martyrs.

Let us go forth in the wisdom of our all-seeing Father,  
In the patience of our all-loving Brother, in the truth of the all-knowing Spirit,  
In the learning of the apostles, in the gracious guidance of the angels,  
In the patience of the saints, in the self-control of the martyrs.  
Such is the path of all the servants of Christ, the path from death to eternal life.

*In Celtic Fire, Robert Van der Weyer*

Go before us in our pilgrimage of Life.  
Anticipate our needs, prevent our falling,  
and lead us to our destiny. **Amen**



## The Bishop's Certificate in Discipleship (BCDM)



The Bishop's Certificate in Discipleship is a modular course for lay people. It is designed for anyone who wants to explore their faith further with a group of others, and is designed to be flexible and suitable for anyone who is not an expert in Christian Faith.

Currently there are a number of BCDM modules available to book on to, all at the discounted rate of £10. There are a mix of daytime and evening modules available, so there should be something convenient for everyone. The reduced rate will end on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021. All of the modules are taking place via Zoom, so no travel or Covid risk is involved. We're getting great feedback from attendees from the move to Zoom, and there is a really great sense of community as participants from across the Diocese get to interact with each other. We'd be grateful if you could pass this along to folks in your congregations, so they know these modules are available. Current modules topics include:

- Discovering and using Your Spiritual Gifts
- Jesus and the Gospels
- The Book of Revelation

You can find further details, including how to book here: <http://www.dioceseofcoventry.org/BCDM/modules>

## RESOURCES

Attached to this Bulletin are these items ~

- ✚ Order of Service for Holy Communion (BCP) ~ Corley Church.
- ✚ Order of Service for Service of the Word ~ Fillongley Church
- ✚ A Reflection from Suzanne, Churchwarden at Fillongley.
- ✚ "Do not let the pain define 2020" Church Times 18 December 2020.



## AND FINALLY DON'T FORGET .....

If there is anything that you need or know of someone who would appreciate being contacted or added to the mailing list for this weekly e-bulletin, please do not hesitate to contact Revd Ali, Revd Jane or any of the Churchwardens and Church Stewards listed below. <sup>i</sup>

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### <sup>i</sup> *Contact Details:*

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