



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



Anglicans and Methodists in Unity.

Dear Friends,

We are now well into the season of Easter. The season lasts for 6 weeks until we celebrate Pentecost on the 23rd May. Since 2016, the Church of England has encouraged us to use the last two weeks of the season of Easter as a particular time of prayer. To draw together with sisters and brothers across the globe, and join in a wave of prayer between Ascension Day (13th May) and Pentecost. The initiative is known as 'Thy Kingdom Come' and there are lots of different resources to help us join in on the Church of England Website. <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/prayer-resources>

This year, the focus of our prayers is for our family and friends to come to know the love of Christ. The resources the Church of England have produced use some of the Psalms as a structure for prayer. Each year, the Thy Kingdom Come team produce a Novena Prayer Booklet, which I have found particularly helpful so it is included with this week's newsletter for your information. I do hope and pray that you find it, or any of the other resources, helpful to your prayer life.

Another annual event during the season of Easter are the Annual Church Meetings, sometimes known as the 'APCM'. This is an open meeting for anyone who is interested in the church to find out what has been happening in the last year. It is also an opportunity to join the Church Councils who look after our wonderful buildings and work together to promote the mission and ministry of the church in our communities. If you might be interested in supporting or joining the Church Council at either Corley or Fillongley then please do get in touch for a chat or just come to the meeting. The meetings are:

The Parish Church, Corley on Sunday 25th April at 11.30am (after the service of Holy Communion)

St Mary and All Saints Church, Fillongley on Monday 26th April at 7pm.

And of course, if you are reading this on Friday 23rd April, it is St George's day, Patron Saint of England (as well as Portugal, Bulgaria and Georgia and parts of Spain). According to tradition, George was a soldier in the Roman army with Greek Christian parents who was sentenced to death for refusing to give up his Christian faith. He is of course, probably better known as the eponymous hero of the legend of St George and the Dragon. May we all be as firm in our faith as George and share our faith willingly with those who have yet to see the truth of the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Stop press
Services for
Sunday 25th April 2021
9:00 am Fillongley
10:30am Corley
Please bring and wear a
face covering

The Collect for St George's Day

God of hosts,
who so kindled the flame of love
in the heart of your servant George
that he bore witness to the risen Lord
by his life and by his death:
give us the same faith and power of love
that we who rejoice in his triumphs
may come to share with him the fullness of the resurrection;
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.

May you have a happy and blessed week and look forward to catching up with you in person soon.
God bless you and yours.

Ali

Your invitation to our Service of the Word Sunday at 5pm on ZOOM

Ali Massey is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Service of the Word

Time: Mar 21, 2021 05:00 PM London

Every week on Sun, until Jun 27, 2021,



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85475380558?pwd=WUhUQ1ZyOEhhSzhhUVlWeXAxQU9lUT09>

Meeting ID: 854 7538 0558

Passcode: 572740

Telephone: 0 203 481 5237 United Kingdom 0 203 481 5240 United Kingdom

Meeting ID: 854 7538 0558 Passcode: 572740



Readings and Prayers for Sunday 25th April 2021

The 4th Sunday of Easter

Collects

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Readings

Genesis Chapters 7-9

Acts 4: vs 5-12

Psalm 23

1 John 3: vs 16-end

John 10: vs 11-18



Reflection

A Reflection from Revd Ali for this Sunday is attached to this Bulletin

HYMNS & WORSHIP SONGS

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

[Christ is made the sure foundation \(StF 677\)](#)

[The King of love my shepherd is \(StF 479\)](#)

[All for Jesus - all for Jesus \(StF 341\)](#)

[I will sing the wondrous story \(StF 323\)](#)

In the link below this hymn is played using the wonderful welsh tune Calon Lân

[I will sing the Wondrous Story - music John Hughes words Francis H Rowley - tune name Calon Lan. - Bing video](#)

PRAYERS

We continue to pray for all those affected by the global pandemic in any way.

A Prayer for the Human Race

We thank you, Lord that we are citizens of the world made up of different races. Your grace touches us all, whatever our race and colour. We rejoice in the richness of our cultures, our music and dance, our folklore and legends. We thank you for all these gifts. We delight in the joy they bring to our lives. **Amen**



Women of Brazil (adapted)

A Prayer on Earth Day – 22nd April

I thank you, O God, for the pleasures you have given me through my senses; for the glory of thunder, for the mystery of music, the singing of birds and the laughter of children. I thank you for the delights of colour, the awe of the sunset, the wild flowers in the hedgerows, and the smile of friendship. I thank you for the sweetness of flowers and the scent of hay. Truly, O Lord, the earth is full of your riches! **Amen**

Edward King (1829-1910) (adapted)

Prayer is never about persuading God, but it is sometimes about partnering with him in seeing a difficult situation resolved.

Prayer in the making by Lyndall Bywater (BRF 2019)

Prayer helps is to have the strength to deal with what we will face when we get up from our knees. Timothy Bavin OSB, quoted in *Life with St Benedict* by Richard Frost (BRF 2019)

A Prayer from the BRF

Long-suffering, promise-keeping God, you always act at the right time, because your purposes are rooted in eternity. Grant us a faith that can wait and a patience that can trust in your big-picture plans for the detail of our lives; through Christ, whose coming and saving was prepared before the world began. **Amen.**



*During the great spring clean,
the Hoover bag went critical*

Malcolm Guite recalls a moment of sharp-edged humour with Prince Philip



I was very sorry to hear of the death of Prince Philip, not only because of the terrible loss that it represents for the Queen, and because of all the service he has done for the nation, both in supporting her and in his own right, but also because he was such a strong and likeable character, as I discovered for myself when, in his role as Chancellor of Cambridge University, he gave me one of the most memorable days of my life, and certainly a story to dine out on. The whole adventure occurred when I was myself in role as consort, in my case consort to the Senior Proctor; for it happened that Maggie was Senior Proctor in 2009, the year Cambridge celebrated its 800th anniversary. So there were all kinds of ceremonial occasions to attend, and the chief of these was a special ceremony in the Senate House at which honorary degrees were given to the great and the good.

Prince Philip himself was to award the degrees and attend the small reception afterwards, at which also the University's "800th-birthday cake" was to be cut. Given that not only the Prince, but many others of the great and the good were in attendance, security was high. We were all vetted and checked over in full airport style before we were admitted — though, as it turned out, I still ended up armed and dangerous.

The ceremony went splendidly. Maggie looked very well in her full proctorial fig and delivered her Latin, as always, with accuracy and aplomb. Then we all adjourned to a marquee for the birthday festivities. We were given champagne and canapés, and then, as if from nowhere, someone produced a magnificent cake, decorated with the university arms, and, as the King's choristers sang "Happy Birthday" an aide handed Prince Philip a ceremonial sword with which to cut the cake, which he did with his usual gusto, remarking that the age of the University entitled us all to feel comparatively young.

Then he looked around, clearly hoping to hand the sword back to someone so as to have a free hand for another drink. No one stepped forward. Then his eye lit on me. I was wearing the scarlet and palatinate Durham doctoral gown, which, someone once remarked, made me look like a cross between a flamboyant pirate and a dodgy Renaissance cardinal. There was a glint in Prince Philip's eye, and he grinned broadly as he handed me the sword and said, "Why don't you take this: you certainly look as if you know what to do with it!" Then he turned back to his champagne and conversation, and I was left holding this magnificent weapon.

Nobody came to take it from me. So much for security! I had Bill Gates to the left of me and the Aga Khan to the right, and a few swift strokes might have made my moment in history. But I thought better of it. I noticed however, that the choirboys, who had retreated to a corner of the marquee with the remains of the cake, were looking with great interest at the sword. So I went over to show it to them, remembering how I loved playing with swords as a child. Indeed, the child in me was very much alive holding this one.

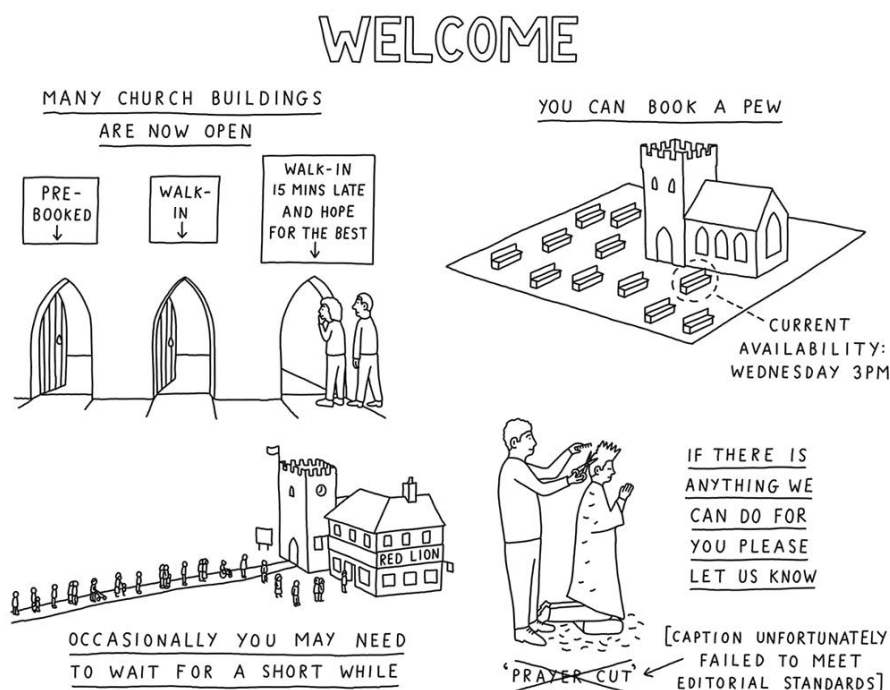
Naturally, the choristers wanted to hold it, and, naturally, I let them. It turned out that what they really wanted to do was scrape the last bits of jam and cake off the blade with their fingers. Then the speeches started, and, leaving the sword with the choir boys, I went to stand with the proctor, but was relieved, as I glanced back, to see that someone had at last relieved the choirboys of the sword.

Malcolm Guite is a poet, priest and singer-songwriter. He is a Chaplain of Girton College and Associate Chaplain of St Edward King and Martyr in Cambridge, and is the author of many anthologies of poetry. He is a weekly columnist in the Church Times where he writes the very popular 'Poet's Corner' which is now included here each week for you to enjoy.

RESOURCES

Attached to this Bulletin are these items ~

- 🏰 A Reflection from Revd Ali for the fourth Sunday of Easter
- 🏰 Order of Service for Holy Communion at Corley Church
- 🏰 Order of Service for Holy Communion at Fillongley Church
- 🏰 Order of Service for Evening Prayer on Zoom 5pm Sunday
- 🏰 Thy Kingdom Come ~ Novena Prayer Booklet



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. ⁱ

ⁱ **Contact Details:**

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