

Sun isn't cancelled
Spring isn't cancelled
Relationships aren't cancelled
Conversations aren't cancelled
Creativity isn't cancelled
Kindness isn't cancelled
Reading isn't cancelled
Music isn't cancelled
Love isn't cancelled
Hope isn't cancelled
Prayer isn't cancelled

*Not everything
is cancelled...*



DENHAM PARISH NEWS

MAY - JULY 2020

CONTENTS

3	From the Editor
4	Message from Christoph Lindner, Rector
6	I am your DPN
10	Peace in times of suffering and uncertainty
12	The fame of the Fayre
14	Passion Play
16	We are here for you!
17	Calendar
21	Family Register
22	God in the life of Pete Kruck
24	The blessing of Grandparents
28	Things to do when staying home
30	Denham Village quiz
31	Mission partners: Church Army Marylebone Project
35	Parish Directory

How to find us: St Mary's UB9 5BH, St Mark's UB9 5HT, St Francis UB9 4DW

Disclaimer: We are very grateful for the support of our advertisers.

However, as a church we do not endorse their products or services in any way.

Any services they provide for you would be contracted by you – their customers – and we cannot be party to any difficulties encountered.

FROM THE EDITOR

Dear friends.

During this time when we have been so abruptly disconnected from each other and our 'normal/regular' pattern of life, let us choose to stay connected and explore new ways of how to make that meaningful.

I have been so encouraged by the Denham Parish on-line Sunday services; singing along to the hymns, reading God's word and praying together. We are blessed with technology that enables so many to contribute from their homes to make this such a 'family' gathering. I commend it to you.

Since Covid-19 I have embraced WhatsApp and am enjoying the regular insights into the lives of my wider family – the flowers in their gardens, my Dad's jokes, the 'Boggle' word puzzle, words of encouragement or a new worship song composed by my brother in law. One posting included a picture of Noah's Ark with the caption 'A family in lockdown!' Makes you think!

Whether you received this magazine in printed format or via the website, please keep in touch. We like to include photos, so if you have one of a wedding, baptism or loved one that you would like included on the Family Register page, please let me know.

May I encourage you to choose to stay connected during this time and find new ways that let us ...

... draw near to God

... hold unswervingly to the hope we profess

... encourage and spur one another on

... not give up meeting together

(Hebrews 10:19-25)



Every blessing,

Cathy Macqueen

magazine@denhamparish.church

Dear friends,

Today I received a message from Google Maps, encouraging me to discover new pubs and restaurants in my area – what a failure of artificial intelligence! How utterly our lives have changed over the last weeks! Never before in living memory has public life been completely suspended. At the time of going to print our churches, as well as most other places where people tend to meet, remain closed. All of us have by now been deeply affected by the sickness and death of people we love. We cheer on and pray for all those who lead us through this crisis and serve us sacrificially.

Coronavirus began, of course, in China, and the Chinese word for crisis consists of two characters – one means danger, the other opportunity. The dangers of this crisis are all too apparent: Many more people will lose their lives, we are isolated from friends and families when we want to be near them, our economies will suffer significant setbacks. Many people have lost their jobs and are struggling to make ends meet. That's why it is important to stay safe and to heed government advice, not just for our own sake, but for the sake of the vulnerable, and for the NHS to cope with the unprecedented demand on its resources.

But this crisis also represents an opportunity for the Church to express the love of Christ in a world that has been shaken to its core. In 251AD a plague devastated the great city of Carthage in North Africa. While anyone who was able, tried to leave the city, the local bishop urged the Christians to stay and not only to look after their own family and friends, but their non-Christian neighbours, too. Those pagan neighbours were likely to be open to the Christian faith, because they witnessed how the church lived what it believed and practised what it preached.

So how can we respond to the current crisis?

1. We pray

Because we know God cares for us and knows all about us, we can cry out to him with honesty about our fears and weaknesses. Let's pray for those who are infected, for the grieving, for emergency and health services around the world, for those who are anxious and afraid. Times of crisis are an opportunity to re-evaluate what truly counts in life, so let's pray that many people would turn to God and put their hope in Jesus Christ.

There are many ways in which we can pray together while we are apart. Please find a range of ideas at denhamparish.church/praying-together.

One simple thing we can all do: Set a daily alarm for 12 noon and stop for 20 seconds to pray the Lord's Prayer – together with thousands of people around the world.

2. We welcome

We don't know when our churches will be open again. But while our physical meetings have been put on hold, the life of our church and community hasn't! Please check our website on a regular basis (denhamparish.church/blog), join us for Sunday worship on Youtube (tinyurl.com/youtube-denham) and follow our Facebook page (facebook.com/pg/denhamparish.church/). In some ways it has never been easier to welcome new people, because we don't even have to leave our own house. If you are already part of our church family, please invite others to join us for our various activities. If you would like to explore the Christian faith or pray with one of our ministers, give our church office a call and they will arrange a suitable time for a phone call.

While this time of containment is hard for most of us, can we also welcome it as a gift from God? Eugene Peterson, writing about Jonah's confinement in the whale, says this: *'Without confinement, without the intensification resulting from compression, there is no energy worth speaking of... Confined to the reality of the human condition, the person is surprised to be living not a diminished life but a deepened life, not a crippled life but a zestful life.'* Christoph and Edda, leading our first



ever online family service

3. We share

We are called to be people of hope – now more than ever! The message of Easter is that Jesus Christ has conquered death and so we can say: "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" (1 Corinthians 15 verse 55). Let's share this hope with others, as we care for them. An encouraging text message, a phone call, a letter, help with someone's shopping, a Facebook message reminding us of a Bible promise – all these things can make a big difference.

The Bible says more than 300 times, "Do not be afraid". Let's renew our trust in God at this challenging time.

P.S. How can we have peace at a time such as this? Please read Tim Keller's article on page 10, which goes to the heart of what we believe as Christians.

Christoph Lindner
Rector

I AM YOUR DENHAM PARISH NEWS

BY BRIAN O'REGAN



Hello again, we're back together, you and me; just the tonic I needed after what I've been through. Thank you so much for picking me up, it feels so good to be in your caring hands and I can tell you, I always look forward to this time together. And you? How have you been since I saw you last?

You see, I have been created for you and without you I would have no reason at all to even exist. The fact that I am here is really not my doing – I have done nothing at all to deserve your lovely eyes perusing me.

No, I have been created by others who have laboured and crafted me into a glossy finished product worthy of your attention. It is time to go under my cover and find out how I got here and what is the meaning of my life.

I have my very own editor – you can see her photograph on page three (of this magazine!). Back in 2018 Cathy Macqueen mused in the pews when our Rector, Christoph, sought a volunteer to edit the church magazine (that's me) soon to be relaunched. He must have been tuned in well for he approached Cathy - and I had my editor.

Preparation for the edition you're reading started in January with a draft outline of contents. You

will have noticed there is some standard content – “From the Editor” is one such piece. For this Cathy writes to the season and tries to provoke the reader to think about God and his message. The centre spread of church calendar and events comes from Christoph, but there are numerous writers for the 8-10 articles that fill my pages. Cathy and Christoph, as the editorial team, come up with some ideas and then Cathy tries to find “volunteers” to write them. She has some old-reliables to call on – such as Dexter Brown (Ed: he's not old).

Now Dexter's day job is peering into people's mouths, prodding their teeth – he may have done some work on yours! But when my editor comes calling, he drops his drill and picks up his quill.

Dexter likes to write from a “lay” perspective, conscious of my readers who are not church goers. I want everyone to enjoy picking me up and devouring every page! Dexter gets his articles done well before Cathy's deadlines – I'm sure she loves him for that. Running a dentistry practice means his diary gets pretty full, so he doesn't exactly look forward to the next magazine commission. But once he has started, the ink flows from his pen and in a couple of hours

he has his first draft. Why don't you drop a line to Cathy and tell her what you think about his next literary masterpiece?

The last two weeks of my production cycle are quite stressful for Cathy. With the print deadline fast approaching she is sometimes chasing contributors for their article, and then each one must be reviewed. Is it too short, too long, needing a little reworking or spelling errors corrected, have they sent the promised pictures? So much to do as she wants me to be the very best in the class. But finally, it's done and she throws all my pages into Dropbox.

Now Dropbox is one of those clever internetty things that simplifies humans' lives. Magically, as Cathy dumps my content into Dropbox, Sam can pick it up wherever he is. Oh yes, Sam Eastwood is my creative genius. Through his skills I am made into a very professional magazine, even though I say so myself. Sam is a graphic designer working for an agency in Amersham and has been a Christian for nearly twenty years. He does this task because he loves to give something back to the church – a connection that really resonates.

Sam takes my pages and pictures from Dropbox and pulls them into shape in another bit of software he called “Adobe InDesign”. He has refined the process with Cathy so that his work only takes three or four hours. The finished pages are

deposited in Dropbox for Cathy's final review. On her approval, Sam sends everything to the printer and wow, in five days I'm done – hundreds of me!

So that's me finished. But wait, here I am all dressed up and nowhere to go! How do you get to see me? Now this part is quite a story too. Carole Wadlow is the Distribution Captain responsible for getting me out to my subscribers – are you one? (If not, you can find out how to become one below). Carole has a wonderful team of distributors and she prepares a bundle for each one to deliver to subscribers in their street. She also sends copies by post – former Rector Peter Crick gets one and loves to read what is going on in his erstwhile parish. I'm sure he is very happy with how things are going.

Carole, Cathy and Christoph held a thank-you afternoon tea recently for the army of people who play a part in getting me into print and out into the parish. Sheila and Geoff, who have been distributors for seven years, were there. They get regular feedback from their subscribers about me; what they like and don't like (oh surely not!). I am so pleased to hear that people like the articles about church life and interesting local stories, the glossy pages and colour pictures. Just in my previous edition there was “Mysterious Misbourne” by Timothy Macqueen (he's the editor's son) and a piece about St Mary's font by Revd Ian Jennings.

Incidentally, the rector has found some copies of DPN in the archive – the oldest is January 1959.

Beryl has been a distributor for over 12 years. Her sister moved to Kent from Denham 40 years ago, so Beryl posts a copy to her so she can keep connected. And that is just what Christoph wants me to facilitate – connections! The church's mission is to connect to every house in Denham and my distributors play an important role. In their contact with local people, they get to hear of those who are unwell or going through difficult times. Here the church family can help and support. Perhaps I could become indispensable? Oh joy!

Well that's quite a journey! I never realised how challenging my birth is. The amazing thing is that this team will do it all over again in a few months, so until we meet again (Ed: that will be in the Summer then), keep turning my pages.

You know, I love my team – if only I could speak I would tell them. Ahh, I've just had a thought; maybe you would?

"Take a scroll and write on it all the words which I have spoken to you concerning Israel ..." Jeremiah 36:2

Some of the DPN team



Denham Parish News is usually available in printed format and issued 5 times a year

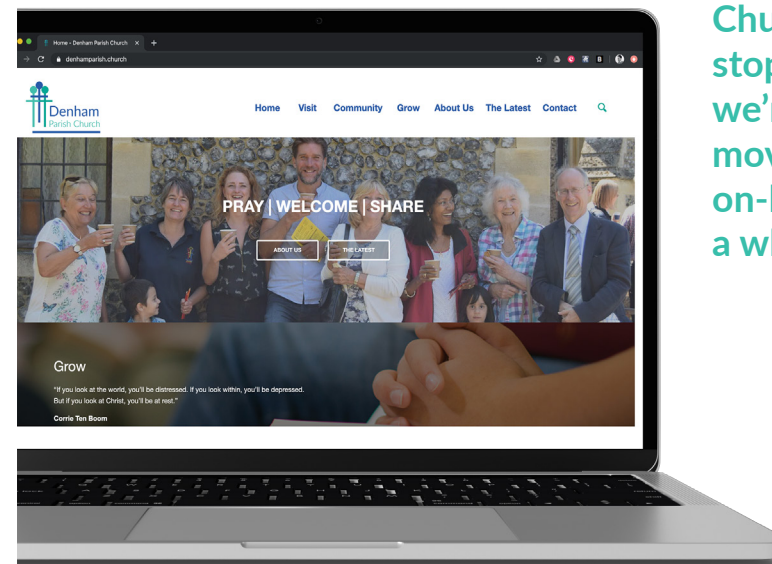
Each Issue costs £1, with an annual subscription of £5 if hand delivered locally or £10 if posted.

If you would like to regularly receive this magazine, please contact magazine@denhamparish.church or our Distribution Captain, Carole Wadlow 07885 513253, for more information.

Stay connected! Explore our website: www.denhamparish.church

- Listen to recent sermons
- Find links for on-line Sunday services
- Practical ideas on how to pray and read the Bible
- Information for those with children and youth (Little Lions, Sunday Club and Destiny)
- How to get involved in Lifegroups and Bible reading groups even during lockdown and much more!

To find the latest events, news and sermons just click on 'The Latest' in the menu bar or go to <https://www.denhamparish.church/blog/> (the latest items are always at the top).



Church hasn't stopped, we're just moving on-line for a while!

PEACE IN TIMES OF SUFFERING AND UNCERTAINTY

BY TIM KELLER

Major crises such as the current pandemic raise the age-old question: Is there meaning in suffering and how can we cope with it? In this shortened version of his talk, Dr Timothy Keller asks: How do we face suffering and find peace?

Suffering is inevitable. In the past most people understood that life was short and fragile. Since WWII we have lost some of that sense – after all, we are high-tech and connected! But because of that, new sorrows strike us. So how can we face pain and suffering and grow through it?

Five views on handling suffering

A. Karmic religion: Resignation

In religions that believe in karma and reincarnation, you are being judged by how well you live – if you were a bad person you will suffer in the next life. Eventually, by living rightly, you will escape the cycle of birth and death and go into the 'all-soul', the bliss of nirvana. There is no unjust suffering in this philosophy, so you resign yourself to it.

B. Buddhism: Detachment

One of the Karmic religions, Buddhism, was born as a response to suffering. Buddhism teaches that suffering comes from desire, so you aim to extinguish desire, because this world and the idea that you are an individual person are illusions – we



are all rain drops which eventually merge into the ocean.

Buddhism says: Do not engage in the love of attachment, but the love of compassion.

C. Shame-and-honour culture: Stoicism

The meaning of life is to be strong and noble and to sacrifice yourself for the good of your tribe or family. Therefore, suffering is almost welcome. In the face of suffering, you are meant to be stoic and strong.

D. Modern Secularism: No strategy to face suffering

Secularism says, there is no God or if there is, God is not intervening in our world supernaturally. The only reality is the physical world. This world view is the worst at equipping us to handle suffering! Modern secular people have the freedom to choose any meaning in life they want. But whatever we choose as meaning needs to be in this life (relationships, health, prosperity, success...) and suffering takes away those things. In contrast, in all religions, the meaning of life is outside of this life and so suffering cannot touch your meaning in life, but will enhance it! Unlike the

religions covered so far, secularism does however instinctively protest and push back against suffering.

E. Christianity: The God who suffers

Christianity gave the world three things it never had before, which it also offers to us today:

(1) **A God who came into this world and suffered.** Uniquely, in the person of Jesus Christ, God experienced unjust suffering. Christianity says that unjust suffering is real and when you turn to God, he knows what you are going through. Jesus Christ has experienced that. We don't resign ourselves to it. We can fight against it as Jesus did. We can cry out to God, as Jesus did.

(2) **A promise of an afterlife, which is a world of love.** In Karmic religion, we lose our personality when we enter Nirvana. That means, after this life there is no love. But the deepest desire in suffering is not to lose love. When you lose a loved person, don't detach, don't love them less, but love God the most. Through faith in Jesus Christ I will be part of a world of love when I die, I will be with my loved ones. I will be with God himself.

(3) **The idea of resurrection.** We will not live forever like ghosts, floating in a disembodied state. Eternal life will not just be a consolation for the life you have lost. No, God will recreate this world more beautiful than ever and wipe it of all suffering, evil and death.

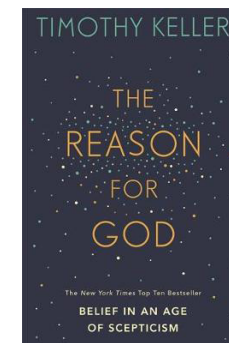
How can we therefore face suffering as Christians?

1. **Weep but trust.** In the Book of Job, Job suffers terribly. He weeps, he questions, but he stays faithful: There has to be a God, otherwise there is no one to be mad at, otherwise there is no right and wrong. Jesus prayed to his Father, "Thy will be done", but he was crying out to him on the cross.
2. **Pray and think.** Job is complaining all through the book. At the end God commends him! Because Job does his complaining to God! In the face of suffering we wrestle and pray at the same time, knowing that only God can see the big picture.
3. **Reorder your loves and hope.** When we suffer, we have to rearrange our priorities and to reorder them now. What is really important? Hope in heaven as a world of love is our firm anchor in the storms of life.

Watch the full-length talk here (start at 5 min 45 sec):

tinyurl.com/keller-uncertainty

If you'd like to read more by Tim Keller, try his book *The Reason for God*.



THE FAME OF THE FAYRE

Due to the Coronavirus crisis the Denham Village Fayre has had to be cancelled this year.

Here is a shortened reprint of an article that was published in July 1970 (fifty years ago) in the first issue of the then newly launched "Denham St Mary's Parish News" - a monthly eight-page newspaper in tabloid format.

It was the Beetle that started it — a beetle that was born in the oak timbers of the Church roof and over the years played havoc with the beams and other woodwork. The Church Council was hard-pressed to meet what was obviously going to be an expensive item.

But undaunted and led by faith, various money-raising ideas were formulated, one of which was a suggestion that a Whitsun Bazaar might be held — but a bazaar with a difference — the stalls being held in the Village street. This made a delightful setting for such an event. So the Beetle Fayre was born and when the financial objective was achieved — as achieved it was — no one thought of dropping the event which has now become a traditional part of the life of the Village. Although it takes a similar pattern year after year no one ever tires of it — in fact every year it seems to attract more and more people. One family who had motored from the North told our representative: "We have never seen anything like this anywhere else."

THE MESSAGE OF THE BELLS

Not a word is spoken when the festivities open — yet the opening ceremony is heard over a far wider area than any loud-speaker system could penetrate. It is "spoken" by the bells of St. Mary's, the parish Church, which ring out to declare that once again the Fayre has started. This year ringers came from all over the country. Not only was their message heard over a wide area but the ringing attracted a number of sightseers. During the afternoon there was a further demonstration of ringing — this time with hand-bells. It is pleasing to note that both kinds of ringing have some quite youthful adherents.

The Church itself was the focal point for a number of activities. During the afternoon Mr. Derek Houghton, the Church organist, gave a recital, thrilling music-lovers with nine selections well chosen for contrast and interest.

The Church was also used to stage exhibitions concerning the Church Army, the Church Missionary Society, the Church of England's Children's Society and one of particular interest showing the work of Sheila and Niall Watson in Kenya. These two Missionaries are agriculturalists who are supported by the Church. Another display which attracted much attention was presented by the Art and Needlework Guild.

A new feature this year was an art show. This was staged in the churchyard and the 150 or so works on view covered

the widest possible variety of subjects. Young artists were able to show their talent in a children's competition which resulted in a separate show containing 120 pictures.

BONNY BABIES

Dr Elmes and Sister P. Kearney of Hillingdon were hard pressed to determine the ultimate winner in a baby competition which attracted 45 entries. Mrs. A. Wilson found the judging of the dog show even more of a problem — the event attracted thirty entries.

Music was provided by the West Wycombe Band and other attractions included model train and donkey rides, pet's corner, and a balloon race. This event is always popular and there was an almost continuous stream of gaily coloured balloons floating "up, up and away" from the stall on the corner of the Village Green. As we go to press over sixty cards have been returned to Mr. Stewart, nearly half of them

from the Continent. The furthest went over 500 miles — well south of Lyons; another in the same general direction went to a village in Switzerland; a third landed in Schleswig Holstein in the extreme north of Germany.

As usual the mile of pennies seemed to have a magnetic fascination and gradually the line grew all along by the wall of Denham Place. Some motorists seemed to think that their contributions constituted a car parking fee!

It was obviously a day which had provided a great deal of enjoyment for some thousands of people, but the sun has to set on even the happiest of days and when at last dusk began to fall the army of cheerful volunteers whose day had begun well before 7.00 a.m., completed their work by cleaning up and restoring the Village street to normality. Mrs. M. Seymour, Chairman of the Organising Committee expressed the views of all her colleagues by saying: "I am most grateful to all for all their hard work both on and before the day."



Photo: R. UDELL

A PASSION PLAY FOR OUR TIME

BY BRIAN O'REGAN

The summer of 1970 marked the beginning of a new era for me. I left school in July and took a holiday with four friends to Austria ahead of launching into the brave new world of work. The trial of Charles Manson for the murder of Sharon Tate and others had just started. Our hippy-looking group arrived in Salzburg on the overnight train from London. At the station bar some locals asked us if Manson was good or bad. "Bad of course", and they bought us beers! Refreshed, we travelled by the post-bus to the small lakeside village of St Wolfgang. It was there that I first heard of the Passion Play which was being performed at the time. I decided I would see it next time in 1980. The Passion Play was being held in a small town just 140 miles west of where we were camping ...

.... **Oberammergau** – a name now known throughout the world. Viruses and plagues have been with us probably forever. God's laws given to Moses gave the Israelites directives on their interaction with certain animals for their good health. I am not a virologist but it appears that many of the devastating viruses planet earth has experienced originate in animals and then make the jump to humans through bad hygiene practices. The first widespread plague to be well-documented was the Plague of Justinian which



began in 542 AD in Constantinople (Istanbul). It devastated much of the world until subsiding in the mid-700s. A different strain of the same microbe caused The Bubonic Plague or Black Death, which started in China in 1343. This continued for hundreds of years in several waves, one of which struck Europe in 1633.

Oberammergau stayed clear for many months until the plague hit the village of Ettal, 3 miles away. Oberammergau went into lockdown, allowing no one to enter. As Christmas approached, a newly-wed villager who had been away in search of work, desperately wanted to be reunited with his young bride. He slipped in at night unwittingly bringing the plague with him. In the ensuing months, 84 of the 600 villagers died. The people prayed, crying out to God for deliverance from their invisible enemy. Probably villagers with no faith prayed too. They vowed to perform a passion play every ten years if only God would spare them more grief. And God heard them. There were no more deaths from the plague in Oberammergau.

The following year the villagers performed the first Passion Play over the graves of those who had been struck down by the plague. And so the pledge was kept, moving to the start of every decade from 1680. This lasting legacy of their gratitude to God was a reminder to future generations of how their village was spared through their faith and their prayers.

The Passion Play itself is an enactment of Christ's last days as he returns to Jerusalem to fulfil the words of the prophets – that he must endure suffering and death, but ultimately will triumph over both.

I have yet to see the Passion Play in Oberammergau! What happened? By 1980 I had two young children and as the decades ticked along, life just got in the way. That is until late 2017 when the Amersham Deanery announced a trip planned for 2020. This was my chance to fulfil a fifty-year desire. Heather and I signed up alongside many from Denham Parish, and were so looking forward to our visit in June. The play this year was due to commence on 16th May and run through to 4th October. Oberammergau is now a small town with a population of 5,500. From these and others who were born there, the more than 2,000 performers are selected. Preparations begin long before, with the men growing their hair and beard for more than a year.

The world is living with another plague in the form of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). With easy global travel it has spread more quickly and more widely than we have seen before. As I write, countries around the world have been entering various degrees of draconian lockdown. Just as the villagers of Oberammergau found nearly 400 years ago, we are finding our freedoms curtailed in a way we could never have imagined as we entered the new decade. The roaring twenties are here again but we hear a different roar – the sounds of silence as planes stop flying, train services are reduced and motorways may begin to grow weeds! Even our churches have been silenced, ordered to lock-up to prevent close gatherings. But the church has not been silenced, as Christians meet online and pray for their families and friends and for the country and beyond.

As a result of this new pandemic, the Oberammergau Passion Play has been postponed to 2022. My wait to see this moving event must go on. Hundreds of years ago the people of a small Bavarian village turned to God in their fear, despair, grief and helplessness. Who will you turn to? *"You will not fear the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday."* Psalm 91:5-6

For further information: <https://www.passionsspiele-oberammergau.de/en/home>

Denham Parish Church: We are here for you!

Our Sunday services and mid-week groups have been put on hold for the time being to help combat Coronavirus disease. *This does not mean that the life of our church and community is being put on hold!*

Join us for Sunday worship: Each week at 10.30am on Youtube, followed by 'Virtual Coffee' at 11.15am. (tinyurl.com/youtube-denham). Dial 01895 714013 to listen to a short weekly service.

Stay connected: Please find the latest updates at www.denhamparish.church/blog or on our Facebook page (search for "Denham Parish Church").

Get in touch: Please call our church office on 01895 832771 and leave your contact details if we can help with deliveries (food, medicine, etc.) or if you would like to speak to one of our ministers.

Unshakeable God, you are our ever-present help in times of trouble. Amidst all the isolation, grief and fear caused by this crisis, renew in us your peace, restore to us your perspective, and reveal to us your presence and love. Amen.

#stay safe #stay connected #stay hopeful

CALENDAR

At the time of going to press, it is unclear when we will be able to resume services and events. Please go to denhamparish.church/blog to find out about our online offerings or dial 01895 714013 to listen to a short weekly service.

Here are the gospel readings and collects (short thematic prayers) for the next months. If you do not have a bible to hand, go to biblegateway.com and choose your favourite translation. We recommend New International Version UK or New Revised Standard Version Anglicized. NIV UK comes with the option of listening to the Bible, narrated by David Suchet.



MAY 2020

Sun 3rd The Fourth Sunday of Easter

John 10.1-10

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.

Sun 10th The Fifth Sunday of Easter

John 14.1-14

Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father.

Sun 17th The Sixth Sunday of Easter

John 14.15-21

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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.

Thur 21st Ascension Day

John 14.15-21

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens, so we in heart and mind may also ascend and with him continually dwell; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Sun 24th The Seventh Sunday of Easter

John 17.1-11

Risen, ascended Lord, as we rejoice at your triumph, fill your Church on earth with power and compassion, that all who are estranged by sin may find forgiveness and know your peace, to the glory of God the Father.

Mon 25th There will be no Denham Village Fayre this year. We look forward to welcoming everyone again in 2021.

Sun 31st Day of Pentecost

John 20.19-23

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.



JUNE 2020

Sun 7th Trinity Sunday

Matthew 28.16-20

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Sun 14th The First Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 9.35 - 10.8

God of truth, help us to keep your law of love and to walk in ways of wisdom, that we may find true life in Jesus Christ your Son.

Sun 21st The Second Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 10.24-39

Lord, you have taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you. Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Sun 28th The Third Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 10.40-42

God our saviour, look on this wounded world in pity and in power; hold us fast to your promises of peace won for us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.





JULY 2020

Sun 5th The Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 11.16-19,25-30

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that with you as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not our hold on things eternal; grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Sun 12th The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 13.1-9,18-23

Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sun 19th The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 13.24-30,36-43

Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sun 26th The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Matthew 13.31-33,44-52

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



**Save the date
for next year!
Denham Village Fayre,
Monday 31st May
2021**

FAMILY REGISTER OF DENHAM PARISH CHURCH

CREMATIONS

10.01.20

Dr June MacGregor (93)

Gerrards Cross

10.03.20

Douglas John Richardson (76)

Gerrards Cross

BURIALS

08.03.20

Igor Yurievich Samsonov (47)

Denham



GOD IN THE LIFE OF PETE KRUCK

AS SHARED WITH DEXTER BROWN

The last time Pete's face appeared in a publication he was thirteen and he wasn't looking very happy. The family's new caravan was loaded and ready for an early morning departure for a holiday to Dorset but had been stolen from outside their house overnight. Hence the disappointed face that appeared in the local Gazette. An older and happier image of Pete some 35 years later accompanies his story today!

Faith and church have not played a role in most of Pete's life. His earliest memories of church were of sneaking in and playing pranks on the congregation at the Catholic church near where he lived. He and his



friends put maggots in the holy water and then hid at the back of church to see the reaction of those who took the water to cross themselves. This was an early church highlight! Later at the age of seventeen he went on a boys' holiday and he found himself in Jerusalem and again in church. On a wall at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the generally accepted location of the tomb where the body Jesus was laid after his crucifixion, Peter inscribed the age-old travellers' message "I was here"!

In 1996 Pete moved to Denham, he met Jenelyn, now his wife, and they had a son Alfie, now 8 years old. About 4 years ago Pete found himself at a crisis point in his life, things were not going well on many fronts and he did not know where to turn to for help. He found himself drawn to St Mary's Church, a building he had passed by many times. He describes walking in feeling that he was carrying a heavy burden and coming out feeling that he had wings, so powerful was the sense that a great weight had been lifted from his shoulders.

Pete had sat in the pews and prayed to God to give him a sign that he was really there. It was an overcast day

but a warm beam of sunlight came through the stained-glass window and settled on him. It didn't move for more than ten minutes. Pete is matter of fact about this and admits that it could of course have just been a coincidence, but he now notices that more 'coincidences' happen the more he prays.

Pete explored faith by attending an Alpha course, which allows anyone to ask any questions related to faith in general and Christianity in particular. He experienced the power of the Holy Spirit in his life which 'recharged' him and which he says continues to do so in the ups and downs of daily life. The gospel account of the crucifixion and the criminal dying on a cross next to Jesus has a strong resonance with Pete. Here was Jesus blameless of wrong doing, and yet he turned to someone in considerable distress and forgave them of their sins. That's what Pete feels Jesus has done for him.

In September 2019 Jenelyn and Pete had a daughter Damara. Family life now reflects Pete's new-found faith and it has benefitted all the relationships within it. Alfie has learnt the Lord's Prayer with Pete. An exercise that has led to interesting questions from an intelligent and inquisitive boy. Alfie understands that Jesus loves him and that with prayer Jesus will protect him against the evil that surrounds us all. He also prays for the wonderful things in life.

Many people are reticent about

discussing their faith in their workplace. Pete is so enthusiastic and alive in Spirit since he became a Christian and he is happy to boldly share his faith with others. Pete's work colleagues, friends and family take an interest in what he has to say about his faith in Jesus and how his life has changed since finding God. He said he is like a new born baby to faith and the love of God with many steps to grow even stronger by reading and understanding the bible. Reading his Life Application study bible, he finds that some passages or explanations alongside them speak to him – such as this one he recently read: 'Before criticising someone else, we need to pause long enough to discover our own motives. Failing to do this can bring disastrous results. What is often labelled "constructive criticism" may actually be destructive jealousy, since the easiest way to raise our own status is to bring someone else down. Are you willing to question your own motives before you offer criticism? Does the critical finger you point need to be pointed first toward yourself?'

Pete attends a church Lifegroup (groups that help us grow in faith and friendship). They recently discussed how new people could be attracted to attend our beautiful St Mary's Church. One suggestion he liked was this: "Why not have a big sign above the front door saying 'All Sinners Welcome' ". As Pete said, we all make mistakes in life but we are all children of God and he forgives our sins and Jesus died on the cross for us.



THE BLESSING OF GRANDPARENTS



JACKIE BUIE (Pastor Gold Hill Baptist Church)

My grandparents quietly showed me how their faith gave them hope through dark times and a peace that was very evident.

One day in my teens I turned up unannounced at their home, and was greeted at the door by my Nana with a huge smile, a loving hug and words that surprised me, "Oh, I wondered if you might come today as I felt I should bake a cake this morning". Apart from my enjoyment of cake, I was shocked by the idea that God would care, or be active enough to 'speak' to her to make a cake.

On another occasion my grandad was telling me about the war. They lived in London and rarely used the air-raid shelters. But on one occasion he came home and said to my Nana, "I think we should go down to the shelter tonight". They went. When they came home the next day they found their home had been damaged

by a bomb. They had been saved from injury. Once again I 'heard' that God could speak and that to obey these promptings was part of following God.

One of their two sons, my uncle Ian, was a missionary doctor in the Congo. In 1964, amidst an uprising, Ian and his family were all killed and thrown into a river. My grandparents were obviously devastated. But to people's astonishment they did not become bitter or hard towards God, or to those who had done this deed. Instead they prayed for the salvation of the murderers, and continued to care for the other missionaries who were left behind.



Church is a family where all generations have their place and role...



Nana's letters to me, when I left for university, arrived weekly. She never 'preached' or reprimanded, but her testimony of God's influence in her own life meant I was drawn towards asking 'her' God to become real to me. That was a process, but I believe her daily prayers for me until her death at 100 had more value than I will ever know. Now I want to be a grandmother to the two grandsons that have just come into our lives – with God's help!

ANN COLLINS

My Grandfather was churchwarden at St. Mary's for 46 years as well as being Captain of the Bellringers. Being a farmer, he would undertake the teatime milking before getting suited and booted for his walk to Evensong where I would snuggle up to him in the sermon. He was full of old sayings

like "Ah, you can't catch old birds with chaff" (I had no idea of the meaning!) and in my autograph book where friends all wrote silly quotes, he wrote words from the bible: "Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth". All other writings have been forgotten except these words of wisdom!

DOM BIRKBY

The abiding memory I have of my Grandma is of a determined, wise and kind lady, who never failed to prioritise doing what she could to support her family, friends and village. I remember her as a warm, strong woman of faith: Sunday mornings up to the age of 90 were spent walking the half mile or so up to the village church outside Sheffield, where she worshipped for more than 60 years!

Despite living a long way away, I always knew she was there for me. I remember being brought to the phone as a young boy where Grandma would be waiting on the other end of the line, to ask questions about my day at school, or interested in what I was up to that weekend. When we did see her, bedtime stories were brought to life with great gumption, some being from an illustrated Bible that gave me an early awareness of its teaching. Being a former English teacher, she had a love of poetry and writing - I still treasure her letters of encouragement that she wrote to me at key junctures in my life: going

to secondary school, my first school trip abroad, going to university, getting my first job. One of her favourite hymns was 'Great is Thy Faithfulness', and its message that the Lord is faithful and always provides for us. In the same way, she often said to me that "faith will get you through", no matter how difficult a situation felt. It is the memory of this dedicated, unwavering and uncompromising core to her Christian faith that still encourages and inspires me through both good and difficult times today.

LOUISE HARDY

Grandma Bishop (Mary, Louise) lived 'up the hill' just four doors away and from her I was fortunate to receive the gifts of love, time and a thirst for reading. Through spending time with Grandma, I gained enjoyment of the simple things of life. I remember sitting in the loggia watching Grandpa working in the garden, helping with the cooking and playing with water in the sink. Although not church goers they encouraged me in my stories from Sunday school and Grandma came to my confirmation. By the side of my bed I have a treasured small King James illustrated Bible. Inside is the inscription 'Louise Bex on her 7th birthday with love from Grandma and Grandpa Bishop 1965'.



A Centre of Excellence

AN OUTSTANDING SCHOOL

Please telephone **01895 234371** to make an appointment
Parkway, Hillingdon, Middlesex, UB10 9JX - www.sthenscollege.com

Poppy Cottage Limited

www.poppycottagelimited.co.uk

Tel: 01895 832199

**Fully inclusive care and support packages
for individuals with learning disabilities**

*'Working with service users on
all aspects of daily living skills'*



**Accommodation
Supported living
Care in the community
Residential Care Homes**

Locations
Based in Buckinghamshire
and accepting referrals
from all areas

Hair by Debbie

Unisex salon, all aspects of hairdressing
Seniors days Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
01895 234971

ST MARK'S HALL DENHAM GREEN
Available for Hire
Large Kitchen. Suitable for meetings of
40-50 people & childrens' parties
For more Information ring
the Parish Office 01895 832771

Stephen Miles Plumbing & Heating

ALL PLUMBING & CENTRAL HEATING
GAS SAFE APPROVED INSTALLER
Call 01895 824177 Monday to Friday 0800-1700
or
07563 552140 Anytime

MATHEMATICS TUITION

Mathematics Tutor &
Chartered Mathematician (CMath)
Levels taught: Pre-GCSE, GCSE, A-Level,
Undergraduate and Postgraduate
Tel: 01895 271841 Mobile: 07540737310

Dee S Clark HCPC CH17351

B.Sc (Hons) MChs Dip. pod. med.
Member of The Society of Chiropodist and Podiatrist



Surgery and Visiting Practice
By appointment
Including evenings and Saturdays

CHIROPODIST PODIATRIST

Verrucae, Nail Surgery

Newburn, Grange Wood, Wexham SL3 6LP

Tel: 01753 552725
www.sloughchiropodyandpodiatry.co.uk

THINGS TO DO WHEN STAYING HOME

COLLECTED BY EDDA LINDNER

1. Play indoor hide and seek.
2. Try a new biscuit or cake recipe.
3. Go camping in the living room.
4. Play board games.
5. Design and go on an indoor treasure hunt.
6. Plan a family garden.
7. Set up an in-home nail salon and try some nail art techniques.
8. Dress up in your best clothes and have a fancy dinner.
9. Make friendship bracelets.
10. Make and blow bubbles.
11. Have an indoor picnic.
12. Create your own bingo cards and have a bingo tournament.
13. Create a family tree.
14. Learn and play a new card game.
15. Teach yourself to juggle.
16. Practice origami, or the art of paper folding.
17. Make a maze on the floor with masking tape.
18. Make paper airplanes and see whose plane flies the farthest.
19. Write a secret message in invisible ink.
20. Play "I Spy" inside or looking through a window.
21. Have a tea party.
22. Make some play dough.
23. Snuggle up on the couch and read your favourite books.
24. Have a pillow fight.
25. Make an indoor obstacle course.
26. Have a family music night.
27. Play marbles on the floor.
28. Do a puzzle.
29. Create a new dessert/pudding.
30. Put on your bathrobes and play spa day.
31. Play 20 Questions.
32. Create creatures out of pipe cleaners.
33. Write letters to family and friends or draw pictures for them.
34. Build a bridge or building with toothpicks or Q-tips.
35. Play hangman or tic-tac-toe.
36. Make a time capsule! One day your children can use it to tell their children all about this current crisis.



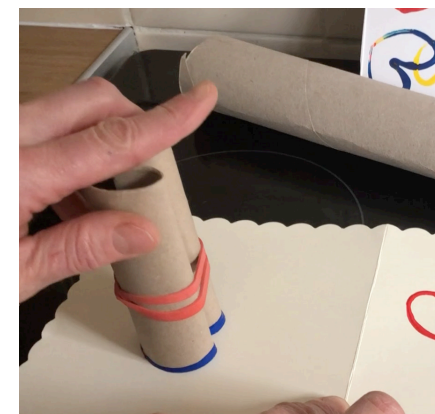
GET CREATIVE WITH LOO ROLL HEARTS!

Loo rolls have become precious commodities recently, so let's make the most of them and use them as stamps to create cards or works of art.



Bend the loo roll (or kitchen roll) in the middle and put a strong rubber band around it. Improve the heart shape with your fingers if necessary.

Use any paint you have in the house and create a simple stamp. Use different loo rolls for different colours. Done! Who will you give your card to?



DENHAM VILLAGE QUIZ

Photo: Paul Upward

Quiz devised by Denham Community History Project – for more information about the project visit www.denhamhistory.online or email denhamcommunityhistory@gmail.com

1. How much per year did Sir William Bowyer leave for the maintenance of the charity school?
2. The village was the location for the early Agatha Christie films starring Margaret Rutherford as Miss Marple. What was the name of the fictional village?
3. Several buildings in the village have small plaques fixed up high on the front brickwork. What were they for?
4. Which rock star was married at St Mary's church in January 1985?
5. There used to be a pub/beer house in the village called The Eight Bells? Why this name?
6. The Village Green used to have five cottages on it. What were they called?
7. There are two blue plaques in the village. One is for Sir John Mills. And the other?
8. Before Da Remo there was another restaurant in the same premises. What was it called?
9. Which Denham resident won the French Ladies' Golf Championship at Le Touquet in 1920?
10. A still-thriving community group was established by Pyghtle residents in 1993. What is it?

ANSWERS 1. £30 2. Milchester 3. They were fire marks to indicate that the householder was insured by a fire fighting company and therefore entitled to have their fire tackled. 4. Ronnie Wood, best known for being one of the Rolling Stones. 5. St Mary's Church had eight bells. 6. The Island Cottages. 7. William Nicholson and Ben Nicholson, artist. 8. The Tudor Lounge. 9. Cecil Leitch 10. The Gardening Club.

MISSION PARTNERS: MARYLEBONE PROJECT

BY KATH SOLE

On the 25th of January this year I attended the Marylebone Project open day. I was intrigued to find out more about the project after reading Kathy Paine's article about the Church Army last year.

With 112 rooms, The Marylebone Project, is the largest female only hostel in London and is run by the Church Army, one of Denham Parish Church's mission partners. The project is close to Marylebone Station where poverty and wealth live cheek by jowl. They offer single homeless women, referred by Westminster council, a safe place to stay and support to get their lives back on track.

On the day, one of the residents spoke about her experience. She explained that due to issues with her job she became homeless and spent a few weeks sleeping rough, before being given a room at the project. We also heard from one of the volunteers who was on a gap year from Germany. She volunteered via a scheme called *Time for God*. She spoke about how her faith had inspired her to spend her time in serving some of the most vulnerable and how she is loving the experience.

We also got a tour around the buildings, seeing first-hand where the women live. This included one of the rooms. It was clean and bright with a sink, a wardrobe and a bed. Each woman is given a pack of essentials

on arrival and a handwritten welcome card.

For rough sleepers the project has a drop-in centre where they can go to wash their clothes, have a shower and sometimes even sleep. Currently open for a few hours each morning, the plan is to extend the drop-in service to 24 hours over the coming months so they can help many more women living on the streets.

A few months on from my visit and the world is suddenly a very different place. Whilst I worry about how we will cope as a family stuck in our house for several months, yesterday the Church Army was asking people on Instagram to pray for the homeless women who are using the Marylebone Project and also for the staff who are working on the frontline. Please remember them in your prayers at this difficult time for all of us.



REFLEX

Chimney Sweeping Services

Sweeping • Birds Nests
Cows Fitted • Camera Survey
01895 833766
07860 264071
reflexservices@outlook.com



FENCING

Commercial and Domestic
Fencing & Gates

Local business with over 40 years experience.

Call now for a FREE estimate

01895 230220

www.aandmfencing.co.uk



COPPERMILL CARE CENTRE



Lovely modern purpose built home
on the outskirts of Harefield

Residential Care, Dementia Care,
Short Stay, Respite Care

www.coppermillcare.co.uk

Tel: 01895 820130



Doggy Daycare

In Denham Village

Home environment with very large secure garden.
Daily walks, playtimes.

Fully insured. Also holiday care available.

Please phone Sandra

01895 833712 or 07935 221466

DENHAM OPTICIANS

4 Broadway East

North Orbital Road

Denham Green

UB9 5HB

01895 832122

www.denhamopticians.co.uk

NHS and private eye examinations

Contact lenses

Spectacle dispense

Same day spectacle service

Home visits

Open: Monday-Friday, 9am- 5.30pm
Saturday, 9am-1pm

Closed: Wednesday and Sunday

Dale and Sons Independent Funeral Directors

Your local family owned funeral directors serving you from the
moment you contact us to beyond the funeral day

24 hour service

Repatriations

01895 832220

www.dale-sons.co.uk

Monumental masons

Pre-payment funeral plans

dalefuneralservice@gmail.com

22 Penn Drive, Denham UB9 5JP

Thames Trees and Landscapes



All aspects of tree surgery and landscaping

No job too big or too small!

Call today for a FREE quotation

Harry 07701 384655

George 07585 450153

Thamestreesandlandapes@hotmail.com



Experience the magic of flying with an
introductory flight over the Chilterns
from your local aerodrome

Tel: 01895 833838

www.egld.com

SHAUN LEIGH ELECTRICAL and PLUMBING

EXTRA POINTS TO FULL REWIRES.
TAP WASHERS TO FULL BATHROOMS
(SUPPLIED AND FITTED).
SHOWERS FULLY INSTALLED

PHONE 01895 832091

HEARNDEN-SMITH & DAUGHTERS

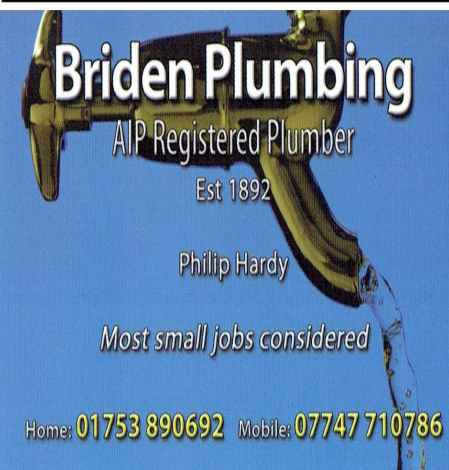
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Our family caring for your family,
when you need it most...

Hatch End: 020 8421 2202

Harefield 01895 822979

Denham 01895 717488



Retired gentleman
available -

Chauffeur, shopping
hospital visits, day trips
theatre, cinema
house sitting

07821 71 01 44

PILATES
Group Matwork Classes
in Denham Green

Improve posture
Increase flexibility
Develop core strength
Improve muscle balance



Free Trial Class
Mixed ability
1-hour class
Free Parking

Places are limited so booking is essential - contact Monique 0789270670

Arnold Funeral Service
An independent family business.

38 Oak End Way
Gerrards Cross
01753 891892

- Traditional and Alternative Funerals
- 24 Hour Attendance
- Pre-Payment Plans



www.arnold-funerals.co.uk

COMPUTER I.T HELP

Setup - Trouble Shooting - All aspects
Servicing all local areas for many years
Honest and Reliable Ickenham Based
Computer For Sale



Contact Meetesh on 07725 130 059
meeteshp@hotmail.com

THE BIG GREEN PLANT CENTRE

PLANT NURSERY

- Shrubs
- Trees
- Climbers
- Perennials
- Topiary
- Shade plants
- Grasses
- Hedging
- Compost
- Pots

Complete plant sourcing service

01895 834834

Oxford Road, Denham, Bucks, UB9 4DF
(next to Tendercare and Springbridge)

www.thebiggreenplantcentre.co.uk
enquiries@thebiggreenplantcentre.co.uk

Walding & SON 1906
Funeral Directors & Memorial Stonemasons

63 High Street
UXBRIDGE
(01895) 233018

www.waldingandson.co.uk

FPA
FUNERAL PLANNING AUTHORITY
REGISTERED

- 24 Hour Service 7 days a week
- Private Chapel of Rest
- Pre-Paid Funeral Plans

carter DUTHIE
sales • lettings • management

*“Denham’s Independent,
Family Run Estate Agency”*

Thinking of selling or letting your home?

Call us for a **FREE, no obligation** valuation from
your local property experts in Denham.

34 Station Parade, Denham, UB9 5ET www.carterduthie.com 01895 832155

PARISH DIRECTORY

www.denhamparish.church

Church Office

Village Road, Denham, UB9 5BH

01895 832771

office@denhamparish.church

Mon, Tue, Wed, Friday: 10am

12.30pm Thursday: 12.30pm-3pm

The Rector

Revd Christoph Lindner

01895 834733

rector@denhamparish.church

Associate Ministers

Revd Ian Jennings

07866 679025

ian.jennings@denhamparish.church

Revd Nnamdi Maduka

07951 485370

nnamdi.maduka@denhamparish.church

Churchwardens

Carlene Litchmore - 07872 426378

Samantha Carter - 07836 779999

samantha@denhamparish.church

PCC and Parish Office Secretary

Victoria Lucas - 01895 832771

PCC Treasurer

Mike Stewart - 07590 849116

Organist

Louise Hardy - 01753 890692

Bell tower Captain

Andrew Simpson - 01895 255594

Graveyard Records

Janet Drane - 01895 470717



Magazine Editor

Cathy Macqueen

07599 934173

magazine@denhamparish.church

Magazine Advertisements

Cathy Macqueen

07599 934173

magazine@denhamparish.church

Magazine Distributor

Carole Wadlow

07885 513253

c.wadlow@hotmail.com

St. Mark's Hall Booking

Church Office

01895 832771

bookings@denhamparish.church

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Samantha Carter

07836 779999

safeguarding@denhamparish.church

Printer

South Bucks Business Products

matt@southbucks.co.uk