

# ***Roath News***



***Easter & Pentecost 2020***

Free but donations always welcome

# THE PARISH OF ROATH, CARDIFF

<b>The Vicar:</b>	Canon Stewart Lisk Tel: 20487854; 07794157604 email: <a href="mailto:stewartlisk@live.co.uk">stewartlisk@live.co.uk</a>
<b>NSM Assistant Curate</b>	The Reverend Ruth Coombs
<b>Reader:</b>	Mr Geoff Smith Tel: 20499498.
<b>Parish Wardens:</b>	Parish Vicar's Warden Mr Robert Hyett Tel: 20471247 Parish People's Warden Mrs Gill Day
<b>Parish Treasurer:</b>	Mr Jim Bendon Tel: 20482082
<b>PCC Minutes Secretary:</b>	Mrs Anita White Tel 02920 491340
<b>Roath Church House bookings</b>	RCH Booking Secretary Mrs Anna Mason Tel: 07720641653
<b>Parish Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.roath.org.uk">www.roath.org.uk</a>

*The Clergy are always available to minister to the sick and dying. Please inform the clergy of sickness. Holy Communion may be received at home by those who are unable to come to church.*

*The Parish Surgery is open on Mondays (except Bank Holidays) between 6.00.p.m. and 7.00.p.m. in Roath Church House to arrange Baptisms and Weddings. (Contact no. 20487854).*

*Confessions and the Sacrament of Healing by arrangement.*

**Copy date for the next magazine (Summer) is 22<sup>nd</sup> June**

## **From the Vicar of Roath, the Reverend Canon Stewart Lisk**

My dear Friends,

Every time I sit down to write a letter for our magazine it is a challenge but this Holy week and Easter we are undoubtedly under unique circumstances. When the Covid 19 virus restrictions were first imposed we were still for a short while allowed to go into our churches for solitary private prayer. I was able to do this in St Margaret's and St Edward's. Inevitably during the periods of calm and quiet my eyes turned towards the beautiful stained glass windows and statuary that we have. In each of the Churches we have crucifixes which represent the suffering Christ upon the cross which is very much in our minds during Passiontide. The pain and agony is portrayed on the face of Jesus. Although we cannot gather on Good Friday this year but in our hearts and minds we can meditate remembering the suffering of the old and bereaved at this time that our Lord shares.

The images in our Churches however are not only of pain and death. On the contrary, I was able to gaze on the East Window of St Edward's where the risen Christ is represented with the marks of the nails visible on his hands and feet. Obviously here is the serenity and peace on the face of the Resurrected Jesus giving us hope of life beyond death which is the message of Easter which we have proclaimed over the last 2000 years. We need to keep that message of hope by us through the dark and difficult moments we are experiencing.

Not all of us might feel that hope so keenly when the news that we are receiving is full of the figures of increased infection by the virus and the tragic deaths of so many both at home and abroad. There is also a sense of the unknown as we feel our way through and the scene is constantly changing. There are other images in our Churches which might reassure us. The East Window in St Margaret's and the mosaic in the Bute Mausoleum both represent Christ in Majesty, or the representation of Christ the King. It shows that our Lord is watching over us at all times, he is there at the joyful and celebratory moments but also when there is tragedy and disaster through all the centuries. He shares with us pain and by his death and Resurrection he gives us hope and courage to face whatever we have in front of us.

We may be prevented from being together this Holy Week and Easter. We will not have the experience of mirroring in our worship the events of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter morning which are so special in our lives as practising active Christians. Perhaps we can instead identify with those who are always prevented, like those who are housebound or in residential and nursing care. Let us use our imaginations and recall the passion story in our mind's eye. As we read the various Gospel accounts of Holy Week, let us remember that we do so not only with our friends and neighbours from Church but also with all our brothers and sisters throughout the world who all to greater or lesser extent live under the shadow of Covid 19.

We may be anxious and uncertain but we should never forget Christ's message of hope born by the Resurrection.

"We are an Easter People and Alleluia is our song"

May God bless and protect us all  
With love and prayers



**P.S. I have spoken to many of you by telephone. If any of you want to chat  
please ring  
02920 487854 or 07794 157604  
It's good to talk!**



## St Edward's Online – a Virtual Church

Mothering Sunday was the last occasion that our churches in Roath were open for private prayer – since then hundreds of phone calls have been made, many emails sent and received, texts, WhatApps, Facetimes and Skypes. Thanks to technology, we are available for anyone who would like to join us.

The web pages are still updated – particularly the newsletter and Roath News: <http://www.roath.org.uk/StEdward/Newsletter/> and as far as possible they are tablet and phone compliant.

Our usual Facebook presence is still going:

<https://www.facebook.com/StEdwardRoath/>

In addition since the Coronavirus hit us, we have added a “Virtual Church” page – on any Facebook page just type Virtualstedward into the search box at the top.

Twitter is as busy as ever – we are *@StEdwardsRoath*

And on Instagram we are *stedwardroath* – note no “s” in the middle of that one.

Any suggestions – email us at [st.edward@roath.org.uk](mailto:st.edward@roath.org.uk) – also at that address you can sign up to have the newsletter emailed to you.

There is another email list we usually operate, giving a comprehensive list of everything that is going on in churches around Cardiff – but that's a bit boring at the moment (it's empty).

It's very sad that we can't use our wonderful building at this time, and all the Services, concerts, talks and rehearsals have been cancelled – but now is a really good time to join us online and help everybody to keep in touch.



## Llandaff Matters Holy Week Special

Llandaff Matters this week looks ahead to a very different Holy Week. Bishop June will be releasing daily videos reflecting on Easter and our current situation, the Spirituality Group launch a new podcast for Holy Week and Easter and parishes share their at home worship material.

We also share the latest guidance from Church in Wales on holding Vestry and PCC meetings during Covid-19 and the Spring edition of Croeso is out now and available as a digital only edition.

Click on the green button for all this and more in the latest edition of Llandaff Matters.

[Go to this Sway](#)

## **Jesus – LIGHT of the WORLD – Hazel Williams**

May, you be my beacon Lord, The light that guides my way,  
Shining forth in darkness, Today - and every day.

Shine out from a distance, Let all, see you there.

For them, you hung upon a cross, For them, their sins did bear

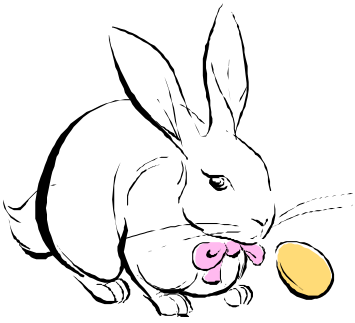
Bright in every corner, Where the darkness hides –  
seeds of doubt & sorrow, Where, no love, abides.

Let your glorious radiance, On our faces beam,  
Purified in glory. Washed in Calvary's 'stream'.

Jesus, Lord and Saviour, On us, ever shine.

Let us see your glory. In the bread & wine,

Never may your brightness fade. Make us too, to shine,  
Like the smallest candle, Even, yours & mine.



## **NEWS FROM THE LYCHGATE**

We see Spring in our churchyard as we welcome the daffodils. But has anyone yet seen the squirrels? I'd have thought we would have as it's been a mild winter. Maybe they didn't like all the wind and rain! But here we are, their humans, battling with our troubles, with the virus. And as yet we do not know where it will take us. Most animals both tame and wild, don't know their future but it's unusual for us.

Meanwhile we will turn to history and its impact in our present, in the shape of the splendid reredos that has been erected in St Margaret's. This piece of sculpture and artwork made mainly of Penarth alabaster, was designed by John Pritchard, who designed St Margaret's in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. This was placed behind the altar and remained there until 1925. It depicts the lamb of God, carrying the cross of victory in his mouth, a popular symbol of the time. In 1925 it was moved to St Anne's where it stood at the west end of St Clement's Chapel, which was later transformed into a small hall for the use of the congregation. After the closure of St Anne's its future was uncertain, as it was so large and any removal would be expensive. But it was decided to bring it back to St Margarets. Bob Hyett and others have worked hard to bring this about, and also it raised the necessary major finance for the project. So welcome back ancient stonework. They say that every congregation should in their generation add something to the fabric of their church. Maybe this is ours!

While awaiting its restoration to St Margaret's, the reredos was housed in the garages of Barbara Brett and Heidi Forte. These ladies have been thanked with flowers. We do also thank everyone involved with this project.



We can always rely on Sophie Lisk for a mention in these notes. We send her warm congratulations for her performance in the AAR UK Junior Championships at Sheffield, she won Bronze in the 60m hurdles, with a personal best. Well done, Sophie.

The retiring collection in St Margarets for the South Wales Flood Relief raised £287.

Our vicar, Stewart Lisk, was leading the Holocaust Memorial Day Wales commemoration in City Hall Cardiff on 27<sup>th</sup> January. Don Brooks, who was in the congregation read the prayers in St Margarets's on the following Sunday and included for us the Holocaust Memorial Prayer.

“Loving God, we come to you with heavy hearts, remembering the six million Jewish souls murdered during the Holocaust.

In the horrors of that history, when so many groups were targeted because of their identity, and in genocides which followed, we recognise destructive prejudices that drive people apart.

Forgive us when we give space to fear, negativity and hatred of others, simply because they are different from us.

In the light of God, we see everyone as equally precious manifestations of the Divine, and can know the courage to face the darkness.

Through our prayers and actions, help us to stand together with those who are suffering, so that light may banish all darkness, love will prevail over hate and good will triumph over evil.” Amen

Speaking of suffering Ruth Coombes, our curate gave us a moving sermon on Leprosy, both as a disease of poverty and because of the stigma attached to it. She spoke of the Leprosy Mission which is working towards a goal of zero leprosy transmission by 2035, but also to bring healthcare and rehabilitation to those who presently suffer with it across the world. To help by fundraising, donating or volunteering visit [www.leprosymission.org.uk](http://www.leprosymission.org.uk). Or write to St Francis Leprosy Guild, 73 St Charles Square, London, W10 6EJ.

As I write this, it has just been announced that Archbishop Welsby has cancelled all services for the Church of England. So perhaps this would be the moment to say that we appreciate all our sermons, in their variety. Thankyou to Ruth, and of course to Stewart from his flock. We also thank

Geoff Smith, our reader for his occasional sermons, always so carefully considered.

Because for many of us church going will not be a viable option for the near future. We join those of you who in any case, cannot be in church. Now we all have a new role to care for each other during this emergency. And also to reach out to care for others in our wider community. We have all indeed become pilgrims.

Sally at this point does not have anything to report but hopes and prays that during this national emergency that we all lookout and care for each other and stay safe during the isolation period and throughout life's pilgrimage.

Easter blessings to each and everyone of you, keep safe  
Love Julia and Sally



## 2020 INTRODUCTION TO THE NEXT ARTICLE

In 2005, our then Vicar Rev Gareth Williams, proposed a change to our Evensong services in the Parish. Much discussion and consultation took place, and as a result a new pattern started after Easter that year.

In 2007, our current vicar, Rev (now Canon) Stewart Lisk was asked if separate evensongs could once again take place, and until recently, a 6pm Evensong and 7pm Choral Evensong was the Parish 'norm'.

In 2019 regular evensong in the Parish church ceased, and at the start of 2020 Evensong at St Edward's resumed its previous time of 6.30 weekly.

As we approach Easter 2020, with churches having been closed since mid-March due to Covid 19, I was searching for something to write about for the virtual Parish magazine, *Roath News*. I came across something I had written, but not included in the magazine at the time, so, here it is.



## NOSTALGIA - SUE MANSELL - 2005

*As I anticipate a change in the pattern of evensong in the Parish, the memories of more than 40 years come into sharp focus, and those recollections need to be expressed, if only for the sake of record.*

*The first evensong I recall was in St Edward's in wintertime. It was a dark, windy evening, and the nave (then corrugated tin and not the lovely brick we now know) creaked and groaned in the wind. The church felt full, and the singing lusty. Our choir at evensong then was composed of men and boys (the newly formed girl's choir was in its infancy and sang only the 11.00 am Matins service).*

*Twice a year at Christmas and Easter the service of nine lessons and carols replaced evensong, and the two choirs joined together to sing a mixture of music. Those were the opportunities for solos and anthems, an early introduction to the hitherto unimagined pleasure of music other than the rather sober hymns normally sung. Hearing the men of the choir singing harmony from the back row was often a signal for laughter amongst the younger choristers. This light-heartedness was rather frowned upon by our choir mistress, Mrs Vera Morgan; a stern frown was likely to be seen on her face if we dared to look up. The choir was meant to be sedate and our exuberance saved for our singing.*

*As I grew older the two choirs merged, this coincided with teenage years, and evensong held a greater attraction than simply the*

music; afterwards we would walk to Wellfield Road and enjoy ice-cream from Thayer's, strawberry 99's were a particular favourite.

Then we began to take a greater interest in music, wanting to sing new anthems, well not necessarily newly written, but new to us and the sort of music we heard on radio or records. Choral evensong from Cathedrals was then broadcast on Radio Three twice a week on Wednesday & Friday afternoons, and some of the anthems we heard inspired us to extend our range of music.

In the late 1970's the death of our then choirmaster, Bob Riddett and a little later his brother Francis, meant an increase in responsibility for a number of us and luckily Alan Mayer felt able to take on the duties of choirmaster. The need for a skilled musician to act as organist was equally important and Norman Doe stepped into the breach. They have both been vital to the continued success of the choir, Alan for his vision & patience with the junior choir in particular and Norman for his accomplished musicianship at both piano and organ.

There followed a long and settled period of evensong and the change of church liturgy, the pattern of the church's year, and the seasons all have their attractions as I walk or drive to church in anticipation of the privilege of offering worship through music in the church of my childhood. The first evensong after the clocks have gone forward or back is always special, in the autumn signifying the build up to Advent and Christmas, and in spring the hope of summer, with light evenings to enjoy.

*As Easter 2005 approaches, I know that my life on Sunday evenings will change and I approach that change with some anxiety. Change can make us feel as if what has gone before is somehow invalid, and although that is not the case for me I do and will mourn the loss of something that has been my weekly pattern for so many years. Change too can bring opportunity and refreshment and I hope for that aspect too.*

*The punctuation marks of Sunday's Eucharist and evensong will begin to form a different pattern for life.*

---

## **Evensong**

*EASTWARD the valley of my soul was lit  
This morning: now the West hath laid  
Upon its fields the festal robe,  
And East hath shade.  
Full soon the night shall fit  
Her star-besprinkled serge  
On hill, and rock, and bay;  
But even then behind the mounting globe  
God makes a verge  
Of dawn that shall be day.*

**TE Brown**

<http://isle-of-man.com/manxnotebook/people/writers/teb/poems.htm>

# THE COLLECTOR by Clive Williams

Honestly,  
I will stand in the rain at your doorstep,  
Not on the carpet in your hall.  
Honestly,  
For the needy,  
I will face guillotine letter boxes  
And savage guard dogs, perhaps.  
No, I am not needy,  
Unlike two thirds of humanity.  
I am just cold and wet, but happy you will help,  
Honestly.

---

We can donate online at:  
[https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-  
appeals/christian-aid-week](https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week)





**Dear Friend,**

As all of our thoughts are on the Covid-19 situation, we wanted to share an update on Christian Aid's response. We value our volunteers enormously and want to ensure you all keep safe when fundraising for Christian Aid Week. The health and safety of our community, including loyal supporters like you, is of the utmost importance to us, and we are monitoring the situation on a daily basis.

Many of you will have been planning house-to-house collections and events. Under the current circumstances, sadly, house-to-house collections should be cancelled. In particular, along with many churches, events such as Big Brekkies or Lent lunches, where food is shared cannot go ahead. We are looking at alternative ways to virtually meet, share and pray with supporters over the coming months in the likely absence of physical church services.



We are working on alternative plans that will allow people to take part in Christian Aid Week in different, creative ways – by post, by text and online that strengthen our communities during this challenging time. In addition, we will be providing advice on managing risks with smaller sponsored activities, street collections and delivery-only envelopes. Christian Aid Week is our single-most important fundraiser, so we would welcome your ideas on how we can creatively show love for our neighbours at home and abroad, as a community.

Christian Aid and our partners already have experience of limiting the spread of infection during the Ebola crisis, and we will build on this experience to continue to stand together with communities living in poverty during this period. If infection rates start to develop as they are in Europe, then people in poorer countries will be hit even harder. Many are already living with reduced health resilience because of extreme poverty, or in overcrowded humanitarian camps and in countries which do not have the healthcare infrastructures needed to combat widespread disease. We will be working on the ground to help prepare communities to limit the impact of Covid-19. Please pray for us in this vital work, and support us by [making an online donation](#).

We are praying for all those affected by this new virus, both in Britain and overseas, for all those working on the frontline and for wisdom for our leaders. We will continue to monitor the situation as it evolves. During this challenging time, we all need to take seriously the science and advice being offered, remaining calm but vigilant. If you have any specific concerns or questions please email us at [wales@christian-aid.org](mailto:wales@christian-aid.org) or call us on 029 2084 4646.

We are keeping you all in our prayers.  
With every blessing,


Amanda Khozi Mukwashi, Christian Aid Chief Executive

Mari McNeill, Head of Christian Aid Wales

For updates from Christian Aid please [visit our website](#) and for further information, please refer to the [current advice from the UK government](#).

**Copy date for the next magazine (Summer) is Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June**

Please send hard-copy (typed, hand-written or cut-out) to the Parish Office; email contributions to:

Sue Mansell, [smmansell@icloud.com](mailto:smmansell@icloud.com)

or Gwynn Ellis, [rgellis@ntlworld.com](mailto:rgellis@ntlworld.com), (preferably using Arial font 12)



**Articles in this magazine reflect the views of their authors, and not necessarily those of the editors, or the official teachings of the Church.**