

**UNITED BENEFICE OF LINGFIELD &
DORMANSLAND**

LINGFIELD PARISH CHURCH

www.lingfieldparishchurch.org

Follow St Peter & St Paul Church on Twitter: @LingfieldChurch

Vicar - The Revd Ian Whitley has been appointed. Not yet in residence.

The Parish Office will not be staffed, however phone and email contacts are live.

Contact 01342 832021 or officelingfieldppchurch@gmail.com.

Notices for the week commencing Sunday January 10, 2021.

Additional Government restrictions – As from Wednesday January 6 we are under strict Government lockdown requirements. Due to the vulnerability of our staff and congregation, the Churchwardens have very reluctantly decided to continue suspension of in-church services for the foreseeable future. However, the church will be open for private prayer and those wishing to pay a visit. To welcome you the open sessions will be supervised by a PCC member, or other. Will you may need to change days and timings.

We are offering Sunday and mid-week services and chat sessions on-line with Zoom. Please contact the churchwardens for links and information.



Epiphany Moments

During the lockdown period of Christmas I expect many of you, like me, struggled to find something worthwhile to watch on TV. The highlight for me was the recording of the 25th anniversary concert of Les Misérables at the O2. Jenny and I were lucky enough to have seen it live back in 2010. Watching the familiar story and listening to the great songs, what struck me most this time was the number of profound Christian messages. It is as Christian a story as you could hope to find

outside the bible. In it you find the principal story of redemption, forgiveness, faith, trust, justice, love, mercy, salvation and grace. There is this wonderful final line ‘*to love another person is to see the face of God.*’

To see new and profound meaning in something very familiar is an example of an epiphany moment. The divinity of Christ was revealed to the wise men after his birth, to those who witnessed his baptism and to Peter, James and John at the transfiguration. These were great epiphany moments. If we now open our minds and our hearts to see beyond the ordinary to the extraordinary we will have our own moments of epiphany. Richard.

Appointment of Vicar - We are pleased to announce that **The Reverend Ian Whitley**, presently Curate at All Saints, Banstead in the Diocese of Guildford, has been appointed **Vicar of Lingfield and Dormansland (United Benefice)**. It has been confirmed he will be instituted by The Rt Revd Jonathan Clark, Bishop of Croydon and inducted by The Venerable Moira Astin, Archdeacon of Reigate. The service will take place at **St Peter & St Paul on Tuesday February 23 at 7.30pm**.

From the All Saints’ website - *Ian joined in July 2017 as our new Pioneer Assistant Curate. He previously worked for four years as a Lay Parish Missioner at a Church in Weston Green, Esher after 30 years in the Metropolitan Police. He is married to Kat and they have a son Oscar and a Bullador puppy called Oreo. Ian’s interests include rugby and cricket (sadly just watching these days!) and he loves cooking, a good pint of real ale and is always looking for opportunities to practice either.*

IN-CHURCH SERVICES SUSPENDED

January 10. Baptism of Christ. First Sunday of Epiphany.

10.00am

Service on Zoom, see links given by email.

For private study the scheduled Lectionary readings for today are:-

Readings: Genesis 1: 1-5 (3)

Acts 19: 1-7 (1115)

Mark 1: 4-11 (1002)

Collect for the Baptism of Christ - Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Communal Services held on Zoom – Services on Zoom will continue to be held at 10.00am on Sundays, a Compline service on Wednesdays at 8.00pm, and on other occasions such as ‘Chat’ on Tuesday, please follow the emailed links to join, and enjoy. Contact the Churchwardens, see link, if you wish to be included. Again, additional Zoom services may be introduced, so please open your inbox often for details.

Internal Church lighting – Hopefully, in 2021 we will be modifying our church lighting with new units and LED lamps providing a much better arrangement for reading, singing and praising God. It probably will not happen immediately as we need Ian, our new vicar to approve our proposals, and for a Faculty application to be accepted by the DAC.

NEXT WEEK AND FUTURE EVENTS

IN-CHURCH SERVICES SUSPENDED

January 17. Second Sunday of Epiphany.

10.00am Service on Zoom, see links given by email.

For private study the scheduled Lectionary readings for today are:-

Readings: 1 Samuel 3: 1-10 (274) Revelation 5: 1-10 (1237)
John 1: 43-end (1064)

OTHER INFORMATION

Christingle Boxes - Are you planning to return Christingle boxes or to make a seasonal donation to the Children's Society? If so, please deliver to me at 5 College Close by January 10, so that I can send off all our donations in one go. Cheques to be made out to "The Children's Society". Thank you. Gill.

COVID-19 – Please use the **NHS Covid-19 app**. A **QR code poster** is on the entrance table just inside the Miller Room. We will continue to use a paper sign-in record, ensuring that we have the information necessary for Track and Trace. Our worship of God and our care for each other continue. The churchwardens of this church can be contacted in an emergency:-

Richard Holroyd - 01342 833776, beachhutbooks@btinternet.com.

Sue Ellis - 01342 870261, Suebellis@outlook.com.

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.”

Will you please that due to the current government restrictions, effectively another lockdown, and our concern for individual vulnerabilities, the PCC have regrettably had to limit open times to the church. Next week St Peter & St Paul will be open for individual entry and private prayer, as follows:-

- Sunday Jan 10 1.30 to 3.00pm - Church representative will be present.
- Wednesday Jan 13 2.00 to 4.00pm - Church representative will be present.
- Friday Jan 15 - **No open session** for private prayer today – funeral at 11.00am.
- Then Church closed until:-
- Wednesday Jan 20 2.00 to 4.00pm -- Church representative will be present.

Wednesday piano playing – Postponed until further notice, due to lockdown stipulations.

Covid and other stories, light relief in dark days.

- With the new variant of Covid-19 rapidly becoming the dominant strain, there is some consideration to rename it Covid-20, with the hope that frequency of ‘upgrades’ will not mirror those of certain computer operating systems (maybe only for computer techies!).
- English Heritage has urged people to stop arguing over whether Twelfth Night is January 5 or 6 and instead keep all their Christmas decorations up until February. It reports that if you go to Catholic or High Anglican churches you will find the crib remaining in place until Candlemas, as well as a fair quantity of decorations.
- Canada update to last week, the Ontario finance minister has resigned from his position in cabinet after returning home from a personal trip to the Caribbean during the height of the coronavirus pandemic. While abroad his official Twitter account praised Ontarian’s sacrifices with a video on Christmas Eve showing him sitting by a fire and thanking people for protecting the vulnerable!

Lower Churchyard Working Party – Last Saturday a small self-isolating group of us had another successful and essential morning strimming grass and brambles to keep the area under control, and attractive to visitors. Usually in the summer the green growth overtakes our capacity to keep pace, but by now we are back on top again. It is very rewarding work, when as on Saturday, two local visitors congratulated the team by saying how attractive and pleasing the churchyard looked and thanking us for the effort. What nice people, unfortunately still outnumbered by complainants.

Our next session is on Saturday February 6, please don’t be afraid to come along and do as much as you want, all welcome and good fresh air free of charge. Our company is not bad either and you can have a moan about life, without repercussion.

The Sick - Please pray for Brian Bell, Pam Marks, Keith Smith, Sue Page, Jenny Holroyd, Alison Penny, Hilary Weston, Joan Harvey, Peter Francis and all whose names have been placed on the prayer board.

Rest in Peace - We remember Mark Drury and all those who have died recently. We recall Frank Jenner, Joanna Cormac, baby Jacob Russill, Leslie Shearman and all whose anniversary falls at this time, including others known to us.

Mark Drury – The funeral service for the late Mark Drury will be held in church on Friday January 15 at 11.00am followed by interment in the Lower Churchyard.

Notices for inclusion in the pewsheets for Sunday January 17 should be phoned to Peter Beynon (834858, or email plbeynon@globalnet.co.uk) not later than preceding Thursday please.