

Parish News

St Peter and St Paul, Little Gaddesden

50p

August 2020



**St Peter and St Paul, Little Gaddesden HP4 1NZ,
Berkhamsted Team
Revd John Russell**

St John's Vicarage, Pipers Hill, Great Gaddesden, HP1 3BY

Tel: 01442 214898

vicar@littlegaddesdenchurch.org.uk

www.littlegaddesdenchurch.org.uk

Facebook: [stpeterstpaulittgadd](https://www.facebook.com/stpeterstpaulittgadd)

We are in the Berkhamsted Team Ministry with Great Berkhamsted, Great Gaddesden and Nettleden with Potten End. Enquiries regarding Baptisms, Banns, Weddings, Funerals and Memorials in the Churchyard should be made to the above-mentioned email address. Messages can also be left with the Churchwardens. If the Vicarage telephone is on the answering service please leave a message. It will be attended to as soon as possible. To contact The Berkhamsted Team, please call The Parish Office on 01442 878227.

All are welcome to our House of God. All have their place in His Kingdom and their part to play in His work

Phone numbers preceded by code 01442 except Heather Tisbury

CHURCHWARDENS:	Mrs B Sheard, Golden Valley Cottage	843591
	Mr M Carver, Windyridge	842658
READERS:	Mrs G Moore	842054
	Mr A Archer	842397
	Mrs H Tisbury	01582 842807
PCC OFFICERS:	Treasurer: Mr A Webster	843157
	Secretary: Mrs T Adams	842746

SUNDAY SERVICES:

Due to the Covid pandemic, our normal timetable of services is disrupted. At the moment, we are hoping to provide a morning Holy Communion at 9.00am on a Sunday morning. If another service is taking place during that day (or the day before) there will be a Joint service probably at Great Gaddesden at 10.45am.

The Midweek Service will be at 10.00am on a Wednesday which will continue to be on-line. There will be no midweek services in church for the foreseeable future.

BELL RINGING:	Sunday 8.30 am Practice: Tuesday 8.00 pm	
	Tower Captain – Mrs Virginia Westmacott	LG 842428
CHOIR PRACTICE:	Friday 7 pm – Mr John Leonhardt	LG 843550

LITTLE GADDESSEN
C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL: We welcome all children aged 4 – 11. Contact the Head Teacher, for more information on 01442 842464 or admin@littlegaddesden.herts.sch.uk

PARISH NEWS EDITORS: Mrs H Hockings, Mr D Nowell-Withers, Dr N Murray, Mr M Walsham
See inside back page for contact details.

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: Mr James Mitchell LG 842710

WEEKLY UPDATES: PEW SHEET distributed in church each Sunday. Items for inclusion should be sent to Helene Hockings, a_dmin-church@outlook.com by 9 am on each **Thursday**

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Helene Hockings on a_dmin-church@outlook.com or 01442 842493

Vol 43 No.08

Dear Friends,

Can you think of any word or words which have changed your life in some way? Something said to you when you were a child? Maybe in a talk or lecture? Perhaps even a sermon? Something you heard which has made a difference to you? What powerful words have sunk right down into your soul and perhaps changed your life – for good or ill? It might just be a throwaway line, a comment, a story, a piece of music. It doesn't have to be fully understood.

I just hope it's not COVID 19 or Corona! I think I heard the other day that somebody had named their child Corona, can you believe it?

Words can bring change; they change the world, change situations, they change people's lives.

'I love you'. 'Will you marry me?' 'I declare you to be husband and wife'. 'Your sins are forgiven you'. 'Go in peace'. 'The Lord Bless you and keep you...' 'Today we are in a state of war with Germany', so said Neville Chamberlain in 1939.

Of course words are our means of communication, they have an effect on us, they can change our immediate thinking, but some words change us fundamentally. All the words that can really change us are God's words, if we're open to hear them. They have the potential to change us for the good forever. It's when we sense that God might be speaking to us, when we sense his love and grace then we can be transformed for ever, set on a new relationship with Him, and a new path for our lives. And if we begin to recognize the recurrence of his voice, and listen out when he speaks to us again, we will be like prophet Samuel, open to his prompting...*'Speak Lord for your servant is listening'.*

St Teresa of Avila was a formidable woman who was given the task of reforming the order of Carmelites in Spain, which had become decadent and self-serving. She once said of God, *'Just these two words he spoke changed my life: "Enjoy me." After a night of prayer, he changed my life when he sang: "Enjoy me."*

We may have perfect hearing (or perhaps not quite as acute as once it was) but this is more about listening out for God...being alert to his promptings.

The parable of the sower is all about hearing (Matthew 13: 1-9). As a child, I remember getting mixed up a little between ears to hear and ears of corn! The underlying message Jesus suggests, is that first we decide not to hear and we won't listen - which is exactly what I did, when I received a call from the Far East from someone trying to sell me some scam at six in the morning!

We might reinterpret Jesus' words and say, getting people to listen, is about as possible as sowing seed on a newly tarmac road. If we aren't prepared even to try to listen, what hope is there? So whilst I would argue it's reasonable to cut dead all the telephone salespeople trying to sell us things we don't want at some unearthly hour, if we're completely closed off and refuse to listen to anything, we may well miss the one voice among the myriad of voices in our lives that can deliver us a message; a blessing, a life-changing opportunity. Sometimes we do hear, and catch a vision; we get excited, decide to follow up what we have heard and start to act differently, but it can lose its gloss quite quickly enough.

In lockdown we've all had opportunity to listen more intently and, whilst it's right to get more exercise, or take up drawing, do more gardening, or polish the car for the nth time, even spend more time in prayer, if our ears are closed... it all counts for very little.

I do believe that God will not force his way into our lives; there has to be no reluctance on our side if our relationship is to work with him, because it is to be mutual, a two-way thing.

In his diary, the priest and writer Henri Nouwen admits to God:

"I'm so busy with other things, that I cannot hear you; so preoccupied with what to read, what to write, what to say or what to do that I do not realize that all those problems would not exist if I listened to you and stopped listening to my own inner turmoil."

And that is a priest talking!

We can be distracted by words - some good, interesting, wholesome words, but unintentionally we may miss the Word that really matters more than anything else.

In the parable of the sower, Jesus is offering us a lesson in processing the word of life; we've heard it so many times of course in many different forms so that its message can sail right past us, if we're not careful.

So why not read it again and really listen out for God's prompting?

I am yours in Christ, John

Worship in our church

As per the Government guideline of July, we are now able to offer a church service at our three churches. As you will see from the back page, we are providing a service at 9.00am from Sunday 9th August (9.30am joint service on Sunday 2nd August) and we would hope to continue to be able to do this for the foreseeable future.

However, due to Covid restrictions, it is recommended that the church be closed for 72 hours following a service so that there can be no chance of contamination. Therefore, if another service is being held in the church ie a baptism or wedding, there will be a joint Parish Communion, most probably at Great Gaddesden church. The Evensong service will be at Nettleden every week at 6.00pm for the moment. Each church can then be left locked for 72 hours at least.

Here are a few protocols that have had to be put in place to make the service safe for everyone. Please do read through these.

We apologise if, for any reason, we have to cancel or change the venue of the service at the last minute. Please do try and check the website for the most up-to-date information.

- The Sunday service will be a service of Holy Communion, but for the time being, only the priest may receive the sacrament. Spaces will be limited, to approximately 35 due to the need to maintain social distancing.
- Please understand, that once the designated number of places are filled, we won't be able to allow any more people to enter the church.
- Please arrive at least 10 minutes beforehand and be aware that there will be a 'one way' system in operation. The wearing of a facemask is optional, but once seated we ask you to remain in your seat for the duration of the service. Recorded hymns will be played but you are asked not to join in.
- We will continue to monitor the situation over the coming weeks and will change arrangements as necessary, but the aim is to enable you to worship and keep you as safe as possible.

- If you are shielding you will need to consider very carefully whether you should attend. Please be assured that we shall continue to record the services. We intend to make this available on the websites by 12 noon on the given day to ensure that participation on some level will be possible.
- We may take a register of those attending worship.
- There will be no toilet facilities at any of the churches.
- To avoid contamination and a lot of cleaning of the church used on a given Sunday it will have to be closed for 72 hours for everyone's protection.
- These measures will remain under constant review

John Russell

NORMAL

Do you recall those carefree days that we took as normal?
Evenings at the Village Hall, cheerful and informal,
The sports, coffee mornings, get-togethers at the Pub,
And raising funds for charity, for Association and for Club,
Greeting friends, shaking hands, a kind word, even a cheeky hug,
In those cheerful days before we were hostage to a filthy bug.

An enemy hiding anywhere, trust neither friend nor stranger,
For any object could harbour this malignant and ever present danger,
The new normal means mask, sanitise, queue and social distance,
And hope that lockdown and being afraid will create enough resistance,
So that one day, through the fear, the sorrow and the pain,
Life will return once more and we will meet again.

Josie Jeffrey

The Thomas Field Hall

Work is now finally well under way. The archaeological survey team spent nearly two weeks recovering the remains exposed by the excavations for the foundations. This is longer than we had anticipated and the building programme is now a bit behind.

Subsequent progress has been encouraging, though 'progress' might seem a strange word when you look at what has been achieved, which is a large proportion of the present building demolished! The roof slates have been safely stripped off and set aside to be re-used. They are very special Delabole slates from Cornwall and we are matching them for the extension. The flints in the walls are similarly being set aside carefully for re-use as it is impossible to get local Chiltern flints any more. The only available ones are very different in both size and colour and will not do. Our architect has managed to get new bricks which match the existing ones in colour and size, which is quite difficult as they are imperial sizes and everything has been in metric for many years. However, there is sufficient demand for matching older bricks that special ones are still being made by specialist manufacturers. They just have to be found.

The builder is now investigating the substructure beneath one of the columns supporting the Ambulatory roof. This is partly the infilled old underground boiler room which is underneath the Ambulatory, though we think the column sits on the surrounding walls rather than the infill. This just needs to be clarified.

The substructure walls have been built and the underground ducts are waiting to be laid and pipework installed, then the precast concrete subfloor can be laid to the extension, giving the builders a level floor area to work off for the next phase.

Demolition of the internal walls should be completed by the end of this month and the external walls constructed during August when we will then begin to see the final extent of the new Hall.

Barbara Sheard

LOCKDOWN DIVERSIONS

As lockdown (hopefully) eases and we start to take baby steps towards some kind of normality, like not holding your breath at popular displays in Waitrose and walking the wrong way around Boots, that kind of thing. Perhaps we could try and look for lockdown positives.....Um.....Less traffic. Less traffic making more space for cycling clubs. High employment for makers of lycra cyclewear. Opportunities for the Fashion Police.

More blackbirds singing; now there's a good one. Are there more this year or is it that we can hear them better due to less traffic? Spectacular red kites wheeling over our heads - bolder as less road kill. Road kill index - I have noted: 1 bunny, 1 badger, a brace of pheasants. No peasants. In order to prepare for pub openings (yea!) there has been a game devised called, 'Getting served at The Bridge'. It used to go like this: Decide what you want to drink. Fight way to bar with rugby union team number of other punters. Bar person arrives, picks out a guy at the end who has fallen asleep whilst waiting, he wants 3 pina coladas, 2 espresso martinis and a sex on the beach. 20 minutes later, having joined a rolling maul of note and card wavers, an elderly chap passes out due to lack of water, orders a Pellegrino, bar person pops round to shop for a bottle. Paramedics arrive and punters surge towards bar. Someone gets served with one & a half pints of Pride before it runs out. You decide to go teetotal.

Post lockdown 'Getting Served at The Bridge'. Sit down at table in garden, behind screen, put up umbrella whilst waving card. Ladies-who-lunch on next table start a fight. Oxfam arrive with emergency rations. Give waitress personal details: name, address, shoe size, ethnicity, allergies, prefer cats or dogs? Oh, you've forgotten what you wanted to drink. Go back to start.

Virtual Festivals: Little Gaddstonbury: This was a great one; sort out what you want to watch on Telly. Arthur Lee and Love? Oh the memories! Stones? Amazing! Beyonce, wow! Legs that go right up to her bum! Adele, Yeah! Nile Rogers, brilliant or what! Kylie, we lurve ya! In the meantime, for authenticity, loo should be a bucket in the shed, no probs with loo paper, plenty still stacked up in there from earlier panic buying but you have to wait for 30 minutes before going in then get lost getting back to your tent on the carpet to find dog has eaten all the pringles and you have run out of prosecco. Never mind, it's great, wave arms in the air, slur alonga Shirl, Hey big spender! Happy days.

You see, you can have fun in lockdown. Next issue: Spotting Berkhamsted and Hemel's finest peeing behind bushes. Being amused by couple cycling up hill from castle wearing black facemasks (in the fresh air! In the heat!) and not making it to top. Will they come back? Whose idea was it? Will they still be together? So, lots to look forward to!

Josie Jeffrey

Church opening Hours for Private Prayer

Little Gaddesden church will be open for private prayer at the following times:

Wednesday:	2.30pm – 4.00pm
Thursday:	10.00am – 11.30am and 2.30pm – 4.00pm
Friday:	10.00am – 11.30am

Again, certain protocols need to be followed:

- Please follow any instructions of the supervisor
- Only 4 visitors to be in the church at any one time
- Votive candles will be lit
- Please use the hand sanitizer as you enter the church
- Seating will be available at the back of the church with the rest of the church being cordoned off
- Please observe social distancing

Times of opening may well need to be changed if volunteers to sit in the church are not available for that session, but we will endeavour to open the church as much as we can. These times will be under constant review.

From the Registers:

2nd June

Graveside Funeral

Lisa Worboys

Flashy Summer Butterflies

At this time of year one has a decent chance of seeing five very colourful and relatively large butterflies in the garden, especially if it's warm and sunny. Four are really quite common: Red Admiral, Peacock, Small Tortoiseshell and Comma, whereas the Painted Lady population varies greatly – some years they're rare, in others super-abundant, mostly in between. These species are all around in adult form for a good eight months of the year or more but they all depend on stinging nettles for their caterpillars to feed on (Painted Lady caterpillars also like thistles), and anyone who is still taking lockdown constitutionals will be well aware of the massive growth of the nettles over the last month or so.

Red Admirals are the biggest (just, at 70-75mm wingspan) with an unmistakable combination of black, white and red; they virtually never survive the British winter and we see immigrants from the continent, occasionally arriving in February but more in April and May. The incoming females are usually pregnant and it is their offspring that we are now seeing. Their peak time is around September when they feast on windfalls – their caterpillars will be in chrysalis form by then. Later in the year there is a southerly migration back towards the Continent, though it's not clear how many survive the trip.

Peacocks are minimally smaller than Red Admirals, with trademark 'eyes' in the corner of both forewings and hindwings which they 'flash' to frighten off predators. As a further deterrent they can also produce a noise by rubbing their hindwings and forewings together. The underwings are almost black, a most effective camouflage. Adult Peacocks hibernate from September onwards, in sheds, outhouses, and cracks and holes in trees, reappearing on warm spring days in February.

Commas are rather smaller (around 60mm wingspan), and look rather like fritillaries, but are easily recognised by their heavily scalloped wing shape, which with their dark underwings gives a very good impression of a dead leaf when the wings are closed. For unexplained reasons,

Commas have increased considerably in numbers and range over the past century. The name Comma comes from the small white 'comma' mark on the underwing. Like Peacocks, Commas hibernate as adults, mostly emerging from their winter quarters in February or March. These early-appearing adults breed then die in spring or summer, while late-comers and the offspring of the early ones all overwinter.

Small Tortoiseshells are smaller still, around 50mm wingspan and beautifully marked with a mixture of orange-red and black with black and yellow-cream checks along the leading edge of the forewings, blue along the rear edges. They hibernate as adults from August, even late July onwards, in trees and buildings until they reappear in March or April.

Painted Ladies cannot survive our winter - the ones we see here have either flown direct from North Africa or are the offspring of various generations along the way through Spain and France. Newly hatched Painted Ladies are comparable in size to Peacocks with predominantly pink or apricot wings with black and white corners, though they gradually get very tatty and faded. Not surprisingly, they are fast, powerful fliers.

Every ten years or so, there is an enormous influx of millions of Painted Ladies over virtually the whole of Britain – more often they are quite common, especially in the south. There is now convincing evidence that some butterflies attempt reverse migration towards the Continent and North Africa but the success rate is probably very low.

The message is clear – if you want to increase the chance of these delightful butterflies frequenting your garden, it really is worth allowing a patch of stinging nettles to survive in a convenient corner. Caterpillars of most of these species are absolutely dependant on nettles as their food source, and while the adult butterflies will feed on nectar from many other flowers, they have to lay their eggs on nettle leaves.

Nick Murray



A Very Different Bike 'n Hike 12th September 2020

The Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust runs the Bike 'n Hike on the second Saturday of September each year to raise money both for the Trust and for the participating churches, with half of the sponsorship money going to each.

It is even more important than ever this year because churches have been closed for so long. Churches have lost income from services and other fundraising events and buildings deteriorate even when not in use.

The Bike 'n Hike is key to enabling the Trust to continue to give grants to churches and chapels for the care of their buildings, which are so important in the lives of our towns and villages. The Trust is non-denominational and the Bike 'n Hike is supported by many different denominations. Grants are available to any place of public Christian worship of whatever age. The church's share of the money raised can be used for any of the church's activities, not just building projects. It is open to everyone to take part, whether church-goer or not, bikers, hikers and other visitors, whether by car, mobility scooter or horse.

This year things will be different

The objective is still to visit as many churches and chapels as you can to obtain sponsorship for your efforts. However, because of the Covid-19 pandemic –

- Assume that churches will not be open
- There will be no-one to welcome you
- There may be no refreshments
- Toilets are unlikely to be available
- There will be no Register of Visitors
- Please sign your own sponsor form
- Stay safe and enjoy the day

If you take selfies at churches to show where you have visited, upload the best onto our Facebook page accessed through www.b-n-h.co.uk/publicity.htm After the event, everyone who has taken part should give the money raised to their Church Organiser, together with their sponsorship forms. The Church Organiser then submits them to the Treasurer using the remittance form which also asks for details needed by BHHCT to return the church's share of the money.

Sponsorship money can be gift-aided, which increases the amount by 25% courtesy of the tax man. This gift aid is kept by the Trust to add to the money available for grants.

The Trust uses JustGiving to make it even easier to collect sponsorship money. Any participant can create a page on JustGiving and use email or social media to encourage friends and relatives to sponsor their efforts.

Some larger companies run matched giving schemes. You may wish to check whether your employer will support your efforts.

There are electronic means to save handling cash – JustGiving, bank transfers from sponsors and to Church Organisers.

We encourage folk of all ages to take part but please be aware of personal safety and take appropriate care.

- Follow Government guidance on Covid-19, extant at the time
- If you enter a church, touch as little as possible
- Take hand sanitiser
- Take your own refreshments
- Remember the Highway Code
- Use off road routes where possible

If Government re-imposes restrictions, the event may need to be cancelled.

For up-to-date information, visit b-n-h.co.uk

Please get a sponsor form, either from **Peter Leonhardt (21 Little Gaddesden, 01442 843550)** or from the porch at the church. Peter will be happy to receive your sponsorship money.

Parish News Editors:

Helene Hockings, Nick Murray, David Nowell-Withers, Mike Walsham
editor-pn@littlegaddesdenchurch.org.uk

Deadline Date for next edition of Magazine: Sunday 23rd August 2020

CHILDREN'S PAGE

SAINT PETER'S VISION

After Jesus had left the disciples they had been filled with power and energy by the Holy Spirit. PETER went to many places and told people the Good News that God loved them. He had the power to heal people who could not walk, or hear, or see. But he was not sure whether God wanted him to only tell Jewish people the news or whether he and his friends should also be telling other people who were not Jews. Did God love them, too?

The answer came in a strange way. Peter was praying to God. It was nearly lunchtime and he was hungry. Suddenly he saw something which looked like a large sheet come down from heaven. On it were all sorts of animals and birds.

He heard a voice say "Get up, Peter, kill and eat". "Certainly not," said Peter, "I have never eaten anything unclean." "Nothing I have made is unclean," replied the voice.

Then Peter understood that God wanted all people to hear the Good News. He loves everybody, not just the Jews. So Peter and his friends travelled far and wide spreading the Gospel, or Good News, to everyone, no matter who they were, and that is how our church started off.



Colour in the animals and count how many there are.

WORDSEARCH							
E	W	B	C	P	S	W	I
J	N	L	R	E	W	O	P
G	O	O	D	T	E	G	S
D	M	T	Y	E	J	O	W
O	A	Y	V	R	S	D	E
E	U	N	C	L	E	A	N
U	N	O	I	S	I	V	O
A	N	I	M	A	L	S	E

Find the words underlined in the story

Prayer Page

Everlasting God,
at this time we lift to you
those from all nations and backgrounds
who work on the front line in healthcare.
Give them skill and wisdom in their work.
Be their strength and their shield
as they give of themselves in the care of others.

Amen

Lord Jesus Christ,
you taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need
as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,
and to assure the isolated
of our love, and your love,
for your name's sake.

Amen

A Prayer for family life

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

CHURCH SERVICES – AUGUST 2020

I Sunday 2nd August – Trinity 8		
9.30am	Joint Parish Eucharist	Great Gaddesden
II Sunday 9th August – Trinity 9 / Festival of St Lawrence		
9.00am	Parish Eucharist	Little Gaddesden
10.45am	Parish Eucharist	Great Gaddesden
6.00pm	Evensong	Nettleden
III Sunday 16th August – Trinity 10		
9.00am	Parish Eucharist	Little Gaddesden
10.45am	Parish Eucharist	Great Gaddesden
6.00pm	Evensong	Nettleden
IV Sunday 23rd August – Trinity 11		
10.45am	Joint Parish Eucharist	Great Gaddesden
6.00pm	Evensong	Nettleden
V Sunday, 30th August – Trinity 12		
9.00am	Parish Eucharist	Little Gaddesden
10.45am	Parish Eucharist	Great Gaddesden
6.00pm	Evensong	Nettleden
I Sunday 6th September – Trinity 13		
9.00am	Parish Eucharist	Little Gaddesden
10.45am	Parish Eucharist	Great Gaddesden
6.00pm	Evensong	Nettleden
Mid-Week Service		
Wednesday	10.00am on-line Midweek Service recorded at Great Gaddesden Church	

Due to the Coronavirus restrictions, the church services may well be changed at short notice. As a clear 72 hours is required between any additional service, such as weddings and baptisms, and the Sunday service, the church may have to remain closed (hence why Joint Parish Eucharists at Great Gaddesden).

**Please check our church websites for the most up-to-date information.
We apologise if we have to change services with little or no notice.**