

our families and the community that across the nation bells rung out in memory of 72 loved ones lost at Grenfell. Thank you to all faith communities across the country that stand with our community in North Kensington to pay respect and show that 72 lives are forever in our hearts."

*Joe Moffatt*

## Lockdown

Lockdown has, by virtue of being the consequence of a global pandemic, touched everyone's life in one way or another. I have been let off quite lightly



for which I am very grateful. Mum and I, being of advancing years, have been confined to the house since 16<sup>th</sup> March.

We have a comfortable home with a garden. I have been able to get out to Bushy Park at 'silly' o'clock every morning, for an hour or so, with my camera and for "exercise". On entering the park I am transported into a place of beauty and tranquillity, where God's creation is evident and the seasons unaffected by Covid-19. This sets me up for the day.



Thanks to technology we have been able to join in with Morning Prayer, Sunday Service, and Zoom coffee mornings thus we have got to know so many more lovely folk from the Church.


I do miss not seeing my two daughters and my son, who all live rather far away. We do "Face Time", but it is not the same.

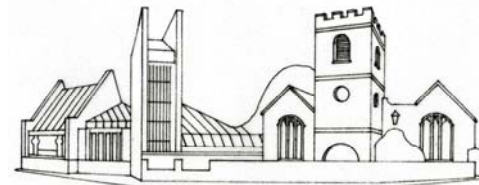
*Sue Lindenberg*

## Parish Contacts

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[www.teddingtonparish.org](http://www.teddingtonparish.org)

 **ST MARY WITH ST ALBAN**  
**ST PETER AND ST PAUL**  
*Two Churches serving Teddington*



## Vicar's Viewpoint

**We're in this together...**



For three last months we have delivered the newsletter online, but now that you can hold something in your hand, it is a hopeful sign that we are on a path to recovery. For some of us, our long-awaited reunions with family and friends are already taking place. The

Church calendar tells us we are back in 'Ordinary Time', but there is nothing ordinary about the times we are living through.

This time of turmoil has brought many blessings. Communities rediscovering what shared life looks like, strangers becoming neighbours, the gift of managing with less, and the delight of the sunniest spring on record. But this is only part of our story, for some of us this has been a particularly difficult time. It has been a period of significant loss, and for those who are most vulnerable it has been a time of isolation. The lack of human companionship undermines what it means to be human.

Because of this upheaval, there has been both a gradual and abrupt awakening to the plight of others, a greater openness to learn about life for those who spend most of their time isolated, or those who can't get out for regular exercise. The death of George Floyd powerfully exposed the structural inequalities that undermine the flourishing of all people. Times of trial often uncover what is hidden in easier times, and as in the case of Marcus Rashford's campaign, this can lead to a better outcome for many people.

Bishop Michael Curry (the American bishop who preached at Harry and Meghan's wedding) asks us, 'What would the sacrificial love of Jesus look like now?' He then tells us to, 'Go and do that', be willing to speak out about injustice that is prevalent at all levels of society. We are being given an opportunity to make changes for the better. The Coronavirus, peaceful Black Lives Matter demonstrations and Marcus Rashford, have shown us that when we come together, we are able to make positive changes that are better for our community, our nation and the planet. Let us be people of conviction and courage, and not let this moment in history pass.

*Caroline Halmshaw*

**July 2020**

## CHURCH SERVICES

Although the church is open for private prayer, the following worship will continue to be offered in virtual form.

**Sunday:** Recorded Sunday Service on [www.teddingtonparish.org](http://www.teddingtonparish.org)

**Morning Prayer** (Mon-Fri, 8.30am) & **Evening Prayer** (Mon-Thurs, 6.00pm) both via Zoom: Password: 0vDrup <https://zoom.us/j/992902759>

**Podcasts:** Mon, Wed & Fri, at [www.anchor.fm/teddington-clergy](http://www.anchor.fm/teddington-clergy)

**Worship at Home resources:** at [www.churchofengland.org](http://www.churchofengland.org)

**Care Team:** for those in need.

### Prayer Requests

For all Care Team and Prayer Requests email: [care@teddingtonparish.org](mailto:care@teddingtonparish.org) or leave a message on 020 8943 2262.

All details and links on our parish website [www.teddingtonparish.org](http://www.teddingtonparish.org)

## OPEN FOR PRAYER

In times of crisis, the instinct of many is to slip into church, say a quiet prayer, and sense the abiding presence of God.

The recent closure of churches has therefore been a keenly felt deprivation.

Thankfully, the government has lifted some restrictions, and churches can open for private prayer, with appropriate supervision, social distancing and cleaning. So for the next few weeks, St Mary with St Alban is open on **Wednesdays mornings (9.30am-12.30pm)** and **Saturday afternoons (2.30pm-5.30pm)**.

For those who are able, please come and spend some quiet time back in church. For those who are still housebound, please know that we will continue to pray for you and look forward to the day when all can return to church.

[www.teddingtonparish.org](http://www.teddingtonparish.org)

## The Holy Gardeners

Who has seen a hedgehog in Teddington in the last 20 years? During the last year the Holy Gardeners have significantly tidied the St. Mary with St. Alban church-yard area, allowing the old Georgian and Victorian gravestones to become more visible but without losing the wild graveyard appearance. We have a strategy to improve the variety of wild flowers and animal life, including the setting up of a



Rev. Joe Moffatt creating the first Wildlife Refuge Area

couple of refuge areas for smaller creatures. Bees have now been introduced to further this strategy.

Perhaps, with some funding, we can banish the gaps in the hedge caused by the box tree caterpillars. Our strategy says that replacement shrubs should be bee friendly as well as hedge worthy. The bees are in a small hive called a Nuc (Nucleus). On their first inspection they seem to have settled in well and are holding their own. Claudie Godet, of this parish, is the beekeeper in charge and will be inspecting them regularly, but not if it's raining. The bees don't like it!

The PCC is now considering a proper plan for the maintenance of the church-



Claudie Godet supervising bee hive activities

yard over the next five years. This will include improving the flower-bed next to the church wall on the South side, and development of the big bed by the West door, previously

constructed so well by Cyril Shaw, as well as further tidying of the lower end.

*Tony Swan*

## New Sports Ministry in Teddington



We are delighted that after extensive research and consultation, a new Sports Ministry project is starting in the Hampton Deanery, based at St Peter & St Paul, Teddington. The Bishop of Kensington has appointed the Rev. Chris Kennedy to lead the project as a 'Pioneer Sports Minister'. Chris has been curate at St Richard's Hanworth for the past three years. He will move into the St Peter & St Paul Vicarage this month with his wife Hannah, and their two boys, Ethan (4) and Joshua (1). Chris writes:

It is an incredible blessing and privilege to be called to fulfill this pioneer role. It has come about through the vision of multiple partners, and is the culmination of hard work to create a local ministry that is missional, dynamic and forward thinking.

My ministerial journey has always included sport to unite, inspire and develop people, so they achieve more than they thought possible, finding God using the gift of their bodies.

As a physiotherapist before becoming a priest I saw the potential, and challenge our bodies can offer. Indeed, in lockdown, the blessing of exercising has again accentuated the importance of fitness and wellbeing in helping us overcome challenging circumstances.

Hence my excitement for this new role to use the power of sport and activity to be a blessing to Christians and non-Christians alike; to create church out of mission and to use gifts God has given to bless Him, ourselves and those around us, be that to play a game of cricket or simply walk a dog.

This ministry will welcome all, whatever age and talent to join in and find Christ through activity, to activate our incarnate spirituality to be a blessing as we have

been blessed. We will work with people of all denominations to release them to find hope, faith and love through engaging in activity and wellbeing.

My own sporting background stretches from playing cricket in the Vatican and rugby in prison, and completing an Ironman triathlon. I pioneered an Interfaith cricket program in Feltham Young Offenders Unit, using psychology and ethics to rehabilitate young offenders. My heart is with the marginalized with whom we will be working hard to show all Christ's restorative love and grace, engaging in a wide range of sports and activities to stimulate and encourage as many people as possible.

The family and I look forward to seeing you in Teddington soon. God bless you and peace be with you.

*Chris Kennedy*

## Teddington Community Café



Although the opening of the Teddington Community Café on May 11<sup>th</sup> had to be postponed, time has not been wasted.' Adversity has led the members of the Teddington Parish Healthy Healing Hub to new initiatives, and to diverting some of their attention to other community activities, including the Care-home outreach mentioned in the June newsletter, whilst continuing to work towards opening the café in the autumn.

The idea of a community café was conceived some time ago by church members seeking a practical way to promote the mental health and physical well-being of local residents. Developed in partnership with NHS Primary Care Networks (PCNs) and two of our neighbouring charities, RUILS and Richmond Aid, the café will offer a welcoming space with a friendly, calm and positive atmosphere, helping to combat social isolation and to encourage self-care and foster well-being. In undertaking background research, the team became aware of the large number of local organisations who offer interesting

activities and valuable services. The café will be an ideal place to signpost these and will also offer a venue for the recently appointed link workers (aka social prescribers) to meet clients and to provide healthcare advice (from 6<sup>th</sup> July there will be six link workers for Teddington and Hampton PCNs). In addition to welcoming visitors, the café will provide volunteering opportunities for local people.

We are fortunate in having a central location for the café: St Peter and St Paul's Church, at the corner of Church Road and Broad Street. When circumstances permit it will open weekly on Mondays, from 1.30pm to 4.30pm. Watch this space for more information.

*Clare Rider, Sarah Rae and Lisa Dobinson*

## Parish Registers

**FUNERALS** – We remember with thanksgiving the lives of:

1<sup>st</sup> June: Mrs. Veronica Edmonds (88)

2<sup>nd</sup> June: Mr. Francis Burtenshaw (95)

18<sup>th</sup> June: Mr. Gordon Hall (95)

## Bells Rung to Mark Third Anniversary of Grenfell Tragedy

We joined more than 100 churches in the Bishop of Kensington's campaign to mark the third anniversary of the Grenfell Tower fire by ringing their bells 72 times at 6pm on Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> June. This was followed by a 2-minute silence to remember the 72 victims, after which the bell rang three times, one for each year that has passed.

The Bishop, Dr Graham Tomlin, reminded everyone that the Grenfell Tower fire was more than just a London event, but one that affected people deeply across the entire country and indeed the world. He said: 'The fact that over 100 churches have been involved is a welcome reminder of how significant the feeling of grief is, and of the depth of support in local communities for the families and friends of the 72 victims, who still mourn for their loved ones and seek justice.'

Grenfell United, the bereaved families and survivors group, said: "It means a lot to