

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be on Tuesday April 27 at 7.30pm and will be held by Zoom. I will send out details of the link nearer the time.

All the relevant paperwork will be emailed out around April 11 (two weeks before the APCM). Those who are not on email will receive paper copies. However if you are on email but would prefer a paper copy please email Kate, the parish administrator at stpauls.warwick@outlook.com so we can get a copy to you at the same time.

Leading up to the APCM the Church Electoral Roll gets revised. As we have not been in church over the last year and attracted new people to church, this year it will be sadly more a case of taking the names off the list of those who have left us. The new Roll then gets published a

fortnight before the annual meeting. At the APCM we need to elect two churchwardens. Hazel has done a brilliant job as our sole churchwarden and is willing to stand again but would appreciate company in this role.

We still have two vacancies as our representatives for Deanery Synod (we had no volunteers last time round!) so please consider this too. And there are also two vacancies for PCC representatives to serve for up to three years.

Please pray God will inspire people to step up to these roles – whether you think it might be you or someone else.

If you want to have a chat about it please make contact with any of the existing PCC members – Audrey, Hazel, Jonathan, Pat, Richard, Sheila or Suzanne.

Foodbank

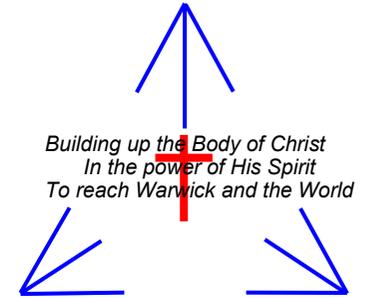
Even though the church is closed for services, we would still welcome donations to the Warwick Foodbank. Please put any toiletries and/or dry, non-perishable food in the Foodbank collection box.

If you need a voucher please email the office to arrange collection once the Church is back open.

The Foodbank is open between 1pm and 3pm each Friday at Saltisford Church in Albert Street.



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April 4, 2021
Easter Sunday

Rev Jonathan Hearn

Today's 10am Service - Holy Communion

If you are a newcomer to our Church, or a visitor to the area, please introduce yourself to one of the welcomers, or to the clergy.

This week - April 4	Next Week - April 11
10am Holy Communion	10.30am Holy Communion

Readings	
April 4	April 11
Acts 10: 34-43 Mark 16: 1-10	Streaming with St Michael's

Our Bible verse for the year

Trust GOD from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own.
Listen for GOD's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; He's the one who will keep you on track. Don't assume that you know it all.
Run to GOD! Run from evil!
Your body will glow with health, your very bones will vibrate with life!
Proverbs 3:5-8 (from The Message)

Praying for the Persecuted Church

Dozens of people have been killed and thousands forced to flee after hundreds of Islamist militants attacked a coastal town in Cabo Delgado, in northern Mozambique, on Wednesday March 24.

Barnabas Fund contacts report Islamist terrorist group Islamic State (also known as IS, ISIS, ISIL, Daesh) boasted on Twitter on Monday, March 29 of killing at least 55 people, including Christians, Mozambique soldiers, state nationals and “crusaders” (understood to mean Westerners) in a prolonged assault on Palma, which is close to major international gas developments.

The number of casualties is unclear because many are still unaccounted for; however, a witness said the town and beaches are strewn with bodies “with heads and without”.

Seven people were killed trying to escape a siege of a hotel, where expatriate workers took shelter as jihadists rampaged through the town, attacking shops, banks and a military barracks.

Hundreds of others, both locals and foreign workers, were rescued by boat. According to local reports, a vessel with about 1,400 people on board arrived at the port of Pemba, about 250km (155 miles) south of Palma, on Sunday. Hundreds more people, including children, have fled on foot through the bush and are now arriving at Namoto, about 50km from Palma, on the border with Tanzania.

A survivor who reached Namoto after walking three days without food and water said: “We have many children here. Many children are dying in the bush ... “People have been captured and others have died.”

More than 2,500 people are estimated to have been killed and 700,000 displaced since 2017 when militant Islamists began a brutal campaign to establish an Islamist caliphate in Cabo Delgado province. In one of the worst attacks last year, the jihadists turned a village football pitch into an execution ground where they beheaded more than 50 people three days of savage violence.

Barnabas Fund’s contacts in the area report anyone who refuses to support the jihadists and embrace their beliefs is attacked, and their property set on fire. Thus Christians who refuse to deny Christ are amongst the victims.

The militant Islamist organisation called Ahlu Sunnah Wa-Jama, known locally as Al Shabaab (not the Somali-based group), is linked to Islamic State and has effectively gained control of an area of Cabo Delgado.

Over half of the population of Mozambique is Christian – 17.4 million of the 32.3 million people living there. It is currently number 45 on the Open Doors World Watch List of most dangerous places in the world in which to be a Christian. It is the first time Mozambique has appeared on the List, jumping 21 places, largely because of the increasing violence faced by believers in more areas of the country.

In recent years, attacks by Islamic extremists have claimed the lives of many Christians and radical groups have burned down churches and schools. This persecution used to be limited to a smaller part of the country, but Mozambique’s army withdrew from important strategic locations last year, meaning persecution has expanded in the past year. *Source: Barnabas Fund and Open Doors UK*

Thought for the Week - Easter Sunday!

“He is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!”

This is a cry that will be ringing out around the world today as Christians celebrate Jesus’ resurrection and the hope that is in Christ Jesus.

Even in the midst of the pandemic “Jesus is Lord!” and “creation’s voice proclaims it”.

The Easter message is one of hope and joy that despite everything else that might be going on around us “Jesus conquered the grave”.

Yes he died – but he rose again. The devastation of his crucifixion was turned into the glory of the empty grave and the reality of a risen Saviour.

He met his friends again, encouraged them turning fear into joy, and after 50 days empowering them through the gift



of the Holy Spirit to go out and change the world. May we experience and know the transforming nature of the resurrection today, and may we be filled afresh with the Holy Spirit to continue offering hope and comfort to all whom we meet. A very happy Easter to you all. Blessings, Jonathan.

Quinquennial Works

Every five years our architect inspects the church and identifies works that need to be carried out in the next five years.

Our last inspection took place in 2019 and for the first time for a number of years there is quite a bit of work to be done on the outside of the church.

We have contracted a company called Loxstone to do this for us and they will be starting on Monday April 12.

The work is due to last until June 18. This will not affect our ability to use the Church and hall but it just means the outside will look slightly different for the 10 weeks the contractors are here. Jonathan.

The next two Sundays

A reminder next Sunday, April 11, we are joining St Michael’s Budbrooke. The link is via Facebook and Youtube as follows: <https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsbudbrooke> https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRn6_DOepZblNSH75WCxFjw If you receive via email you should be able to click on the link above and it will take you to the site. If not it’s probably easier to search “St Michael’s Budbrooke” in YouTube or Google. On Sunday, April 18 we will be back here in Church for the 10am Sunday service. Jonathan.