

# Welcome to St Dunstan's and Southville Churches

Feltham Ecumenical Parish:  
Anglican and Methodist Churches in  
partnership

Sunday 17  
January 2021

**Second Sunday  
after  
Epiphany**



There is an apocryphal story of an Eastern sage who asked his wise men to invent a motto which would be true and appropriate for all time and in every situation. The wise men presented him with the words: "This, too, shall pass away." These were wise words but maybe difficult for us to believe given our present situation of Covid pandemic (and maybe the terrible upheaval in the USA). But I believe that motto is true for us today and I'd like to share a personal view which makes me say that.

In 1999 the then Bishop of Willesden invited me to join a party of clergy and lay people visiting the east German city of Chemnitz. While there, we were taken on a trip to the city of Dresden. It was there that I saw one of the horrors of the second world war which has never left me - the bomb devastated ruins of the Frauenkirche, which was essentially the cathedral church of Dresden, razed by Allied carpet bombing in 1945. The Frauenkirche had suffered the same fate as Coventry Cathedral which was bombed in 1940. You can see from the picture that there was virtually nothing left of the Frauenkirche. But those who held a vision for the future carefully kept as much of the ruined stonework as possible and rebuilt it into the new fabric. An astonishing achievement. Like Coventry, the Christians of Dresden decided that notwithstanding the terrible devastation their mother church must be rebuilt and in a return visit to Germany in 2006 I was privileged to share in an inaugural concert in the restored building. I guess the Christians in both Dresden and Coventry had said to themselves "This too shall pass away" and they made sure that this truth came to pass.

But Christians don't need 'wise men' to offer us words of wisdom, our Scriptures have already done so. God says to the prophet Isaiah "...see I am creating new heavens and a new earth - so wonderful that that no one will even think of the old ones any more." and in the book of Revelation we have John's vision of 'one sitting on the throne [saying] "See I am making all things new"'

As Covid presses upon us and a great nation seems to be floundering let's remember that God has his own plans: not only can we trust that 'all these things shall pass away', but we can have a glorious hope for our eternal destiny!

*Leslie Lawrence*

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## Church Notices:

### Fellowship and prayer - Southville and St. Dunstan Ecumenical Partnership

All members of our congregations are invited to a **zoom get-together** between 4pm and 5pm today for fellowship (do bring your mug of tea or coffee and a biscuit!) and prayer. It will be an opportunity to chat, share our hopes and dreams for the future and pray together, since we cannot meet as usual, and our Ecumenical Parish AGM has been postponed. Anyone is welcome to join for as long or as short a time as they can. To attend please email [admin@stdunstansfeltham.org.uk](mailto:admin@stdunstansfeltham.org.uk) for the zoom link. Or ring the parish office and leave a request for the link: 020 890 2011.

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The **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** in 2021 starts this Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> January finishing on Monday 25<sup>th</sup>.

The prayers and reflections this year have been prepared by the Monastic Community of Grandchamp in Switzerland. The theme that was chosen, "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit", is based on John 15:1-17 and expresses Grandchamp Community's vocation to prayer, reconciliation and unity in the Church and the human family.



The Grandchamp Community has its origins in Europe in the 1930s, when a group of women of the Reformed tradition sought to rediscover the importance of silence and listening to the Word of God. Today the community has fifty sisters, all women from different generations, Church traditions, countries and continents. In their diversity the sisters are a living parable of communion. They remain faithful to a life of prayer, life in community and the welcoming of guests. The sisters share the grace of their monastic life with visitors and volunteers who go to Grandchamp for a time of retreat, silence, healing or in search of meaning.

In producing the material for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity for 2021, the sisters are inviting churches across the world to enter into their tradition of prayer and silence that is rooted in the ancient traditions of the Church catholic.

The Week of Prayer material can be found after our Prayer sheet this at the end of this document. An illustrated PDF file of the material is attached together with this mailing. Please note that where the material suggests 'actions' these should of course only be undertaken at this time if it is possible to do so safely within the present Covid 19 lockdown rules and guidance.

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## Church Notices: Southville Methodist

There will be no services in church until further notice. We would encourage you to join other services online. If you would like to join services or receive printed / electronic service material (electronic is easier and more cost efficient) please contact: Jonathan Griffiths tel: 020-8890 1978, email: [jonathan.media.southville@sfmc.org.uk](mailto:jonathan.media.southville@sfmc.org.uk). Or call Marilyn Woodley on 07958 737094.

Meanwhile the Staines **Zoom Service** continues each Sunday at 10.30am. Contact [service.staines@sfmc.org.uk](mailto:service.staines@sfmc.org.uk) for a link.

**Circuit Bible Study by zoom on Thursdays** starting at 9.30am studying Matthew. Please contact Jonathan Griffiths for details to join – you can join by phone. Email contact: jonathan.griffiths@sfmtc.org.uk

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### **Church Notices: St. Dunstan**

There will be no services in church until further notice.

The **Sunday Zoom service has moved** to 10.00am each Sunday. All are welcome; phone or email the parish office for details of how to connect from computer, smartphone or tablet.

**Bible Study by zoom:** next meets at 8pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January. Please contact Anne Dollery for details of how to take part (remotely).

**Bible Study by email** (or paper by post) will be studying Romans. Anyone who would like to join the mailing please contact Anne Mills-Roberts at: amillsroberts@yahoo.com or phone on: 01784 613357.

**An invitation to join in prayer** (together - while separated) with no phones or computers involved, on Wednesdays at 6am (for the early risers amongst us) and/or 6pm, during the current lockdown. It is proposed that we give thanks and prayer for all key workers, remembering those less high profile but vital; also thanks and prayer for the vaccine programme here and abroad and all involved around the world. This suggestion has come out of our Monday bible study group's study of Philippians, where we read 'Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God.'

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### **Dates for your diary**

Today (Sunday) 3pm: **The Need for Religion in Modern Times.** An audio-only Zoom event for interfaith encounter, with speakers from several religions, organised by the ladies of the Ahmadiyya mosque in Sunbury Way. (NB: their events are usually accompanied by wonderful food! Not, alas, in this case.) Contact outreach.lajnah@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

Today (Sunday) 4pm: **Ecumenical fellowship** between St. Dunstan and Southville. See above.

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 7pm: **Holocaust Memorial Event.** Every year Hounslow holds a worthwhile event for Holocaust Memorial Day and this is something to be proud of. This year the speaker will be Dorit Oliver-Wolff who was a five year old Jewish girl living in Hungary when Nazism started to sweep across Europe. Dorit survived the Holocaust and went on to become a famous German singer. Contact [Rachel.stuchbury@phoncoop.coop](mailto:Rachel.stuchbury@phoncoop.coop) for the Zoom link.

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 7.45pm for 8pm St Dunstan's **PCC meeting on zoom.**

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 7pm-7.45pm: **Rooted in love.** Bishop Sarah and Paula Gooder in conversation about the love of Christ, what it means to be part of the body of Christ, and how we can draw closer to Christ this Lent. John Swinton, in conversation with Paula Gooder, Chancellor of St. Paul's Cathedral. Book to attend at [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/finding-jesus-in-the-storm-tickets-127980488085?aff=ebdssbonline&keep\\_tld=1](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/finding-jesus-in-the-storm-tickets-127980488085?aff=ebdssbonline&keep_tld=1); also available on catch-up, see [www.stpaulsresources.co.uk](http://www.stpaulsresources.co.uk).

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## **An offer**

Does anyone need a fridge freezer? David and Lorna Baker have one to dispose of, which belonged to David's late brother Len. Please contact the Parish Office on 0208 890 2011 by 24<sup>th</sup> January at the latest if interested and a message will be passed on. The fridge freezer will need to be collected before 31<sup>st</sup> January.

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## **A few phone numbers in case of need:**

Samaritans: 116 123 (and it's free)

Domestic Abuse UK: 0808 200 0247

Hopeline Suicide Prevention (aimed at young people or those concerned about a young person): 0800 068 4141

Daily Hope line of bible readings, prayers and hymns (Church of England): 0800 804 8044

Mind information line (on mental health problems and how to seek help): 0300 123 3393

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## **And we'd better have a joke or two .....**

The hotel receptionist answers an internal phone call. "Help! Call the Fire Brigade!" says a voice, "I'm trapped in my room." "That's unlikely, sir, are you sure?", protests the receptionist. "Absolutely" says the caller. "There are only three doors in here. One is the wardrobe, one is the bathroom, and the other one has a 'Do not disturb' sign hanging on it!"

George sips his pint, looking thoughtful. "Tom", he says slowly, "if you were in a vacuum and somebody called your name, could you hear them?". "Well it depends", says Tom. "Would the vacuum be on or off at the time?"

*And then reality can be quite funny too ...* contributions are welcome! I (Rachel Stuchbury) tried to cycle through a familiar underpass recently to cross the A3. Turning the last corner on the downward slope, I was surprised to see the tunnel's ceiling reflected in water. Hoping it was just a shallow surface puddle, I foolishly cycled into the tunnel ... and realised after three yards that my back paniers were half-submerged already and I was still on a downward slope! The only recourse was to alight swiftly into mid-thigh-level water and get bike and self back the way we'd come. Ever felt silly? I dripped all the way to my destination!

## **Those whose lives we remember:**

Joyce and Joe Kedge, Estelle Schrecker, Peter Butler, Elsie Rowse, Peter Apted, Millie Brister, Leonard Newland, Thomas and Doreen Robertson

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**Southville Methodist** Tachbrook Road, Feltham TW14 8NU

Minister: Rev. Juliet Ushewokunze (020 8890 2783)

Email: rev.ushewokunze@sfmtc.org.uk

**Email address:** southville@sfmtc.org.uk

**St. Dunstan (C of E)** St. Dunstan's Road, Feltham TW13 4JY

**Minister** Rev. Anne Dollery (020 8890 8347)

**Email:** AnneDollery@yahoo.co.uk

C of E Parish office 39 St.Dunstan's Road, Feltham TW13 4JY  
Closed to visitors until further notice.

**Email:** [admin@stdunstansfeltham.org.uk](mailto:admin@stdunstansfeltham.org.uk)

**Tel:** 020 8890 2011

**Website:** [www.stdunstansfeltham.org.uk](http://www.stdunstansfeltham.org.uk)