

WYCHERT VALE BENEFICE

You are invited to A Service of Licensing by Video Conference Call by the Bishop of Buckingham of **The Revd Cassa Messervy** as Rector for the Wychert Vale Benefice on **Thursday 22nd April 2021** at **7.30 pm**

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85848476303?pwd=MCtwaU9pOFdFUFo3cjhR QVVxVVkxQT09

Meeting ID: 858 4847 6303

Passcode: 868422

We look forward to welcoming Cassa as our new Rector and ask you to pray for her and her family as they prepare for their move.

MA

Dear Lord

We thank you for the appointment of Cassa as rector of our benefice. We pray that she and her family will soon feel settled and welcomed in each of our parishes. We pray too for all the ministry team. Give them wisdom, a spirit of unity, and a vision for the work to be done in our churches and communities. As we discover our 'new normal' enable each one of us to use our gifts and talents in the service of your church. Amen.



Heavenly Father

This weekend we remember in our prayers Her Majesty the Queen and all the Royal Family. We also pray for all those who are grieving the loss of a loved one over the last year. Be their comfort and strength Lord, and bring them real hope for the future. Amen.

The Duke of Edinburgh

The Church of England has opened an online condolence book. The <u>book is open</u> to any individual or church communities who wish to sign and record a message.



Wychert Vale Benefic



Parish of Stone, Dinton and Hartwell

Churches of: St. John Baptist, STONE; Ss Peter & Paul, DINTON; Assumption of St. Mary the Virgin, HARTWELL www.stonedintonhartwell.com

St. John the Baptist STONE Sunday 18th April

Third Sunday of Easter 10:30am Morning Worship led by Revd. Phil Groves

This is our first service back in church!

We will be keeping to all the Covid requirements for meeting indoors. Please also follow the instructions that will be explained on the day. Unfortunately we will not be allowed to sing indoors

WaterAid

If you have been saving your loose change for Water Aid during Lent please bring it to church today where there will be a bucket for you to drop it in. Thankyou.

THIS WEEK

Thursday 22nd – 7:30pm Licensing service for our new rector

NEXT WEEK

Sunday 25th – 10:30am Morning Worship in the church Led by David Pickup and Revd. Nigel Featherston

BELONG - BELIEVE - BUILD - WITH CHRIST AS THE CORNERSTONE

Luke 24:36-49 Jesus appears to the disciples



³⁶ While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

³⁷ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost.

³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

⁴⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹ And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate it in their presence.

⁴⁴ He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.
⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.
⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

The "new normal"

This phrase has been used a lot in the context of the Covid 19 pandemic, mainly to prepare people for the fact that the restrictions and adjustments we have had to make in the last year will not necessarily go away quickly. Perhaps the "new normal" also reflects the fact that events change us and we cannot go back to being exactly the same people we were a year ago, even if we and our loved ones have been fortunate enough to remain well.

This reading from Luke's gospel shows how Jesus' disciples had to recognize and adjust to the "new normal" of Jesus' resurrection. All four gospel accounts are honest about the fact that the disciples did not find this adjustment easy. It was not just that they had been traumatized by Jesus' violent death or that they were not expecting to see him alive, but Jesus had changed and they had changed as a result of these events. Nothing could be the same again. As a result, Jesus needs to speak to them, show them the scars of his crucifixion and eat some fish to reassure them that it really is him in person. This marks the beginning of a new relationship with him. Before, they used to address Jesus as "teacher" or "master", but now they address him (as Thomas did) as "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28). His teaching about himself now makes sense and they get ready to take on the responsibility of taking the gospel to the nations of the world. The "new normal" of their journey with him means that Jesus' ascension to Heaven (Luke 24:51) is not a second bereavement, but just a new chapter in a relationship which will last for eternity.

How have the events of the last year changed us and changed our relationship with the risen Lord Jesus? RS

You can't go back and change the beginning but you can start where you are and change the ending CS Lewis

Dear Friends,

This <u>Sunday's service</u> looks at the significance of eating together. Phil helps us think about the significance of the possibility of having communal meals in our homes and in pubs and cafes. We look forward to having that great communal meal - Holy Communion - as an anticipation of the coming of Christ.

Phil Groves

Associate Rector in the Wychert Vale Benefice

Phone 01296 748 390

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